

PARISH 'LIFE' NEWS

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Stem Cells from Umbilical Cords Show Promise in Repairing Heart Damage

In a first-of-its-kind study published in the American Heart Association journal, *Circulation Research*, researchers from Universidad de los Andes in Chile found that stem cells derived from the umbilical cords of newborns may help repair damaged hearts and improve heart muscle. “We are encouraged by our findings because they could pave the way to a non-invasive, promising new therapy for a group of patients who face grim odds,” said Fernando Figueroa, one of the authors of the study and a medicine professor at the University de los Andes. Dr. David Prentice, Vice President and Research Director of the Charlotte Lozier Institute said, “This is just the latest study that shows effectiveness of adult stem cells in treating damaged hearts... This controlled study divided 30 patients with ages between 18 and 75 into two small groups: one received treatment, and the other received a placebo. Patients who received a single injection of mesenchymal [adult] stem cells isolated from umbilical cords showed significant and long-lasting improvement in the ability of their heart to pump blood and their overall health.”

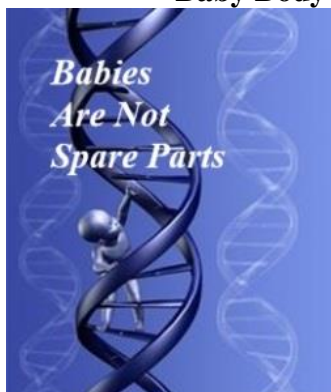
LifeNews.com, 10/12/17

SCOTUS Will Hear Pro-life Lawsuit against California Statute

The Supreme Court agreed to take the case involving a California law that obliges pro-life pregnancy centers to promote abortions. Tom Glessner, president and CEO of the National Institute of Family and Life Advocates, said, “In essence, the law mandates that pro-life centers become abortion referral agencies, totally against their convictions, against their foundational beliefs, compelling speech.” The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit upheld a federal district judge’s decision to allow the law to remain in effect while the lawsuit, *National Institute of Family and Life Advocates v. Becerra*, proceeds. The Supreme Court will decide whether to reverse the ruling, halt the law, and affirm that forcing the centers to provide the free advertising contrary to their core mission is a violation of their constitutionally-protected freedoms. Attorneys with Alliance Defending Freedom are spearheading the effort to overturn the law. Pacific Justice Institute represents three of the aggrieved medical clinics throughout the state in a lawsuit, while the American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ) represents three more.

LifeNews.com, 11/13/17

FBI investigation of Planned Parenthood (PP) and Baby Body Parts Business



PP's involvement in the sale of baby body parts has been a hot topic in the pro-life world for decades. The public involvement was given a major boost when David Daleiden and the heroes at the Center for Medical Progress released undercover videos of the industry in July 2015. In 2016, Congressional

investigations into the baby body parts industry found that laws were probably broken. PP and others involved in the industry were referred to the U.S. Justice Department for possible criminal prosecution. Now, the FBI has asked the Senate for thousands of documents accumulated through the course of its investigation—strong evidence that the FBI is looking into this industry.

[Wednesday STOPP Report](http://WednesdaySTOPPReport.com), 11/21/17

Thousands of PA Catholic HS Students Unite

More than 5,000 students from all 17 high schools within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia recently gathered at Temple University to celebrate the 2nd annual METANOIA rally where students were given the opportunity to learn about the multi-dimensional outreach of the Catholic Church by meeting with chaplains of prison, hospital, college and homeless ministries. Those who rallied were asked to pray for victims of human trafficking, Syrian refugees, and children starving in Africa, and for the Catholic Relief Services workers who serve them. Father Christopher Walsh, who emceed the rally, described the event as a “taste of what the Church really is.” He said, “I think that’s part of the metanoia, to get out of your own bubble, to get out of your own little world and to know that many of their peers across the world are not as blessed as they are.” METANOIA stems from the words ‘to change.’ Camrin Rodriguez, who attends Mercy Career & Technical High School, said, for him, the message is simple: “Everybody can change in their own way.”

[PA Catholic Conference](http://PA Catholic Conference.com), 11/2/17

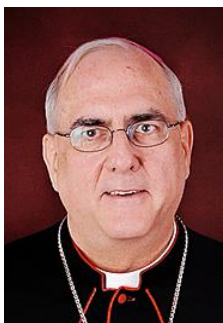
Francis Addresses Care for the Dying

People who are dying must be accompanied with the love of family members and the care of medical professionals, but there is no requirement that every means available must be used to prolong their lives, Pope Francis said in a message to the European members of the World Medical Association. "From an ethical standpoint," the pope said, withholding or withdrawing excessive treatment "is completely different from euthanasia, which is always wrong, in that the intent of euthanasia is to end life and cause death... Even if we know that we cannot always guarantee healing or a cure, we can and must always care for the living, without ourselves shortening their life, but also without futilely resisting their death. This approach is reflected in palliative care, which is proving most important in our culture, as it opposes what makes death most terrifying and unwelcome: pain and loneliness... It could be said that the categorical imperative is to never abandon the sick. The anguish associated with conditions that bring us to the threshold of human mortality, and the difficulty of the decision we have to make, may tempt us to step back from the patient. Yet this is where, more than anything else, we are called to show love and closeness, recognizing the limit that we all share and showing our solidarity. Let each of us give love in his or her own way—as a father, a mother, a son, a daughter, a brother or sister, a doctor or a nurse. But give it!" [The Pilot](#), 11/16/17

Another School District Rejects PP Agenda

Spokane Public Schools is the latest to say no to programs offered by the top abortion chain in the nation, [Inlander](#) reports. School districts in Michigan, Pennsylvania and North Carolina made similar moves this year after parents expressed outrage that PP would be teaching students as young as 12. [LifeNews.com](#), 11/13/17

Archbishop Joseph Naumann New Pro-Life Chairman



In a move seen as an endorsement of St. John Paul II's "culture of life" approach, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) elected Archbishop Joseph Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas, chairman of their Committee on Pro-Life Activities. Archbishop Naumann—already member of the pro-life committee—has challenged pro-choice Catholic politicians, spearheaded efforts to restrict abortion in Kansas, and prioritized abortion in his teaching ministry. As a young priest, he oversaw the pro-life office of the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Under his leadership, the archdiocese began the Project Rachel ministry, a post-abortion healing ministry. He also worked to support pregnancy centers and homes for mothers and children.

[NCR](#), 11/14/17



PROJECT MUSTARD SEED

The letter recipient for this month is:

WALT DISNEY

Operations: apparel, broadcasting, communications, energy, entertainment, home, insurance, internet, leisure/travel, lodging, nutrition, publishing, retail outlets, timepieces.

Please write to:

Mr. Robert Iger, CEO
The Walt Disney Company
500 S. Buena Vista St.
Burbank, CA 91521

www.disney.com

Walt Disney Co. has been on and off The Boycott List for many years. We last wrote them in November 2014.

Tell him to
stop funding
Planned
Parenthood

Cardinal DiNardo Thankful for Immigrants and Refugees

In his Thanksgiving message, Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, Ordinary of the Archdiocese of Houston-Galveston and USCCB president, said he is grateful for the gifts and contributions of immigrants and refugees in the U.S. The U.S. bishops have expressed "a shared and ever-greater sense of alarm—and urgency to act—in the face of policies that seemed unthinkable only a short time ago," Cardinal DiNardo said. These policies include the ending of DACA, which benefited hundreds of thousands of young people who entered the U.S. as migrants, as well as the ending of Temporary Protected Status for people of several Central American countries who have sought refuge in the U.S. from violence and natural disasters. Cardinal DiNardo continued, "One common feature of all these developments is their tendency to tear apart the family, the fundamental building block of our, or any, society... These threats to so many vulnerable immigrant and refugee families must end now. My brothers have urged me to speak out on their behalf to urge the immediate passage—and signature—of legislation that would alleviate these immediate threats to these families."

[NCR](#), 11/23/17

UN Human Rights Committee Formally "excludes" Unborn Child from Right to Life

Despite pleas from more than 100 governments and pro-life organizations, including the United States and Poland, the UN Human Rights committee has excluded unborn children from the right to life in international laws. The committee added language that access to abortion is a right, must be affordable and "effective."

[Center for Family and Human Rights](#), 11/3/2017