

Reflections on Pro-Life

A blessed Christmas to all!

On the first Christmas Day, God became man—a little Baby born in Bethlehem. The Infant is Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior. The mother is the Blessed Virgin Mary.

How precious are babies! How essential for us (Traditional Catholics) to remain pro-life—staunchly, courageously, and faithfully. Once a child is conceived in the mother's body, an immortal soul has been brought into existence. The miracle of creation has taken place—and that newly-created soul is destined for Heaven.

But ... the abortionist *thwarts* that destiny. Not only does he kill the body, but he makes it impossible for that soul to reach the Beatific Vision. Limbo, yes—a place of natural happiness. But Heaven, no! To enter Heaven, sanctifying grace must adorn the soul, as well as an indelible mark given in the sacrament of baptism. The words of Jesus Christ are quite clear: "Unless a man is born again of water and the Holy Ghost, he cannot enter the kingdom of Heaven."

The Effects of Abortion

Many people (both men and women) who have consented to allow their own flesh and blood to become a victim of abortion are eternally haunted by the knowledge that they will *never* see their child again; that they have deprived their precious loved one of the joys of heaven.

Young girls, who foolishly and sinfully engage in sensual activity before marriage, are sometimes pressured into abortion. After all, the secular world insists, her career or school plans or her reputation might be affected if she bears a child. Thus, she might reluctantly agree to "stop a beating heart" for some earthly and transient end. But what of the immortal soul? That child will live forever, yet will be forever deprived of heaven.

What a terrible burden to live with! No wonder so many men and women who have cooperated with the ugly work of the abortionist are left with permanent neuroses—recurrent feelings of futility, unhappiness, and regret. They cannot undo the harm that they have done to an innocent, helpless infant. If the dead baby could speak, he would cry: "My mother was the one and only person who

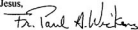
could nurture and protect me. And yet, my mother betrayed me. She had me killed."

Dear Blessed Mother, please inspire young people to remain pure and chaste. Only in the sacred bond of marriage may physical intimacy take place.

Dear God, when children are conceived, help parents to *protect* their offspring—not murder them.

Please God, may parents give babies the chance to be with all the saints and angels in Heaven for all eternity.

In Christ Jesus,



Fetal Pain

John Noonan, in an essay in his book *New Perspectives on Human Abortion*, reminds us of the ultimate trauma that occurs in every abortion:

Whatever the method used, the unborn are experiencing the greatest of bodily evils, the ending of their lives. They are undergoing the death agony. However inarticulate, however slight their cognitive powers, however rudimentary their sensations, they are sentient creatures undergoing the disintegration of their being and the termination of their vital capacities. That experience is painful in itself.

There are no laws which regulate the suffering of the aborted like those sparing pain to dying animals ... It is a sign not of error or weakness but of Christlike compassion to love animals. Can those who feel for the harpooned whale not be touched by the situation of the salt-soaked baby? ... All of our knowledge of pain is by empathy: we do not feel another's pain directly. That is why the pain of others is so tolerable for us. But if we begin to empathize, we may begin to feel what is intolerable.