



# DEFEND LIFE

*Promoting the Culture of Life and Fighting the Culture of Death since 1987*

CATHOLIC • PRO-LIFE • PRO-FAMILY Sept. – Oct. 2024, Vol. 35 No. 5 Circ. 3801

[www.DefendLife.org](http://www.DefendLife.org) • [mail@DefendLife.org](mailto:mail@DefendLife.org)

[www.Facebook.com/DefendLifeMarylandDCVirginia](https://www.Facebook.com/DefendLifeMarylandDCVirginia) • (410) 337-3721

## We Have A Solemn Duty To Vote

We are coming up on a presidential race that will be quite pivotal for our nation. Politics is in the air and that is a healthy thing. Politics is simply the effort to implement the teachings of Jesus Christ in the public arena. Our opponents are setting themselves against Jesus and are making efforts to implement their perverted world views. That mean, ladies and gentlemen, that there will be struggles and conflicts between the two camps. We Christians must simply harden our noses, thicken our skins, and put some calcium into our backbones. We must accept the fact that we will get dirt under our fingernails and have the anti-life crowd say (and do) mean things to us. To those of us bemoaning the scrappiness of politics, please recall that politics has become unsavory in large part due to the generations of Christians abdicating their God-given duties to be involved in civic affairs.

At this time, we are also facing the wearisome spectacle of Catholics stating that because both candidates from the major parties are morally tainted, that they cannot vote for either one, and thus they will either stay home on election day or vote for a third-party candidate who doesn't stand a snowball's chance in "certain warm subterra-



**Citizens exercising their right and duty to vote**

nean places" of winning.

Father Chad Ripperger is a well-known homilist, faithful to Catholic teaching. A video is circulating on the internet regarding his stance on the matter of Catholic voting. It can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sdKJc75F7tI> starting at the 1:08 mark. For those who don't have internet access, we present his brief summary here: "in a situation like that, your obligation is to vote for the lesser of two evils. And the reason being is because in the lesser of two evils people say you're vot-

ing for evil. No, you're actually not voting for evil. When you're voting for a lesser evil, you're not voting for the person's evil or the evil that the thing is doing. What you're voting is to preserve the good that would be lost if the other opponent got in who is more evil, or if the legislation got passed in which was actually even worse... If you don't do that, then you may be responsible if a more evil person gets in because of a failure on your part to vote for the lesser of two evils. Then it's a sin of negligence if you actually let

someone who is more evil get into that.”

Notice that Father said that our OBLIGATION is to vote for the lesser of two evils. It's not an option. Rather, it's an obligation. There are some who will stubbornly state that they will “not violate their consciences”. I wrote in another publication that such a stubborn stance is actually a form of effeminacy, for such a person is actually making an idol of his/her overly delicate con-

---

### **Our OBLIGATION is to vote for the lesser of two evils. It's not an option.**

---

science, with such delicacy being caused by the conscience not being properly formed and informed with actual solid Catholic teaching.

Soon after that, Father published a prayer that he composed to consecrate the election to Our lady. Here is is:

*Mary Immaculate, living tabernacle of the Divinity, where the eternal Wisdom lies hidden to be*

*adored and served by angels and men, Queen of heaven and of earth, beneath whose sway are subject all things that are lower than God, Patroness of the United States of America, sorrowful and mindful of our own sinfulness and the sins of our nation, we come to Thee, our refuge and hope. Knowing that our country cannot be saved by our own works and mindful of how much our nation has departed from the ways of Thy Son, we humbly ask that Thou wouldst turn Thine eyes upon our country to bring about its conversion. We consecrate to Thee the integrity of the upcoming election and its outcome, so that what is spiritually and morally best for the citizens of our country may be accomplished, and that all of those who are elected would govern according to the spiritual and moral principles which will bring our nation into conformity with the teachings of Thy Son. Give grace to the citizens of this land so that they will choose leaders according to the Sacred Heart of Thy Son, that His glory may be made manifest, lest we be given the leaders we deserve. Trusting in the providential care of God the Father and Thy maternal*

*care, we have perfect confidence that Thou wilt take care of us and will not leave us forsaken. O Mary Immaculate, pray for us. Amen.*

DEFEND LIFE is a 501 ( c ) 3 charitable organization. As such, we cannot engage in partisan politics. However, in this particular election, the choices in the various races are crystal clear. We're only stating the obvious here. What is also obvious is our solemn duty, on pain of sin, to

---

### **Such delicacy being caused by the conscience not being properly formed and informed with actual solid Catholic teaching.**

---

do our duty before God and utilize our rights to vote for the candidates who will at least mitigate any harm to be done, and who actually stand a chance of defeating the most harmful candidates.



**www.defendlife.org**

**More Prayer Warriors & Sidewalk Counselors urgently needed at Baltimore's Planned Parenthood, Maryland's Largest Death Camp**

**Contact JOHN ROSWELL**  
410-371-4188 • [JohnRoswell@msn.com](mailto:JohnRoswell@msn.com)



# The Final Push to Stop the Reproductive Freedom Amendment

The text of the so-called “Reproductive Freedom Amendment” that will be on the Maryland ballot as Question 1 is:

“That every person, as a central component of an individual’s right to liberty and equality, has the fundamental right to reproductive freedom, including but not limited to the ability to make and effectuate decisions to prevent, continue, or end one’s own pregnancy. The State may not, directly or indirectly, deny, burden, or abridge the right unless justified by a compelling state interest achieved by the least restrictive means.”

This will become enshrined into Maryland’s state constitution if the “yes” vote prevails. We must work and vote to ensure that the “no” vote prevails. Dedicated Marylanders have been engaged in efforts to educate Maryland citizens about the perils of this measure since it received enough votes to be placed on Maryland’s ballot in November. The ballot issue committee known as Health Not Harm Maryland has done much to spearhead that effort. The website is [HealthNotHarmMD.org](https://HealthNotHarmMD.org). Many resources and educational materials, ready for reproduction and distribution, are available. The flyers, both English and Spanish, are excellent for handing to people passing by on the street.

They can also be used for leafletting cars. Here are some pointers for so doing. When leaving literature on parked cars, leave it in the crack between the door and where it meets the car body when closed. Only do so on the driver side, never the pas-

**HANDS OFF OUR KIDS!**  
**Vote NO** ☒  
**on Question 1**

**Vote NO means:**

- Preserve parental rights
- Protect children
- Prevent taxpayer funding

**The Amendment says:**  
“That **every person**, as a central component of an individual’s right to liberty and equality has the fundamental right to reproductive freedom, including but **not limited to** the ability to make and effectuate decisions to prevent, continue, or end one’s own pregnancy. The State may not, directly or indirectly, deny, burden, or abridge the right unless justified by a compelling state interest achieved by the least restrictive means.”

- NO minimum age - Male and Female
- NO parental consent requirements
- Marylanders bear the financial “burden” of the new right

**HEALTHNOTHARMMD.ORG**  
By authority of Health Not Harm MD, Anne Fox Treasurer. ©2023 Health Not Harm

**Call Health Not Harm MD to get door hangers to distribute**

senger side. Do not leave literature under the windshield wiper. One might also leave it rolled up in the

---

**Call Health Not Harm if you’d be willing to help out with phone banks**

---

door handle, if the handle configuration allows it. It will also be helpful

to hand out as we “work the polls” on election day.

Door hangers are also available from Health Not Harm, but one would have to call for those. Once you have them, it is a very quick process to leave them on a front door knob and to move onto the next house.

Also call Health Not Harm if you’d be willing to help out with phone banks, that is, calling voters to ask them to vote no on question 1. They are using software that will al-



### **Question 1- Constitutional Amendment (Ch. 245 of the 2023 Legislative Session) Declaration of Rights - Right To Reproductive Freedom**

The proposed amendment confirms an individual's fundamental right to reproductive freedom, including but not limited to the ability to make and effectuate decisions to prevent, continue, or end the individual's pregnancy, and provides the State may not, directly or indirectly, deny, burden, or abridge the right unless justified by a compelling State interest achieved by the least restrictive means.

(Adding Article 48 to the Maryland Declaration of Rights)

#### **For the Constitutional Amendment Against the Constitutional Amendment**

#### **This deceptive ballot language is silent regarding the danger to children**

low you to call while another phone number is displayed on the caller id of the person whom you are calling. Your privacy will not be compromised. You can dedicate whatever time is appropriate for your situation.

Another worthwhile organization to support is Reproductive Trojan Horse. Their site is [reproductivetrojanhorse.org](http://reproductivetrojanhorse.org). If you go to that site, you'll see a commercial that they would like to broadcast before the election. Of course, money is

law, donations to them are not tax-deductible. That should not dissuade our contributions.

Let me say a word about how insidious this amendment is. I didn't see this embedded booby-trap in the amendment until another pro-lifer called my attention to the language of the amendment. The amendment proposes a number of "reproductive rights", namely the right to prevent, continue, or end a pregnancy. It says the state may not interfere with those rights unless "justified by a compelling state interest". Most people, like me, were focused on the "prevent" and "end" actions. What is too easy to overlook is the "continue" part. Think about it. The state of Maryland is saying that a mother has the right to continue her pregnancy, but interference of that right might be "justified by a compelling state interest".

This language initiates the legal opening by which the State of Maryland would be able to coerce a mother into ending her pregnancy – in other words, the State would be able to force a woman to abort her child. Is that the intention of the writers of this amendment? It doesn't matter,

for that is what is stated in the language of the amendment. Given how the authors of the amendment rejected any attempts to clarify the amendment (such as requiring adulthood before gender surgery, etc), I cannot imagine how this possibility didn't motivate their efforts to put this measure into the State Constitution.

If this amendment passes, we will find it next to impossible to pass pro-life legislation for such legisla-

#### **Another worthwhile organization to support is Reproductive Trojan Horse**

required to buy the advertising time. Consider donations to them, and to Health Not Harm. Because both of these organizations exist to influence

#### **If you haven't gotten active in this effort, now is the time to do so.**

tion would most likely be killed because it would be unconstitutional. Our children would be removed from parental protection, vulnerable to surgeries and drugs that would likely leave them permanently sterilized or even worse.

If you haven't gotten active in this effort, now is the time to do so.

**FIGHT  
ABORTION!**  
Your very life depends on it.

# The Dwindling Number of Catholic Churches in Baltimore

From USCourts.gov:

“The Chapter 11 Debtor  
in Possession

“Chapter 11 is typically used to reorganize a business, which may be a corporation, sole proprietorship, or partnership. A corporation exists separate and apart from its owners, the stockholders. The chapter 11 bankruptcy case of a corporation (corporation as debtor) does not put the personal assets of the stockholders at risk other than the value of their investment in the company’s stock. A sole proprietorship (owner as debtor), on the other hand, does not have an identity separate and distinct from its owner(s). Accordingly, a bankruptcy case involving a sole proprietorship includes both the business and personal assets of the owners-debtors. Like a corporation, a partnership exists separate and apart from its partners. In a partnership bankruptcy case (partnership as debtor), however, the partners’ personal assets may, in some cases, be used to pay creditors in the bankruptcy case or the partners, themselves, may be forced to file for bankruptcy protection.

“Section 1107 of the Bankruptcy Code places the debtor in possession in the position of a fiduciary, with the rights and powers of a chapter 11 trustee, and it requires the debtor to perform of all but the investigative functions and duties of a trustee. These duties, set forth in the Bankruptcy Code and Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, include accounting for property, examining and objecting to claims, and filing informational reports as required by the court and the U.S. trustee or bankruptcy administra-



**Blessed Sacrament set to close**



**St. Mary of the Assumption-Govans set to close, from the Catholic Review**



**St. Pius X set to close**

**CHURCHES, see page 11**



DefendLife.Org

# DEFEND LIFE

*Proclaiming the Culture of Life and  
Fighting the Culture of Death since 1987*

P.O. Box 5427  
Baltimore, Maryland 21285  
[www.DefendLife.Org](http://www.DefendLife.Org)  
Jack Ames, Director  
410-337-3721  
[Jack@DefendLife.Org](mailto:Jack@DefendLife.Org)



*October 13, 2024 Anno Domini  
Anniversary of the Great Miracle of the Sun*

Dear Friend of **DEFEND LIFE**,

There is so much to tell you since I last wrote. On September 13, I went to visit my only sibling, my older brother Bob now 85 living in an Assisted Living/Memory Care home in Endwell, New York. Bob has been a widower for about 20 years. Please storm Heaven that I will be able to find a priest to come and give Bob the **Apostolic Pardon** to ensure that his Immortal Soul goes straight to Heaven when Our Lord calls him home.

Later that evening, I attended the first event of my **65th** high school Class Reunion. It was in Old Forge, Pennsylvania, also known as the **Pizza Capital of America**. We shared wonderful stories about how much we were blessed to attend a wonderful public High School (it would have been a classical high school by today's standards.) One of my classmates, Joe West came all the way from Texas. Another Keith Frey, came from Florida. The following evening we had our formal reunion at beautiful Waverly Country Club which we passed on our daily bus trips to our 7th grade in the quaint village of Waverly which was a STOP on the **Underground Railroad**. A prayer was led by Wayne Williams in which we remembered our parents, our teachers and our principals all of whom made our school **Clarks Summit-Abington** so great. I was the quizmaster asking **26** questions. All were answered except **Who was the alum from our school who was later elected a U.S Senator from Virginia?**

On Saturday after breakfast with classmates in a tiny restaurant which was originally a horse stable, I ran into **Father Charles Connor**, a recently retired priest from the Diocese of Scranton and one of the greatest priests you will ever hear preach. Father Connor was the priest secretary to **John Cardinal O'Connor** when he was the Bishop of Scranton. He later taught at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmittsburg.

Later that same day I was a surprise speaker at a National Day of Remembrance ceremony at Cathedral Cemetery in Scranton. I met some great new friends while wearing my PRO-LIFE T-shirt.

Later I went to my beloved parents' grave, Helen and Ed, at Saint Catherine's Cemetery in nearby Moscow. Also buried there are Bishop Henry Klonoski, who confirmed me, and Bishop William Hafey, originally from Baltimore, for whom I was privileged to serve Mass at his summer residence in Dalton. Also interred there are former **Governor Bob Casey**, easily the most PRO-LIFE governor in the **history of the Keystone State**, and not to be confused with his renegade U.S. Senator son with the same name.

On Monday, September 23, I went back to my beloved Pennsylvania for the Annual Pennsylvania March for Life. My dear friend **Rosie Gross**, from Lancaster



invited me to come on her bus but I forgot to set my alarm so I had to drive directly to Harrisburg for the rally on the steps of that magnificent State Capitol. There were some great speakers such as heroic **Mark Houck** whose home, wife and 7 home-schooled children were invaded and terrorized in an early morning raid several years ago by teams of FBI agents (***Yes, America, we now live in a Police State!***). Other speakers included Jeanne Mancini, outgoing Director of the National March for Life, and Archbishop Nelson Perez of Philadelphia. On the steps of the Capitol, I ran into home schooling mother-architect-superb speaker **Laura Gies**. Laura will be speaking at West Chester University as the result of efforts by FOCUS (*Fellowship of Catholic University Students*) missionaries there. If anyone knows any of the FOCUS missionaries at Maryland Schools like **Towson, College Park**, or the **Mount**, put them in touch with me and we can arrange for Laura to come to their campus.



During the March, I ran into the ubiquitous **Bishop Joe Coffey** who was marching along side Archbishop Perez. After the March, I ran into **Father Denis Wilde**, Associate Director of Priests for Life and an extraordinarily gifted concert pianist. Between now and the November election, Father Denis is available to perform a concert on a Saturday or Sunday and preach at your **Pennsylvania parish**. To arrange, contact him directly at **FrWilde@PriestsforLife.org**.

After the March, I went on a guided tour of this magnificent Pennsylvania State Capitol. Here are some important facts you should know about it:

- It is probably the most beautiful and largest State Capital in America. Only State Capitals in Iowa and Michigan begin to rival it.
- The **272** foot high **52** million pound dome was inspired by Michelangelo's dome at Saint Peter's in Rome. Joseph Hutson, a young Philadelphia architect traveled to Rome in the late 1800's with his brother. His brother had a ruptured appendix while there. During his brother's recovery, Hutson spent much time in Saint Peter's with his sketchbook. Thus came the inspiration for this dome.
- The Pennsylvania State Capitol is an artistic-architectural marvel.
- There are Angels in at least several of the many dozens of oil paintings that adorn this great Capital.
- One of my favorite paintings is **George Washington** speaking to his troops kneeling in the snow at Valley Forge in 1777 while the British troops partied in nearby occupied Philadelphia.
- When President Teddy Roosevelt visited this Capital at its dedication, he said ***This is the handsomest State Capitol I ever saw.***
- Consider taking your family or home-schooling group on a tour of this breath-taking inspiring Capitol soon. For more information, call **800-868-7672**.

**Long Live Christ Our King!**

*Jack Ames*

**Jack Ames, P.E., Director**

**Enclosure**

# The Death Peddlers: War on the Unborn

## Part 3 By Father Paul Marx, O. S. B., PhD

Reviewed by Robert Dow

We now rejoin undercover priest Father Paul Marx as he reports to us the financial side of the January, 1971 Abortion: A Symposium on Implementation conference held in the International Hotel at the Los Angeles Airport.

St. Paul writes to Timothy that “the love of money is the root of all evil.” And as we read *“Death Peddlers”* we see that symposium attendees certainly did love money.

Christians know that there are Three Divine Persons in the One True God. Nonetheless the three make-believe, fake-believe stand-alone pagan entities of Mammon, Saturn, and Apollo insist upon mimicking and inverting the Holy Trinity. Mammonian finance proceeds to underwrite the dark rule of Saturn and the black medicine of Apollo. Saturn for his part – when he is not eating his own children – proceeds to conjure up legalities to shelter Apollo. We further know from pagan mythology that neither Saturn, nor Zeus who later overthrew him, can prevent the death of a mortal. Apollo on the other hand can restore the dying to perfect health. This pagan mindset has survived Christian Baptism and it explains why Apollo and his witch doctor disciples are viewed as outside and above the law by default even in our own time. With the relaxation of abortion laws, the police, the courts, and the government are all made conscripts to defend, aid, and finance pagan medicine all the more.

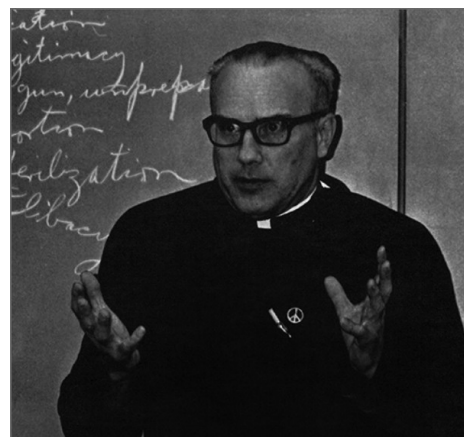
The Hippocratic Oath is in fact sworn to Apollo. As we learnt from lockdown the mask and the needle are

the instruments of the witch doctor.

Over the years I have never heard of an abortionist who accepts checks. It is always *“cash up front or bring a valid insurance card that we do accept”*. One abortionist on Staten Island was known to take the cash and then to process the insurance paperwork telling women *“that if her insurance is accepted”* she’ll be reimbursed by the insurance company. The abortionist would then fill out the paperwork making the insurance claim payable to himself directly. As such he would then get paid twice for the same abortion. One wonders how widespread this practice really is and how long it has been going on. Law enforcement must be aware of this where in fact it does happen, but as always Apollo is protected.

Representatives from all major secular insurance companies including Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Allstate, and even the Federal Employee Insurance Plan were all in attendance at the symposium. They participated in discussions on how to repeatedly and rapidly update their policies as abortion laws became more and more relaxed state by state - it is after all absurd to suggest that any insurance company or government program can legitimately pay for anything that remains illegal.

We learn from *“Death Peddlers”* that abortion is hidden in insurance policies under “maternity care” – no surprise there – but the wording of such policies presumed that the woman seeking an abortion was either a wife or career woman or both. It never occurred to policy writers that the young woman seeking



Father Paul Marx

an abortion might be a rebellious seventeen-year old daughter who might wish to keep her pregnancy forever secret from her parents – something that could never be done if daddy was given to read his own mail from the insurance company.

To circumvent such a situation, minor girls between sixteen and twenty were encouraged to run away from home if only for a few days. She was then considered “emancipated” under California law which meant only her own income from babysitting or waitressing could be considered to see if she qualified for a taxpayer-approved abortion. The income of her parents would now be excluded. As such her parents need never find out.

In California boys and girls fifteen and under at that time were not even considered “minors”, but rather just “children”. Back in 1963, eight years before the 1971 symposium and four years before passage of the 1967 Therapeutic Abortion Act the Legislature in Sacramento passed a law with flowery-sounding language that said that “no child could be denied medical care because of inability to pay”. While a noble-sounding law in the beginning, few Californians at

**PEDDLERS, see page 11**



# Alleged Assailant Arrested

The May-June 2023 issue of the **DEFEND LIFE** newsletter carried an account of the attack on two sidewalk counselors who are regularly found at the Planned Parenthood on Howard Avenue in Baltimore. Those counselors are Mark Crosby and Dick Schaefer. A rather large pro-abortion guy (I refuse to call him a man) attacked the two elderly counselors one by one, knocking both of them unconscious. Crosby was injured quite severely and spent time in the University of MD shock-trauma unit. It was feared that he would lose sight in his right eye, but his sight was restored.

Security cameras recorded the incident, but for some time, law enforcement personnel were unable to locate the perpetrator. In July of 2024, Baltimore City Police Detective Freddie Talbert informed the Catholic Review that they arrested Patrick Paul Brice, aged 27, for the attack on Schaefer and Crosby. When I said “rather large” in the first paragraph, that was quite accurate. Brice is 6-foot-5 and weighs 200 pounds. He resides in Baltimore City. He was released without bail.

A hearing took place on August 1. At that time, he was indicted on one count of assault in the first degree, two counts of assault in the second degree, and two counts of assault on elderly.

At this time, we do not know of any trial date. We hope to inform readers of any updates in the next issue of the **DEFEND LIFE** newsletter.



**Patrick Paul Brice finally apprehended**



**Brice kicking Crosby after pummeling him**

## *Tribute to Barbara Joanna Syska*

**By Leszek Syski (her son)**

Barbara Joanna Syska (née Mikołajczak), passed away on Tuesday, August 20, 2024 in Silver Spring, Maryland. She was ninety-seven years old, and well known to many pro-lifers in Maryland and beyond. Barbara had started her pro-life activism even before the infamous Roe v. Wade U.S. Supreme Court decision of January 22, 1973. Her appreciation for the sanctity of human life was informed by her Catholic faith and by her own life experiences: both the good — of



**Barbara Joanna Syska**

raising her own family of six children, and the terrible — the Nazi invasion of Poland that started World War II, and the subsequent

Communist occupation, which prevented her return to her homeland for many years.

Barbara immediately recognized the anti-life objective of the pro-abortionists in the United States as identical to the anti-life philosophy of the Nazis, that she had witnessed in her youth. After the notorious Supreme Court decision, she participated in the first March for Life on January 22, 1974, and continued to attend the March every year thereafter, until her declining health prevented her further participation. That first March for Life in 1974 was small enough that all of the par-

ticipants were able to pose for a group photo on the east side of the Capitol. Of course, in subsequent years, the March for Life grew to count hundreds of thousands of participants.

Barbara worked for several years at the office of the National Right to Life Committee (NRLC) in Washington, DC. During that time, the NRLC office manager was Judie Brown, with whom she remained friends for many years thereafter. Mrs. Brown went on to found the American Life Lobby — later renamed to the American Life League.

Later, Barbara also worked at the Washington DC office of Human Life International. Barbara had an abiding interest in statistics. Her friends believe that she was the first one to develop the graphic that compared the number of deaths by procured abortion against the number of deaths suffered by our military in the several wars in our country's history. In 1981, with Thomas Hilgers and Dennis O'Hare, she was the lead author of an article, "An objective model for estimating criminal abortions and its implications for public policy" that was published in the volume, "New Perspectives on Human Abortion". The significance of the article is that it refuted the claims of pro-abortionists that laws against abortion caused the deaths of many more women. By accurately estimating the numbers of criminal abortions, it showed that the illegal abortions were not significantly more dangerous to the mother than legal abortions.

Among her many pro-life activities, Barbara was a regular picketer outside local abortuaries. She also assisted with pro-life pregnancy centers. One of her unique contributions was the literally hundreds of baby blankets and bootie sets that she knitted for free distribution at the centers.

Even before the recent (and

ongoing) COVID-19 scam, Barbara was in the forefront of the fight against government-mandated vaccinations. She likened these to the Nazi medical experiments on unwilling subjects. One of her sons had to complete his high school education outside of the state of Maryland, because she refused to have him receive an injection that was supposedly justified by the "communal good" — rather than by any benefit conferred to the individual receiving the injection.

Barbara was born on May 24, 1927, in Białystok, Poland. At the age of twelve her happy childhood was interrupted by the outbreak of World War II when both the German and Soviet armies invaded Poland — the Germans on September 1, 1939, and the Soviets on September 17. Barbara's older brother Antoni Jan, whom she adored, was taken to a labor camp in Siberia. Later, Antoni Jan served as a navigator in Polish Squadrons 305 and 301 but sadly he was killed in an accident just as the war was coming to an end.

During the Nazi occupation of Poland, Barbara joined the conspiratorial Armia Krajowa (AK), or Polish Home Army. She served as a courier, carrying messages and orders between AK units. The AK was organized "by fives" — that is, each unit consisted only of 5 persons, starting with from the lowest organizational units, up through to the higher ranks. In that way, if anyone in the conspiracy was captured by the occupying forces, the small number of people with whom that person had direct contact knew to go into hiding. Barbara's own father was in the AK, but since they belonged to different units, they never discussed their AK activities during this time.

The Warsaw uprising began on August 1, 1944 and lasted, beyond anyone's expectation, for 63 days

before capitulation. The uprising was aimed militarily against the Germans, but politically against the Soviets. Prior to the uprising, the Soviet armies had been pushing the Germans back, through Polish territory. However, the Soviets murdered any Polish AK members who they captured. The uprising was timed to begin just as the Soviet forces approached the Vistula River — across from Warsaw. The idea was to establish an independent Polish city, not subject to Soviet rule. However, the Soviet forces deliberately halted their advance in order to permit the Germans to crush the uprising.

As part of the capitulation agreement, the Germans agreed to treat members of AK as regular Prisoners of War, protected by the Geneva Convention. Nonetheless, the Germans committed terrible atrocities against the civilian population of Warsaw, during and after the uprising. Barbara was sent to three different POW internment camps in Germany. In the spring of 1945, she was liberated from the Oberlangen camp by General Maczek's Polish 1st Armored Division, during the Allied sweep across Germany.

For her military service, the Polish government (in exile) awarded Barbara the Cross of Valor, the Silver and Bronze Crosses of Merit with Swords, and the Medal of the Polish Army. Upon her release from POW camp, Barbara was enrolled in the Polish 2nd Corps female high school in Porto San Giorgio, Italy. She then moved with the 2nd Corps to England, where she matriculated. In England she met and married her husband of fifty-six years, Ryszard Syski.

In 1961 Barbara and Ryszard immigrated to the United States when Ryszard took a position as Professor of Statistics at the University of Maryland. There Barbara earned a

Bachelor of Science in Mathematics. Barbara and Ryszard raised their six children in Silver Spring, Maryland, passing on to them a strong appreciation of their Polish heritage. Barbara was active in the Polish American community, offering guidance and help to immigrants like herself.

Despite having lived as a legal immigrant in the United States for many years, Barbara never applied for U.S. citizenship, because she felt she was a Polish citizen. Her loyalty was to the Polish government in exile (still existing in London, England). Barbara never went back to Poland until after the first totally free Polish elections were held in 1990.

Barbara is predeceased by her husband Ryszard (2007). She is survived by her six children, twenty-three grandchildren, and thirty-eight great-grandchildren.

## CHURCHES, from page 5

tor (discussed below), such as monthly operating reports. 11 U.S.C. §§ 1106, 1107; Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2015(a). The debtor in possession also has many of the other powers and duties of a trustee, including the right, with the court's approval, to employ attorneys, accountants, appraisers, auctioneers, or other professional persons to assist the debtor during its bankruptcy case. Other responsibilities include filing tax returns and reports which are either necessary or ordered by the court after confirmation, such as a final accounting. The U.S. trustee is responsible for monitoring the compliance of the debtor in possession with the reporting requirements."

In September 2023, the Archdio-

cese of Baltimore filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy; they are "debtor in possession". As you can see from the above, the archdiocese must account to the courts for its assets, liabilities, property, financial performance, and other information. Some of this accounting happens on a monthly basis.

From the Baltimore Banner, July 3 issue. Our Lady of Victory in Arbutus, MD (western Baltimore County) was set to be closed. It was the home parish of many Catholic refugees from Burma. When word came that the parish was set to be closed, Father Bill Keown, then the pastor, urged the congregation to push back at the archdiocese's public meetings. The Burmese refugees, having already suffered displacement, were faced with that prospect again in the loss of the parish that had given them a sense of community, not to mention traditional teachings regarding the Faith.

They began a letter-writing campaign as well. Some of the parishioners didn't speak English, so others had to help them translate. They also decided to write their letters on blue paper and to send them in blue envelopes, so the letters could be readily identified as having originated from Our Lady of Victory. When a "town hall meeting" was held at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen, the parishioners filled three buses to attend.

Auxiliary Bishop Lewandowski acknowledged that the organized and sustained efforts of the OLOV parish was a key factor in deciding to keep the parish open. Father Keown has been transferred away. St. Joseph's Monastery Parish in Irvington will merge with them, with that pastor, Father Michael Murphy, becoming the new OLOV pastor. The monastery will be open as a "worship site", meaning that it will only be used for special occasions: weddings, funerals, etc. Two other parishes, Trans-

figuration Catholic Community and St. Benedict, will see their churches closed as their parishioners are also transferred to OLOV.

The Archdiocese of Baltimore published its plan for parish mergers. It can be found at <https://www.archbalt.org/seek-the-city-final-plan/>. What will happen to those parishes that will no longer have Masses, etc conducted in them? As I look at the list of those parishes, I see that the church in which I was baptized, and another church from my early childhood will be scuttled. What will happen to those buildings and property? Will they be unceremoniously sold to the highest bidder? Unsurprisingly, two of the churches in Baltimore that openly coddle the gay lifestyle were spared the chopping block.

No matter the answer to those questions, what no one can dispute is that the Catholic presence in Baltimore will be greatly reduced. How can that statement of fact be disputed when the 61 churches in Baltimore will be reduced to only 23, that is, 33% of the original number? Is that not of concern to Baltimore Catholics? Is that not of concern to the Baltimore chancery?

## PEDDLERS, from page 8

the time thought that it would soon be used to pay for the abortion of girls not old enough to consent to intercourse without the knowledge or consent of their parents. Child protection would often give consent for the girl's abortion if her parents did not.

This concludes Part 3 dear DL reader. I hope to have the fourth and final part of "*Death Peddlers*" ready for publication in the following issue of **Defend Life**.



# DEFEND LIFE

P.O. Box 5427, Baltimore, MD 21285

Affiliate, Mater Dei Chapter, Catholic United For Faith

Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Baltimore, MD  
Permit No. 7433



**INSIDE: We Have the  
Solemn Duty to VOTE!**

*Please donate \$1 so we can  
print upcoming issues!*

## MAILING LABEL HIGHLIGHTED

*To continue receiving  
this outstanding  
magazine:*

- Please donate NOW!
- If you cannot, simply  
CONTACT US!

## DEFEND LIFE Needs Your Support!

READ PENNSYLVANIA LETTER PAGES 6 & 7



[www.defendlife.org](http://www.defendlife.org)



For more info on our  
3rd Wednesday  
Monthly Vigil  
from 9 – 10:30 am at  
Johns Hopkins Bayview,  
call Jim Bocklage  
443-615-3424

## GET THIS GREAT T-SHIRT FREE



*If you PROMISE —*

- To wear it **AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK in PUBLIC**
- To send us a picture of yourself wearing it.

Send requests including name,  
shirt size (M, L, XL, 2XL),  
address and phone # to:  
**T-shirts@DefendLife.Org**  
or: DEFEND LIFE

PO Box 5427 Baltimore, MD 21285

## BEAT CHOICE

### Pregnancy Center Gala

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25  
6PM Reception • 7PM Dinner  
Knights of Columbus  
5115 Little Falls Rd., Arlington, VA 22207



**Dr. John  
Bruchaski**  
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

RSVP by October 15  
202-945-7121

**SAVE THESE DATES!**  
**25th Maryland  
National Face  
the Truth Tour**  
**JUNE 23-27, 2025**



**Showing  
The Evil  
Reality  
of Abortion  
to a**



**Broken World!**



## Bringing Christ to A Sinful World!

**WBMD – 750AM  
CATHOLIC RADIO IN BALTIMORE**  
**WQOF – 1260AM  
CATHOLIC RADIO IN WASHINGTON**

**RelevantRadio.com**

\*Daytime Hours Only  
Sunrise to Sunset

## THINKING LONG-TERM?

Remembering DEFEND LIFE  
in your **WILL** shows a serious  
commitment to strengthening  
and continuing what  
DEFEND LIFE stands for!  
The following language is  
suggested for making such  
a bequest: **“I give to  
DEFEND LIFE, INC.,  
a Maryland not-for-profit  
corporation, whose address is  
PO Box 5427, Baltimore, MD  
21285, the sum  
of \$\_\_\_\_\_, to be used  
for the benefit of  
DEFEND LIFE.”**