



ProLife Office <prolife@archkck.org>

## Biweekly Ethics Update

1 message

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Tue, May 12, 2026 at 1:45 PM



## *Biweekly Ethics Update*



### The Moral Mind



## The Errors of Laxism and Rigorism

Joseph Meaney, PhD, KM

Bioethicists can fail in their ethical duties by falling into laxism or rigorism. The first is more characteristic of contemporary times. In most areas present civilization seems intent on relaxing standards and rules. Laxism can be **defined** as “the moral system according to which a person in a doubt of conscience about the morality of a certain course of action, may safely follow the opinion for liberty provided that it possesses any probability whatsoever.” In short, any possibility that an action might be moral justifies action. This system of thought was condemned by Pope Innocent XI in 1679, but he also joined previous pontiffs in denouncing rigorism. Nevertheless, it seems that society is more likely today to push for loose enforcement of ethical norms rather than taking a strict attitude.

...to continue reading, click [here](#).

## Announcements

### **Job Opening: Staff Accountant**

At the National Catholic Bioethics Center, we believe in accuracy, integrity, and supporting our people. We are seeking a part-time Staff Accountant who is passionate about detail and eager to grow within a collaborative environment. To learn more, please click [this link](#).

## 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 NCBC Books and Resources](#)**

## Video, Radio, and Podcasts



## Same Sex Blessings, Capital Punishment in Light of the Pope's Comments

### *Relevant Radio, The Drew Mariani Show*

Father Tad Pacholczyk joins Drew to discuss Pope Leo's comments on the German Church and same-sex blessings (32:16) and the death penalty (47:20). He also takes questions from callers on the challenges of living out a chaste lifestyle for same-sex attracted individuals, and the beauty of the witness of grace given by gay celibates ardently seeking to follow Christ.

## The Ethics of "Bodyoids" — Creating Headless or Brainless Human Beings from Stem Cells?

### *LA Catholic Morning on Archangel Radio*

Father Tad joins co-hosts Todd Sylvester and Ellen Taylor to discuss the disconcerting idea of "Zombie Bioethics" in the form of creating embryonic beings that have most characteristics of a human being, but never develop a brain or perhaps never develop a head structure at all. These entities, it has been proposed, could then serve as "bags of organs" from which transplantable tissues and organs could be retrieved to help others in need of a fresh source of these tissues and organs. This proposal might also involve using women as surrogates to gestate these bodyoid entities in their wombs until they are large enough to be born or delivered by C-section.

## Joe Zalot on revisions to ERD 64

### *Driving Home the Faith*

Joe Zalot joins Ken Craycraft, host of "Driving Home the Faith" on Sacred Heart Radio in Cincinnati, to discuss important changes to

the *Ethical and Religious Directives* n. 64 on organ and tissue donation. Joe and Ken focus on what death is and the adequacy of existing protocols for determining it, realities that have profound implications for vital organ donation.

### **[Invite an NCBC Speaker](#)**

## NCBC in the News

### **If people knew this about euthanasia ....**

#### *Aleteia*

In light of the upcoming legalization of physician-assisted suicide in New York state, the NY bishops have released updated guidance to end-of-life decision-making. The NCBC is mentioned as a complete resource for making informed decisions, particularly through our **free personal ethics consultations service**.

### **[Sign Up for NCBC Membership](#)**

## From Our Collaborators

### **"Anointing of the Sick in its Pastoral, Theological, and Historical Dimensions" 2nd Annual Thomistic Bioethics Colloquium**

*Friday, May 29, St. Joseph's in Greenwich Village, New York*

This colloquium will engage with the thought of Thomas Aquinas to build on previous work on anointing of the sick, with attention also given to the Dominican rite of anointing, the apostolic pardon, and the new edition of The Order of Anointing of the Sick and of their Pastoral Care.