February 2021

**Dear Parish Pro-Life Rep,**

Last month I wasn’t very clear about what I was asking you to do. Sorry about that, and thank you to everyone who gave that feedback, it’s been helpful. One of your main suggestions was to make clear what you needed to do and what’s included for information.

So I’m trying a new layout this month: our first section is **THINGS TO DO**, followed by **USEFUL INFORMATION.** I’ve left it as a Word document, so it’s easier to cut and paste

**Everything in Blue text like this** can be cut and pasted to your Parish Priest, newsletter organiser or parish Facebook person. Here goes…

## THINGS TO DO:

**For this Sunday’s newsletter / social media:**

**ABORTION & POVERTY IN SCOTLAND: The Reality. Monday, 15th February, 7.45 pm.**

**Women from the poorest areas in Scotland have abortion rates twice as high as those from wealthy areas. Why is this and what can we do? Register online: https://standrewsandedinburgh.eventbrite.co.uk**

**For newsletters from 14 February until 21 March:**

**MONDAYS IN LENT: PRO-LIFE STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**Join us every Monday in Lent to pray for unborn children, their mothers and all Pro-Life intentions. We’ll pray the stations of the cross together followed by a reflection from a Priest of our Archdiocese. Register online: https://standrewsandedinburgh.eventbrite.co.uk**

NOTE: For the stations I’ve also attached an **image** for your parish social media / newsletter or website as appropriate

**Part 2 – USEFUL INFORMATION – on the next page…..**

## Useful Information:

### Staying in Touch: Pro-Active, Pro-Life!

Did you register with a secure messaging service last month? If you want to connect with me on Signal or Telegram it’s 0793 150 3770 For Gab.com it’s @PaulAtkin

### [Signal](https://signal.org/) is a great alternative to WhatsApp. If you have an Android phone you can integrate it with your texts ☺ Once you have it on your phone you can use the PC version, which I like.

### Telegram is a good news service. LifeSiteNews is here and provides good pro-life news

* [**Gab.com**](https://gab.com/home)is a Twitter alternative with several Catholic sources including @CatholicNewsAgency @EWTNNewsNightly @EWTNProLifeWeekly and @LifeSiteNews

Some pro-life sites are already being censored so it’s best to get your alternatives set up now, while you have a choice! You can download them all from your phone’s App store.

### Vaccines – Scottish Catholic Medical Association

Last month I highlighted [Church teaching](https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20201221_nota-vaccini-anticovid_en.html) on vaccines and aborted fetal cells. The Scottish Catholic Medical Association have 2 items you might be interested in:

* **“The Ethics of Covid vaccines”** is a seminar going into detail on this subject. It’s on 6th February here: <http://www.scottishcma.org/events/>
* SCMA also have a standard letter you can send to AstraZeneca to express your concern about their use of fetal cell lines:   
  <http://www.scottishcma.org/astrazenica-and-reporting-ethical-concerns/>

### United Nations says disability is not a reason for euthanasia

United Nations Human Rights experts have said that disability should not a be a reason for euthanasia. They’ve warned against a *“growing trend”* to pass euthanasia laws *“based largely on having a disability or disabling conditions, including in old age.”*

It’s all here: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=26687>

**This is a significant and timely intervention from the UN.** The UN’s view strengthens the pro-life case and can be quoted when writing to MPs and MSPs

### Free Seminar: Assisted Suicide: a serious challenge Thursday, 11th February, 7.30pm

The euthanasia lobby is preparing to introduce euthanasia into the Scottish Parliament. Pope Francis says: *"Our vulnerability forms the basis for an ethics of care, especially in the medical field, which is expressed in concern, dedication, shared participation and responsibility towards the women and men entrusted to us for material and spiritual assistance in their hour of need"* (Samaritanus Bonus)

Speakers are Dr Jose Vicente Fernandez of NHS Ayrshire and Arran and Dr Dermot Grenham FIA, member of the Scottish Council on Human Bioethics: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/assisted-suicide-a-serious-challenge-tickets-137157727455>

**Hope you like the new format! For Life, Paul**