

## Delegation Submission from Robert Pella for the 2024-04-23 Board Meeting

Good evening Board:

I am here in support of Trustee Del Grande's Consideration of Motion regarding the International Pro-Life Flag. My hopes this evening is some of the Trustees will set aside your personal politics and simply look at the good and noble importance of this motion of raising the prolife flag for the month of May. Our students are the torchbearers of the future, entrusted with the responsibility to uphold the dignity and value of every human life.

In our journey through life, we encounter numerous challenges and obstacles, but none more significant than the threat to life itself. The Pro-Life movement stands as a beacon of hope, reminding us of the precious gift of life and our duty to protect it.

Saint Mother Teresa once said, "Life is a promise; fulfill it." These words echo the fundamental belief that each life, regardless of its circumstances or condition, is inherently valuable and deserving of protection. Saint John Paul II, in his encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*, emphasized the sacredness of every human life, stating that "human life is sacred and inviolable at every stage and in every situation."

Mother Teresa also goes on to say:

"Abortion is murder in the womb...A child is a gift of God. If you do not want him, give him to me."

"The greatest destroyer of love and peace is abortion, which is a war against the child. The mother doesn't learn to love but kills to solve her own problems. Any country that accepts abortion is not teaching its people to love, but to use any violence to get what they want."

"It is poverty to decide that a child must die so that you may live as you wish."

Padre Pio says: "The day that people lose their horror for abortion will be the most terrible day for humanity."

Furthermore, the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that "Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception." This profound statement reaffirms the inherent dignity of every human being, from the moment of conception until natural death. It underscores our moral obligation to defend the most vulnerable members of society, including the unborn.

As individuals, we have the power to make a difference in the world around us. We can be advocates for life, promoting a culture that cherishes and protects the gift of life at all stages. Let us not be swayed by societal norms or political ideologies but rather guided by the principles of compassion, justice, and respect for human dignity.

In conclusion, I urge each and every one of you to stand up for life. Let the pro-life flag and Catholic teaching be voices for the voiceless and defenders of the innocent. Together, let us build a culture of life where every human being is cherished, valued, and protected.

St. Gerard Majella, St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. Gianna Beretta Molla, St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta, Our Lady of Guadalupe; Pope St. John Paul: Pray for us... Thank you.