



ProLife Office <prolife@archkck.org>

Biweekly Ethics Update

1 message

The NCBC <info@ncbcenter.org>

Reply-To: info@ncbcenter.org

To: prolife@archkck.org

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THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC BIOETHICS CENTER



The Moral Mind, by Dr. Joseph Meaney

NCBC and the Courts

The National Catholic Bioethics Center (NCBC) has for many years submitted *amicus curiae*, or friend of the court briefs, in judicial cases all the way up to the US Supreme Court on bioethical issues. Amicus legal documents are filed by individuals or organizations who are not directly involved in the case but provide courts with expertise, additional information, and alternative

perspectives on legal matters. The NCBC does this in the field of bioethics.

Upcoming Events



White Mass

October 9, 2025 at St Thomas More Newman Center
Ohio State University

The Annual CMA White Mass for Healthcare Professionals

Columbus, OH — St. Thomas More Newman Center

Father Tad will preach and celebrate the White Mass at the Ohio State University Newman Center on October 9, 2025, followed by a presentation on The Bioethics of the Abortion Pill and the 'Morning-After' Pill. All healthcare practitioners at every level of training are invited, and if you have a white coat, wear it! There will be heavy hors d'oeuvres and drinks served during the talk which will follow the Mass.

Bioethics Public Policy Report

September 30, 2025

The Bioethics Public Policy Report is The NCBC's biweekly update on developments in bioethics and health care that impact the dignity of the human person. The report addresses issues on the federal, state, and international levels.

Announcements

Miller v. McDonald

NCBC and Colleague Agencies Seek U.S. Supreme Court Relief for Amish Who Have Been Denied a Religious Exemption from Vaccinations.

Call for Public Comment Regarding “Gender-Affirming Care” for Minors

NCBC and Colleague Agencies Respond to US FTC Call for Comment on the Potentially Deceptive or Unfair Practices Surrounding So Called “Gender-affirming Care” for Minors.

NCBC in the News

Ethical Issues Involved with Pregnancy Robots

The Sooner Catholic

Father Tad looks at claims that a start-up company in China may be working to develop a humanoid robot with a womb that can be used to gestate human embryos and/or fetuses for the full length of a pregnancy. He discusses some of the ethical concerns and the potential threat to women in their unique nurturing dimensions.

Gender Can’t Be Changed, But Hearts Can Change, Ohio Bishop Says

The National Catholic Register

Toledo Bishop Daniel Thomas released a 7,700 word document on gender identity, the longest statement yet from a U.S. bishop, drawing on Scripture, theology, philosophy and social sciences in a form the bishop said he hopes is “readable, digestible, accessible, and charitable.” Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, senior ethicist at The

National Catholic Bioethics Center in Broomall, Pennsylvania, called the bishop's statement an “important teaching document,” noting that, “Throughout the document, Bishop Thomas stresses the need to compassionately assist confused individuals — especially youth — to step back from the temptation of thinking that feelings and desires dictate the reality of their human identity.”



Father Tad Speaks at St. Raymond of Peñafort Catholic Church

Springfield, VA

On September 27th Father Tad spoke for the 15th year in a row as part of the invited speaker's series at the parish. He addressed the theme of “The Bioethics of the Abortion Pill and the ‘Morning-After’ Pill: Two Pharmaceuticals with Interconnected Ethical Issues.” He fielded numerous live questions from the audience as he discussed the mechanisms of action of these two drugs, and gradually unpacked the

challenging question of whether it might ever be morally allowable to use these drugs in certain medical settings and situations.

“Brave New World” Babies: Is There a “Pregnancy Robot” in Our Future?

Our Sunday Visitor News

Aldous Huxley's "Brave New World," of course, is only fiction — and so, it seems, was the announcement at the end of August that a Chinese scientist had developed a "pregnancy robot" — an artificial womb capable of gestating a human child. Kimberley Heatherington of *Our Sunday Visitor* examines the possibility of such a development going forward into a dystopian future, including input and commentary from Fr. Tad Pacholczyk of The National Catholic Bioethics Center.

"Neuralink" vs. Imago Dei: What Catholic Anthropology Has to Say about Musk's Tech and AI

Herald: Malaysia Online

It's straight out of a sci-fi movie. Except it's Elon Musk's latest Neuralink demo: touting whole-brain data streams that could let humans communicate "thousands, perhaps millions of times faster" and even restore motion to the paralysed and sight to the blind.

Bishop James Checchio Named Coadjutor Archbishop of New Orleans

CatholicVote

Pope Leo XIV has appointed Bishop James F. Checchio of the Diocese of Metuchen, New Jersey, to serve as Coadjutor Archbishop of New Orleans, Louisiana, positioning him to eventually succeed Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond.

Radio and Podcasts

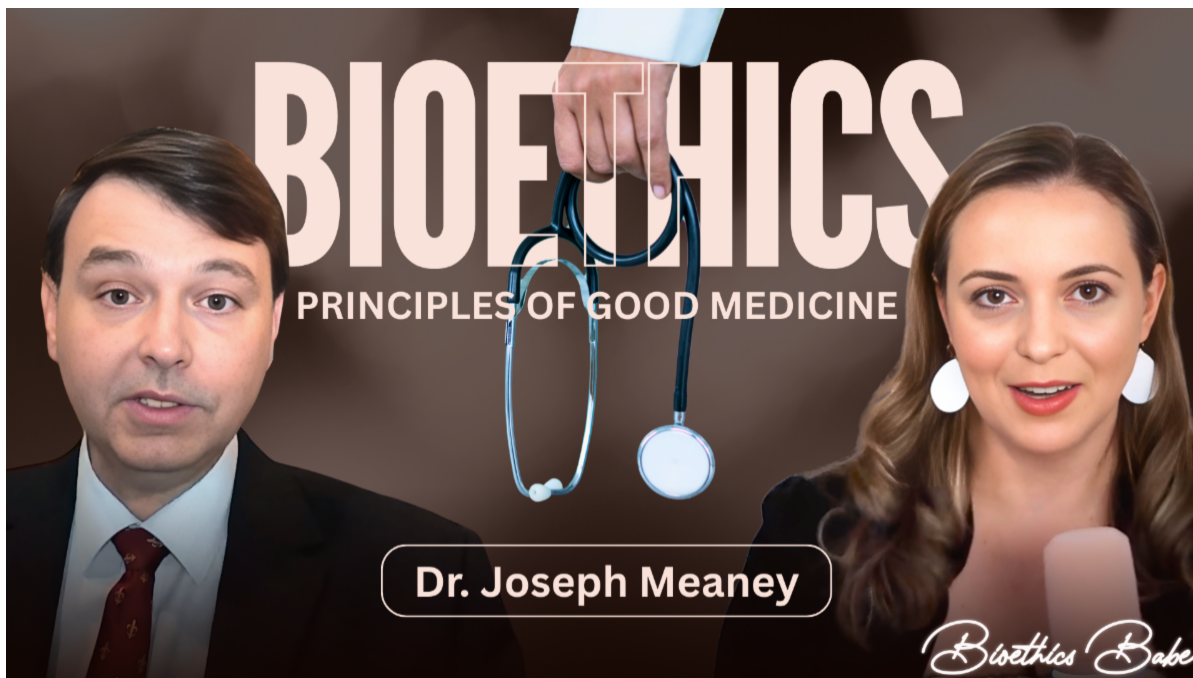
Is a "Pregnancy Robot" Even Possible?

LA Catholic Morning on Archangel Radio

Todd, Ellen and Father Tad discuss the questionable news report out of China that a company is working to develop a type of pregnancy incubator inside a humanoid-looking robot. They consider unique gestational role and power of women and the obligation to bring

new life into the world not in test tubes, petri dishes or pregnancy robots, but in the one-flesh union of spouses.

Bioethics and Why It Matters with Dr. Joseph Meaney | Ep. 1



On this very first episode, Arina Grossu Agnew is joined by Dr. Joseph Meaney, past President and Senior Fellow of The National Catholic Bioethics Center, to discuss the foundations of bioethics, the principles of good medicine, and why it matters when making daily health decisions for yourself and your family.

Ms. Agnew is a former columnist for *The National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly* and a graduate of the NCBC Certification Program.

What We Are Following

This section contains links to external sites. We are not responsible for their content.

Cardinal Müller on Charlie Kirk, the “LGBT Jubilee,” and the Rising Threat of Islam

Diane Montagna's Substack

Charlie Kirk was the victim of an atheistic ideology, whose followers erupted in satanic celebration over the heinous murder of an exemplary husband and family man. The devil always takes possession of those who hate life and truth. For, according to the words of the Lord Jesus Christ, the devil is a “murderer from the beginning” and the “father of lies” (John 8:44). And only those who hear the words of God are of God (cf. John 8:47).

HHS to Close University of Miami's Failing Organ Agency

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) today announced it is moving to decertify a major organ procurement organization (OPO) after an investigation uncovered years of unsafe practices, poor training, chronic underperformance, understaffing, and paperwork errors. In one 2024 case, a mistake led a surgeon to decline a donated heart for a patient awaiting transplant surgery.

Is “Gender-Affirming Medical Care” Any of These?

Voices in Bioethics

This article examines the contested phrase “gender-affirming medical care,” now common in legislation, litigation, and clinical guidance. It analyzes the term’s three components — affirmation, medicine, and care — and asks what each requires in ordinary clinical practice, drawing on classical and contemporary philosophy-of-medicine frameworks.

Infertility: Science, Politics, Money, and Morality

American Thinker

President Trump on February 18, 2025 issued an **executive order**, “Expanding Access to Vitro Fertilization (IVF),” calling for public policy recommendations to increase IVF to raise the birth rate. This was met by an outcry from certain physicians, who believed there are much better solutions for increasing fertility.



CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE ETHICS

A Manual for Practitioners

Third Edition

Edited by Edward J. Furton



New to the 3rd Edition:

John Brehany on the
Ethical and Religious
Directives

Matthew R. Kenny and
Daniel O'Brien on the
Function of
Ethics Committess

Elliott Louis Bedford on
Ethics Committees and
Policy Development

Becket Gremmels on
Clinical Ethics

Richard Fehring on
Natural Family
Planning

Stephen Hannan on
Challenges to the
Neurological Critia

Rev. Nicanor Pier
Giorgio Austriaco on
Biological Materials of
Illicit Origin

Rev. Kevin Fitzgerald on
Human Genome
Editing

Jozef Zalot on
Transgenderism and
Gender Dysphoria

and much more

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