



ProLife Office <prolife@archkck.org>

Biweekly Ethics Update

1 message

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THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC BIOETHICS CENTER

Biweekly Ethics Update



From the President



Navigating the AI Revolution in Bioethics: Human Rights and Being Human

NCBC President Dr. John A. Di Camillo gives a special lecture on bioethics organized by the M.A. in Human Rights program of the Institute for Human Ecology at the Catholic University of America on Thursday, October 23, 2025.

Sound bioethics defends the rights and dignity of human beings only through a clear-sighted grasp of who the human person is. AI can be a powerful aid for health, knowledge, and even life, but it comes with grave risks of deceiving, eliminating, reducing, or replacing human persons, their uniqueness, and the relationships and communities they need to flourish. In the 21st-century AI revolution, respecting human rights demands reclaiming what it means to be human.

Upcoming Events

Lord, What Shall I Do? Making Moral Choices in Hard Circumstances

Saint Mary of the Snows Parish, Milford, Michigan

On October, 30th Father Tad will be presenting two talks on *Making Moral Choices in Hard Circumstances*, at St. Mary of the Snows parish, 1955 Commerce Road, Milford, MI. The 1:00 PM Daytime Session is entitled: "**Beginning of Life Decision-Making - Assessing Reproductive Technologies**" which will look at IVF, infertility, and other topics concerning the tiniest among us. The 7:00 PM Evening Session is entitled, "**End of Life Decision Making - The Gift of Dying Well**" and will look at pain management, the use of ventilators and feeding tubes, and various ways we can plan for our own end of life care. Don't miss this opportunity to get your questions answered on the full range of life issues.

Sign Up for Education Programs

Bioethics and Public Policy

Bioethics Public Policy Report

The NCBC's update on public policy developments in bioethics and health care on the state, federal, and international levels.

Purchase Books and Resources

Video, Radio, and Podcasts



Religious Freedom in Healthcare with Father Tad Pacholczyk

The Napa Legal Institute Podcast on YouTube

In this episode, Father Tad Pacholczyk from the National Catholic Bioethics Center joins Napa Legal's Frank DeVito and Joseph Clement to discuss the philosophical foundations and practical implications of protecting medical conscience rights. They look at why medical conscience rights matter. They also discuss how we can respond to the surge of moral relativism that interferes with protections for religious freedom, and the need for medical professionals to bring their faith into their medical practice.

The Ethics of IVF

EWTN Pro-Life Weekly

Father Tad Pacholczyk, senior ethicist at The National Catholic Bioethics Center, and host Abigail Galvan discuss how *in vitro* fertilization objectifies children and how couples struggling with infertility have better alternatives than the ethically-unacceptable options like *in vitro* fertilization widely offered by the multi-billion dollar infertility industry. Father's extended, full-length presentations on this topic of vital importance are available [here](#) and [here](#).



This Catholic Bioethicist Traveled to 81 Countries Defending Life — Here's What He Learned

The Simple Truth Podcast

In this powerful personal testimony, NCBC Senior Fellow Dr. Joseph Meaney shares the journey that led him from studying history and Latin American culture to earning a PhD in bioethics in Rome, where he explored the moral challenges of conscience and health care. With over 25 years of pro-life missions in 81 countries, Dr. Meaney reflects on the moments that deepened his faith, shaped his worldview, and solidified his conviction that the Gospel of Life must be lived and proclaimed in every culture.

Invite a Speaker

NCBC in the News

Brooklyn Bishop Calls on Faithful to Lobby Against New York Assisted Suicide Legislation

Catholic News Agency

Brooklyn Bishop Robert Brennan is calling on Catholics to contact New York Gov. Kathy Hochul and oppose the assisted suicide legislation that currently awaits her signature. Father Tad stresses the importance of encouraging people to become engaged with the issues surrounding physician assisted suicide as they respond to Bishop Brennan's call for action. He notes how laws need to be written to support those who are vulnerable and "offer real support and accompaniment to our loved ones as they pass through one of the most important stretches of their lives, so their journey can be indelibly imprinted by a genuinely good and holy death."

California Law Allowing Anonymous Abortion Pill Prescriptions Endangers Women, Experts Say

National Catholic Register

Father Tad provides commentary on a new California law promoted by Gov. Gavin Newsome, noting how it allows for significant dereliction of duty by medical professionals and encourages patient abandonment as women are given anonymous prescriptions for the abortion pill.

Catholic Hospital System Sued for Not Providing 'Emergency Abortion' as 'Standard of Care'

OSV News

NCBC Senior Fellow Dr. Joseph Meaney, commenting generally on how Catholic health care facilities ought to respond to endangered pregnancies, stated that "the point is, you have two patients, the mother and the child, and to do everything you can for both of them." He warned of approaches that devalue the life of the unborn child and do not treat this vulnerable individual as a second patient.

Championing a Little-known IVF Alternative

WORLD

Dr. Joseph Meaney comments on restorative reproductive medicine (RRM) as both a bioethicist and, personally, as a beneficiary of it. He notes it is troubling that many couples are not always informed about their infertility treatment options, oftentimes being solely offered in vitro fertilization.

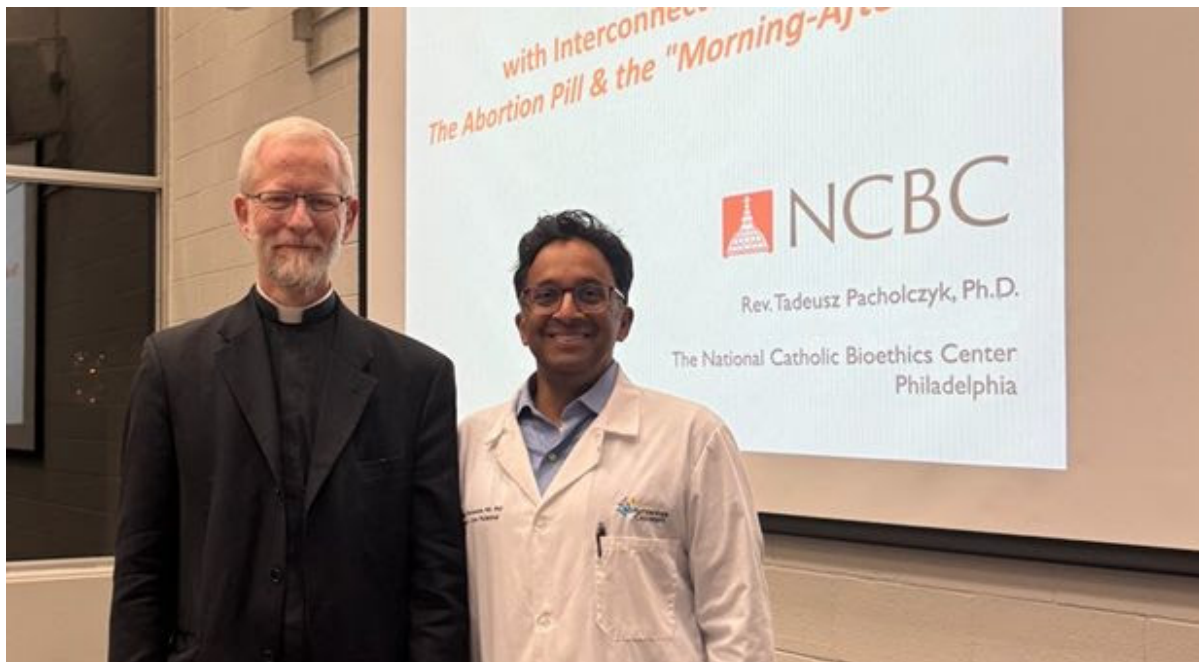
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Recent Events

Father Tad Speaks at Clergy Study Day in Minneapolis-St. Paul

Church of St. Peter, Mendota, Minnesota

Despite significant delays caused by an engine bird strike to one of his arriving aircraft, Father Tad managed to arrive in time to Minneapolis-St. Paul to present a full day of talks to Archbishop Hebda and his presbyterate. The event was entitled: "Clergy Study Day—Sorting Through Some Bioethical Hot Button Issues: *In Vitro* Fertilization, Transgenderism, and Transhumanism." His talks are available at [NCBC Videos by Father Tad](#).



Presentation by Father Tad at the Central Ohio Annual Meeting of the Catholic Medical Association

St. Thomas More Newman Center, Columbus, OH

Father Tad Pacholczyk was the principal celebrant for the White Mass, and the keynote speaker at the Catholic Medical Association of Central Ohio annual meeting at the St. Thomas More Newman Center. Father Tad spoke about “Two Pharmaceuticals with Interconnected Ethical Issues: The Abortion Pill & the ‘Morning-After’ Pill.” Ashley Fernandes, M.D., Ph.D., Clinical Professor of Pediatrics and a bioethicist emceed the event. Dr. Fernandes, brother of Bishop Earl Fernandes, Catholic bishop of the diocese of Columbus, is shown with Father Tad following the presentation.

“The Gift of Dying Well” — Presentation by Father Tad on Cape Cod*Corpus Christi Parish, Sandwich, MA*

Father Tad spoke to a full house at Corpus Christi Parish on October 22nd on **The Gift of Dying Well**. He addressed some of the basic moral principles that help to guide us in medical decision-making, and assist us in helping our loved ones to live out their final days with the true dignity each human person deserves. Particular issues such as physician-assisted suicide, POLST, and the importance of having a Health Care Proxy were also included. The event was sponsored by the Cape Cod Pro-Life Alliance in conjunction with St. Joan of Arc Parish in Orleans, Knights of Columbus Councils of Cape Cod, and the Respect Life Ministries at Corpus Christi Parish, East Sandwich, and Christ the King Parish, Mashpee.



“A Night at the Museum” with Father Tad

Ohio History Center and Museum, Columbus, OH

Sponsored by Greater Columbus Right to Life, Father Tad presented on the importance of **making good end of life decisions** in the face of serious illness. He is shown here at the mastodon exhibit with Beth Vanderkooi and Olivia Hornsby, organizers of the event at the Museum. The well-attended talk, held in the museum’s amphitheater, included an extended Q&A session.



Father Tad Wraps Up 8-Week Teaching Stint for Seminarians in St. Louis, Missouri

Kenrick Glennon Seminary

Father Tad Pacholczyk administered the final exam and concluded his section of the team-taught bioethics class for transitional

deacons preparing for the priesthood at Kenrick Glennon Seminary in St. Louis. Students in the class hail from Bismarck, ND; San Angelo, TX; Wichita, KS; Lafayette, IN; St. Louis, MO; Kansas City, KS. This is Father Tad's eighth year of teaching at Kenrick Glennon.

Are you a doctor, nurse, patient, health care power of attorney, scientific researcher, medical student or resident, or someone else facing tough ethical decisions in health care and biomedical research? Are you a priest, chaplain, friend, family member, or someone else asked to advise on these matters? Our team is here to help you understand and apply the moral teachings of the Catholic Church to the challenges you face:

Request a Free Ethics Consultation

Please pray for our work and consider financially supporting our mission of defending the dignity of the human person in health care and biomedical research!

Make a Financial Gift

The National Catholic Bioethics Center (NCBC) provides education, guidance, and resources to the Church and society to uphold the dignity of the human person in health care and biomedical research, thereby sharing in the ministry of Jesus Christ and his Church. The NCBC envisions a world in which the integral understanding of the human person underlying Catholic teaching on respect for human life and dignity is better understood and more widely embraced in America and worldwide.

The NCBC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and all donations are tax-deductible.



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