



Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller



***Archbishop speaks for the unborn during the "40 Days for Life"
March 2, 2015***

"Since the first century the Church has affirmed the moral evil of every procured abortion. This teaching has not changed and remains unchangeable. Direct abortion, that is to say, abortion willed either as an end or a means, is gravely contrary to moral law." This statement is taken directly from the Catholic Catechism. I include it in this message as a reminder to Catholics and others that the Church's understanding and teaching on the moral principles and natural law are not new and are consistent with our ethic of the dignity of every human person.

As a people of faith, and as Americans, we are called to be a voice for the unborn who cannot speak for themselves. Any law that allows the killing of unborn children has no place in our society. I join my voice with Pope Francis as he rightfully proclaimed, "In the light of faith and of right reason, human life is always sacred."

I am deeply troubled by Planned Parenthood's San Antonio abortion center, the largest abortion facility in South Texas, and the building of the Alamo Women's Reproductive Services facility, as well as any abortion center built at any time and in any location. This great city, named for St. Anthony, built upon the legacy of the Old Spanish Missions, and nourished by the faith of her people must not become known as the abortion center of South Texas. This would be a betrayal of the values that built San Antonio. I strongly encourage our city leaders to only make exceptions and exemptions in implementing and interpreting our laws in ways that will strengthen our support for the dignity of all human life, and the common good. It is their responsibility to preserve the fundamental liberties that define us, the first of these being the right to life.

I also ask all people who share these values to join me in prayer for those who fight to protect all human life.

For those who pray before abortion clinics,
who speak out for life,
or who witness to the rights of all human beings:
that God might strengthen and guide them;
We pray to the Lord

For those who long for the equality of all persons,
that their dedication to the unborn, the old, the condemned, and the forgotten,
may grow every day;
We pray to the Lord

For all who work for an end to abortion,
that they might be strengthened by prayer,
and that God might reward them for their goodness;
We pray to the Lord

For all who work for an end to the culture of death,
and especially for our brothers and sisters
from other churches, ecclesial communions, and religions,
that love for the Gospel of Life might draw us closer in Christ;
We pray to the Lord