

March 12, 2003

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Most Rev. Roger J. Foys, D.D. - Personal
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Your Excellency:

We again wish to thank you for your gracious dedication of your time in meeting with us on March 6, and for your encouragement and blessing.

Fred is working on a one-page outline of the Statement of Catholic Principles which we discussed with you, to be forwarded to you for your reflection in conjunction with the more detailed statement which we presented for your consideration, and for our instruction. We certainly think it is important to see which persons in active and influential positions in policymaking Catholic agencies would be willing to declare their active and total assent to the teaching mind of the Church.

Art is working on a roster of potential speakers for a 35th Anniversary of Humanae Vitae Seminar which we discussed with you, and Fr. Berschied, we understand, is looking into your schedule in that respect.

We would be hopeful that you would begin as soon as possible a series of public teachings, in *The Messenger*, and in pastoral letters to the Catholic doctors, and to the Catholic politicians, as to the Church's position on these vital life issues. In that connection, we are enclosing for whatever use it might be to you an excellent Pastoral published in 1990 by your colleague, Bishop John J. Myers, then of Peoria, *The Obligations of Catholics and the Rights of Unborn Children*.

As we indicated to you, there has been a profound neglect in the teaching of these issues from the highest levels for the past 25 years in this diocese. Many people who call themselves Catholic, and who are in powerful positions of influence in the professions, and in public office, and on Diocesan public agencies, are blatantly violating Church doctrine, to the direct and disastrous disadvantage of the community in general, and certainly of the Catholic faithful, particularly, as it affects the Pro-Life issues, the unborn children, the aged, teenagers, families, etc.

We strongly believe that by prompt, definitive, and continuous teaching by you, in *The Messenger*, by public proclamation to the St. Elizabeth Hospital, and indeed all of the Catholic agencies of the diocese, that real progress can be made in the restoration of a Catholic culture.

Most Rev. Roger J. Foys, D.D.
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Respectfully,

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Enclosure

cc: Fr. Paul L. Berschied
Fr. Daniel J. Saner