Catholic Communications Office of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference

Choose Life 2013

This content is for your parishioners, parish newsletters and websites to assist in promoting the Church's position on the sanctity of unborn human life.

Abortion Legislation

This Abortion Bill will provide the widest possible legal justification for deliberately and intentionally destroying the life of the unborn child, with no time limits and no mechanism for ensuring that the right to life of the unborn is adequately vindicated as required by Article 40.3.3 of the Constitution. In practice, the right to life of the unborn child will no longer be treated as equal. This Bill represents a legislative and political 'Trojan Horse' which heralds a much more liberal and aggressive abortion regime in Ireland.

Medical evidence does not support the view that abortion is an appropriate treatment for expectant mothers with suicidal feelings. Mothers in these situations deserve the best professional care and support that can be provided. As well as involving the deliberate killing of an unborn child, this Bill by promoting abortion risks creating the very symptoms of suicidal feelings it claims to address.

Moreover, the Abortion Bill makes it lawful to induce the premature delivery of an unborn child in response to the suicidal feelings of a mother, foreseeably exposing that child to the risk of serious and permanent damage to her or his health. Where a child is perhaps only days away from viability, the Bill is silent on whether the child will be killed or delivered with serious risk to the health of the child.

Where are the mechanisms to vindicate the Constitutional right to life of the child in these circumstances? How can an act which involves serious risk to the health of a child be reconciled with the State's duty in Article 42A of the Constitution to ensure that in all decisions the welfare of the child will be 'the paramount consideration'? - Cardinal Seán Brady, 1 July 2013.

Extract from Prayer for the Child in the Womb

Lord Jesus, you are the source and lover of life. Reawaken in us respect for every human life. Help us to see in each other the marvellous work of our Creator. Amen

The full text of the *Prayer for the Child in the Womb* is available on www.chooselife2013.ie



Weekly Quotes

"..at the origin of every human being there is not something haphazard or chance, but a loving plan of God" - Pope Benedict XVI, 9 July 2006.

"The abortion bill, despite what the Government says, it is not just a tidying-up exercise, it sacrifices the innocent life of one human being to another's threat of self-destruction. This fails any test of justice" -Bishop John Buckley, 30 June 2013.

To avail of Cura's crisis pregnancy support service see www.cura.ie or call 1850 622626

Life Website

See chooselife2013.ie which includes news, life videos, weekly quotes archive and prayers.

Smartphones can scan this QR code for: *Prayer*

for the Child in the Womb.



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