



ProLife Office <prolife@archkck.org>

Biweekly Ethics Update

1 message

The NCBC <info@ncbcenter.org>

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Reply-To: info@ncbcenter.org

To: prolife@archkck.org



Biweekly Ethics Update



Press Statements

The NCBC partners with Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary's School of Theological Studies on new Master of Arts Degree in Catholic Health Care Ministry

BROOMALL, Pa., June 3, 2026—The National Catholic Bioethics Center (NCBC) is pleased to announce its partnership with the School of Theological Studies (STS) at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary (Philadelphia) in the STS's new Master of Arts degree in Catholic Health Care Ministry. This unique collaboration unites the human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral formation of the STS with the NCBC's extensive on-the-ground experience with health care ethics education and consultation for bishops, diocesan ministries, health care institutions, health care professionals, clergy, chaplains, and patients and families.

This was also covered by EWTN News [here](#).

The NCBC Publishes the Seventh Edition of the ERDs

BROOMALL, Pa., June 9, 2026— The National Catholic Bioethics Center (NCBC) is pleased to announce its printed publication of the seventh edition of the *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services* (ERDs), published with the permission of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). This updated edition introduces several new topics, including sex reassignment, medical referrals, the freezing of human embryos and gametes, voluntary stopping of eating and drinking, and palliative care.

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

Making Sense of Bioethics

Cowboys, Infertility and Deeper Moral Questions

Father Tad Pacholczyk, PhD

Most people still remember the story of Nadya Suleman, dubbed “Octomom,” a single woman who used *in vitro* fertilization to become pregnant with eight babies simultaneously. Suleman had asked her fertility specialist, Dr. Michael Kamrava, to implant at least a dozen embryos into her uterus, leading to the birth of the famous octuplets in 2009. Dr. Kamrava’s medical license was later revoked by the California Medical Board. In commenting on the case, Judith Alvarado, Deputy Attorney General in California, concluded that Dr. Kamrava had acted “like a cowboy” in ignoring fertility industry guidelines.

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

This installment of Making Sense of Bioethics is reprinted from an earlier version of Father Tad’s column. Reprints and subscriptions to this series are available from the NCBC for newspapers, parish bulletins, newsletters, or journals. For information regarding subscriptions and permissions, please contact [Elizabeth Lee](#).

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From the US Bishops

Consecration of the United States to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

On June 11, 2026, as part of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. bishops will consecrate the United States of America to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. From June 3-11, the US Church will pray this **Novena to the Sacred Heart**.

Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

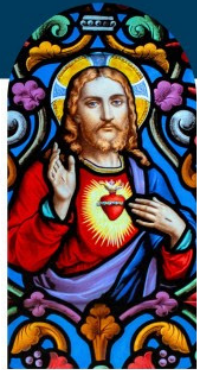
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

June 3 -11

This Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus draws its daily devotions from the [Litany of the Sacred Heart](#).

Each day reflects on the wisdom of saints and pontiffs on the Sacred Heart and offers opportunities for prayer and action, framed by Pope Francis' encyclical *Dilexit Nos* (He Loved Us) and Pope Leo XIV's apostolic exhortation *Dilexi Te* (I Have Loved You).

The novena concludes with the consecration of the United States to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.



usccb.org/weholdthesetruths

Religious Freedom Week

Religious Freedom Week 2026 will take place June 22–29. Religious freedom allows the Church, and all religious communities, to live out their faith in public and to serve the good of all. Beginning June 22, the feast of **Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher**, the USCCB invites Catholics to pray, reflect, and act to promote religious freedom.

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.

[Sign Up for NCBC Education Programs](#)

Previous Events



In the Balance. Benefitting A Woman's Concern

On April 9, 2026, NCBC President Dr. John Di Camillo contributed to a discussion panel on “Life, Ethics, and the Choices That Define Us,” hosted by Friends of A Woman’s Concern pregnancy resource center in Lancaster, PA. He joined Judge Cheryl Allen, retired Pennsylvania Supreme Court judge, and Fr. Stephen Logue, bioethicist and spiritual advisor at Lancaster Catholic High School. Among other topics, Dr. Di Camillo spoke to the importance of distinguishing between objective and subjective aspects of moral actions, confusion about the distinction between direct abortion and treating complications of pregnancy, and the impact of daily lived witness to the beauty of life as a way of promoting pro-life decisions. The video recording of the event can be viewed [here](#).

Video, Radio, and Podcasts

What are the Real-World Effects of the Abortion Pill on Women's Health?

LA Catholic Morning on Archangel Radio

Ellen, Todd, and NCBC Senior Ethicist Father Tad discuss the safety claims surrounding widespread chemical abortions. They look at an important 2025 Ethics and Public Policy Center study that found that nearly 11% of women who take mifepristone—the first of two pills that are part of a chemical abortion—experience

sepsis, infection, hemorrhaging, damage to her internal organs from the abortion, fetal tissue remaining inside the her uterus, kidney failure, and life-threatening mental health diagnoses like homicidal or suicidal ideation. They also discuss how the FDA should withdraw mifepristone from the market at least until it completes a thorough review and can decide on a course of action based on objective safety and efficacy criteria.

Pope Leo Delivers a Faith-Based, Pro-Family Message to a Group of Lawmakers from the European Parliament A11-A14

EWTN News

NCBC Senior Ethicist Dr. Joseph Meaney says the Holy Father's faith-based message to a group of lawmakers from the European Parliament is much-needed in a continent riddled with abortion and euthanasia. He also goes inside the numbers on just how much the population is aging in Europe, balancing the good news that people are living longer with the practical question of who will support the elderly.

What does dying as a Catholic look like?

Trending with Timmerie on Relevant Radio

NCBC President Dr. John Di Camillo discusses what dying as a Catholic should look like. He addresses why physician-assisted suicide misses the mark, along with topics like euthanasia and hospice and palliative care.

[Invite an NCBC Speaker](#)

NCBC in the News

Ectopic Pregnancies Present Medical and Moral Challenges, says Father Pacholczyk

American Catholic Tribune

Father Tad discusses how ectopic pregnancies, though uncommon, can endanger the life of both the mother and her unborn child. In considering the options for addressing this complication of gestation, he notes the key difference between killing someone

directly and allowing someone to die of indirect causes, such that we may never directly take the life of an innocent human being, though we may sometimes tolerate the unintended loss of a life when working to therapeutically address a life-threatening medical situation.

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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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