

SERRA MONTEREY NEWSLETTER

LIFTING UP THE GROWING CHURCH

JULY - AUGUST 2022 EDITION



TO LIFE! TO LIFE! L'CHAIM!



Terrence O'Connell

They all begin at conception, the geniuses, the engineers, the educators, the artists, the vocations. That's the point when all are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are LIFE, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. What innumerable talents, in the tens of millions or more, have been lost to humanity, due to the supreme evil that is the murder of human babies in the womb through abortion. What federal right (the right to bear arms, the right to free speech, etc.) is greater than the federal right to life stated in the Declaration of Independence, which expresses the spirit of the law contained in the Constitution. The federal right to life is basic to any other federal rights which do not exist without it. The right to life, endowed by the Creator, is not determined by the crossing of boundaries between states. Medical and social efforts must be directed to saving the lives of both mother and child, not killing one or the other. How grateful true Catholics are to the Blessed Mother for the overturning of Roe versus Wade, for which so many have prayed so earnestly for fifty years. How terrifically sad it is that so many yet scream in the streets and in the offices of governments for the continuance of abortion. So

many people of all ages have been brought up without regard to the terrific danger their souls are in by advocating such evil. Economic expediency and undisciplined sexual promiscuity drive the frenzy. How encouraging it has been to observe the strong Catholic faith of our seminarians and recently ordained priests. They, are preparing and going out into this poorly catechized society like lambs in the midst of wolves, and beginning to rebuild this society from the bottom up, by teaching the faith to young and old and by offering the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist and Reconciliation to whomever will believe in them. Through preaching and the Sacraments, they are rebuilding respect for the family and the natural law, and for all the values buried in the depths of the ten commandments. How important it is for Serra Club members and all Catholics to pray that the Master of the Harvest will send many vocations for the work of rebuilding, and that we do whatever we can to support those who are discerning and answering the call. Garcia delivered a highly appropriate and inspiring sermon in appreciation of emergency responders and medical care personnel. It is very rewarding whenever we see our seminarians in action, contributing to the active life of the Church during the liturgies and ceremonies. May God bless their efforts with lasting success.

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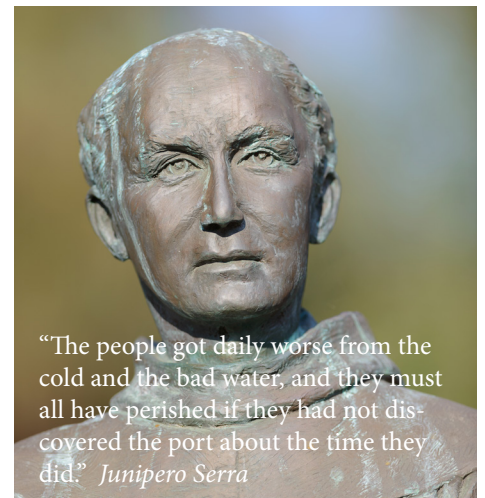
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"The people got daily worse from the cold and the bad water, and they must all have perished if they had not discovered the port about the time they did." *Junipero Serra*

CA BISHOPS RESPOND TO DOBBS V. JACKSON SUPREME COURT RULING

Today is a day to give thanks and celebrate. The California Catholic Conference of Bishops profoundly welcomes the Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, which has affirmed our dearly held belief that life is precious, valuable, and should be protected, and that states have a compelling interest to protect the unborn and limit abortion. This has been our prayer, the Church's prayer, for the last 50 years.

While we celebrate this decision - the culmination of prayer and decades of legislative advocacy, life-affirming events, committing time and resources to pregnancy centers, and walking with families facing an unplanned pregnancy - in many ways, our work has just begun.

The *Dobbs* ruling is a brightly shining ray of light and hope in the war on the sanctity of life, but the battle and the work are far from over. Extreme abortion-expanding legislation is working its way through the Capitol, and the governor has promised to enshrine abortion into the state constitution. The state is compounding its efforts to make abortion affordable, accessible, and convenient without any talk of equitable services for women who look forward to their child's birth or for those who are already mothers. Such a stance will make ending a life easy but keeping one more difficult.

In turn, we must redouble our efforts to reverse the state's prioritization of abortion in favor of helping women raise their children despite daunting circumstances.

From decades of holding the hands of those struggling with the decision to have an abortion, we know that for many women, abortion is not a choice they want to make but rather a choice they feel they have to make. From our work with mothers and families, we know they don't need expanded abortion services. They need housing assistance, prenatal and postpartum care, protection from domestic violence, paid family leave, and maternity accommodations from employers. With rising inflation and soaring housing

and healthcare costs, California is not an easy place to raise a child. We pledge to expand access to life-affirming services that empower women in our state with the confidence that they won't walk through pregnancy or parenting alone or fearful.

We are proud that for decades, the Catholic Church in California has supported women, children, and families - walking hand in hand with those in crisis pregnancies, supporting families by providing maternity services, parenting supplies and resources, housing assistance, mental health support, and advocating for increased social services.

The California Catholic Conference of Bishops is fervently committed to ensuring women in California know they are supported and that there are options when facing an unplanned pregnancy. We challenge lawmakers to provide equitable assistance and commit new funding and resources for maternity and childcare. California needs to be a sanctuary for women, children, and families struggling to thrive in our state over those seeking abortions. It's time to reverse the state's priorities.

As we seek to contain the expansion of abortion in California and work to defeat the efforts of state leaders to enshrine abortion into the state constitution permanently, we ask that all Catholics throughout the state meet this moment and actively engage through the California Catholic Conference, in their dioceses and parishes, and in their communities. It is not enough to claim you are for life; you must be the hands and feet of Christ working to make it a reality. Be a loud voice, a shining light, and a beacon of hope.

And while we rejoice today at the Supreme Court's decision and the countless lives that will be saved because of it, we look to increase our work to protect the sanctity of every life and support California's women, children, and families.

This letter was posted in the Central Catholic website.

EVENT CALENDAR

JULY 1

Junipero Serra feast day

JULY 15

St. Bonaventure feast day

JULY 16

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel feast day

JULY 24

Rosary for Vocation & Potluck @ Mary & Orv Burley home

JULY 26- AUGUST 3

Novena to St John Vianney (handbook pg. 180)

JULY 31

SI Global Rosary for Vocations

AUGUST 4

Feast of St. John Vianney

AUGUST 5

I Global Rosary for Vocations

AUGUST 30

Bishop Danny Garcia's birthday (1960)



PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS

O God, You have constituted Your only-begotten Son supreme and eternal Priest for the glory of Your majesty and the salvation of mankind: grant that those whom He has chosen ministers and dispensers of his mysteries may be found faithful in fulfilling the ministry they have received.



GOODBYE FR. RODRIGO

As our meeting began, we gathered around the table with Fr. Rodrigo and he began to speak to us about his experience here and thanked us for the support of Serra Club. As you know Mary and Terry are our fearless leaders. Neither of them could attend the meeting, so we briefly covered the points we could.

When we finished, we all started to share stories and faith experiences around the table. We connected to one another in a very special way. It so was nice to take some time to share with our Serra Club family members, things meaningful to our hearts, during our last time with Fr. Rodrigo.

Afterwards, we shared a cake. The cake was supposed to say “Fr. Rodrigo thank you for your commitment to us”, but the young guy who worked at the shop accidentally wrote, “Thank you for your comment to us.” Fr. Rodrigo said, “I have to make sure I have a good comment for you, so it can be true.” We all had a good laugh and shared some more goodies and conversation.

Fr. Rodrigo has been reassigned to another parish and we will miss him very much. In the meantime we will await to hear who our next chaplan will be.



Our Lady of Mount Carmel

“While Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is the patron saint of the Carmelite Order, the basis for the universal Church honoring Mary under this title dates to her appearance to an English Carmelite, St. Simon Stock, in the 13th century. She gave him the Brown Scapular, a garment worn by religious over the neck and shoulders as an apron, to be worn by Carmelites “as a sign of her protection.” It is a Marian devotional practice which, over the centuries, has spread to Catholics around the world.”

*We celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on July 16.
EWTN*

Two New Priests Ordained on June 18th, 2022



Congratulations to Fiacre and Geraldo! It was a very special day for us all!