

Faithful Catholics of MD/DC, Inc.



October 25, 2008

Dear Msgr Enzler,

Your column in the October issue of Our Parish Times was very disappointing in light of the upcoming presidential elections. Not only did you squander an opportunity to remind the readers of the paramount importance of life issues during this election, but your comments made possible confusion on the part of readers as to the true priorities of issues.

One key offending quote is the following. “We thought the issues were Iraq, use of power, terrorism, treatment of prisoners of war, environmental issues – going green, and as always, the life issues. It seems that the real issue now is – the one that needs to be addressed by candidates for any public office – is the economy.” With that statement, you unambiguously declare to the readers that they should place the economy above the lives of millions of children who are murdered via abortion at the rate of 4000 each day in this country. In the state of Maryland alone, the rate is almost 100 daily.

Msgr Enzler, as a priest, you have a duty to teach Catholics the truth. You do your readers a disservice when you acquiesce to perceived popular opinion instead of declaring forthrightly what the proper priorities of a Catholic in a voting booth should be. You seem to be telling the people that “yes, economy is the paramount priority, so please make sure the welfare state stays in place.” Rather, what would have been much more beneficial – and correct – is to proclaim that the economy and all other issues combined are far outweighed by the life issues of abortion, euthanasia, embryo abuse and homosexual behavior.

We hold out for your benefit the examples set forth recently by several bishops. Let’s look at the statement of the Bishops of Pennsylvania at this site <http://archphila.org/votersguide/2008/BishopsStatement.pdf> . A notable statement is this: “the intentional destruction of innocent human life, as in abortion and euthanasia, is not just one issue among many.” We encourage its complete study.

We also refer to you the statement of the bishop of Patterson, NJ http://www.patersondiocese.org/page.cfm?Web_ID=2752 Again we urge the complete study of that document.

Closer to home, our own Auxiliary Bishop Martin Holley has called upon the black community to end abortion. Please read this <http://www.usccb.org/comm/archives/2008/08-152.shtml>. Herein he states that “Our legitimate commitment to other social concerns must not push the primary moral issue of abortion onto the back burner.”

To refute the ridiculous notion that the economy looms in importance over the lives of tiny, helpless children, Bishop Robert Herman, administrator of the Archdiocese of St Louis, has this to say: “The right of our children to be protected from destruction is greater than my right to a thriving economy.”
<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/new.php?n=14091>

There are issues about which good Catholics may disagree. The economy is one such issue. There are other issues about which Catholics may not disagree, without risking their eternal salvations and fostering untold evil. Abortion is one such issue. Your column has the implicit effect of elevating a negotiable issue above a more weighty, non-negotiable issue in the minds of Catholics who may not be educated of such matters. Consequently, these misinformed Catholics may believe that you have given them “the ok” to vote for Barack Hussein Obama over John McCain. Msgr Enzler, we are not a “501c3” corporation; therefore we can speak plainly about the candidates. A vote for Barack Hussein Obama on the part of any Catholic is unacceptable. That is a simple fact, one that your column has served to obfuscate. Regrettably, the next issue of *Our Parish Times* will not be distributed until the election has occurred, so a retraction in that paper will not suffice. Will you please retract/correct your remarks in the *Catholic Standard* and/or in your parish’s website and bulletins? The proper guidance of Catholics may well depend on your corrective actions. Thank you.