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.

## A time to uphold the right to life

We are at a defining moment for our country. The Gospel of life is at the heart of the message of Jesus. He came that we may have life and have it to the full (Jn 10:10). The Gospel challenges us to work for a world in which the dignity and beauty of every human life are respected.

The right to life is the most fundamental of all rights; it is the foundation of all other rights. No individual has the right to destroy life and no State has the right to undermine the right to life.

Yet the Irish Government is proposing abortion legislation that will fundamentally change the culture of medical practice in Ireland. For the first time legislation will be enacted permitting the deliberate and intentional killing of an unborn child. This represents a radical change. Every citizen, not just people of faith, should be deeply concerned.

The Government is under no obligation to legislate for the X case. People are being misled. We challenge repeated statements that this legislation is about saving lives and involves no change to the law or practice on abortion. Legalising the direct and intentional destruction of the life of an unborn baby can never be described as 'life-saving' or 'pro-life'.

Citizens are encouraged to exercise their right to make their views known - respectfully - to our public representatives.

The above is an excerpt from the statement by the Catholic Bishops of Ireland 'A time to uphold the right to life', issued 11 June 2013. See www.catholicbishops.ie for the full statement.

### Extract from Prayer for the Child in the Womb

Help those who make our laws to uphold the uniqueness and sacredness of every human life, from the first moment of conception to natural death. Amen



#### Weekly Quotes

"The Church feels duty bound to speak out with courage on behalf of those who have no voice." - Archbishop Michael Neary, 2 June 2013.

"Cherishing of mothers and babies is a noble cause. It is not limited to the impact of this or that political move. It is a continuing call from the Gospel's logic of love, the love that is mutual" – Bishop Brendan Leahy, 4 May 2013.

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

#### Life Website

See chooselife2013.ie for a video version of the statement 'A time to uphold the right to life'.

Smartphones can scan this QR code for: *Prayer* 

for the Child in the Womb.



www.chooselife2013.ie | Facebook: Choose Life 2013 | Twitter: @chooselife2013 | www.catholicbishops.ie