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History in the making ... And you are a part of it!

Becky Visosky, Executive Director Catholic Pro-Life Committee

Dear Friends of Life,

This is a year of historic anniversaries. *Humanae Vitae* turns 50. The Catholic Pro-Life Committee turned 25. And *Roe v. Wade* ... well, it might be facing extinction.

The message Pope Paul VI laid out in *Humanae Vitae*, declaring the beauty of chastity and the dangers of sexuality unhinged from marriage and procreation, seems almost prophetic. In his encyclical, Pope Paul VI warned of widespread infidelity and moral decline, lost respect for women, abuse of power, and the mistaken belief in the unlimited dominion over our own bodies. With the number of broken families skyrocketing, millions of children sacrificed on the altar of "my body, my choice," and increasing allegations of sexual harassment and abuse, it is not difficult to see the *Humanae Vitae* road map unfolding before us.

Although seemingly dark in its foreshadowing, *Humanae Vitae* also promises hope through self-discipline and appreciation of God's beautiful gift of life and family. Twenty-five years ago, our modest committee was founded on a promise to protect that gift. In *Evangelium Vitae*, St. John Paul II built on *Humanae Vitae*'s teaching that we are ministers, not masters, of God's plan. As such, we are entrusted with the gift of Life, not to be squandered, but to be treasured. (EV 52.)

Answering this call to mission has brought with it many challenges and incredible blessings since our commissioning in 1993. With your support, we learned how to counsel and support moms, rescuing more than 9,000 babies in Dallas; we came to understand the impact of abortion and opened a beautiful door to healing for hundreds of women and men; and together, our community helped advance crucial legislation protecting women from the predatory abortion industry. Now, we face a challenge like no other – a chance to turn the highest court in the land.

With the recent announcement that Justice Kennedy is retiring, our president has a second opportunity to nominate a supreme court justice who understands and prioritizes the right to life for all. The abortion industry knows what is at stake, as it floods emails and media outlets with hysterical cries to block the nomination at any cost. Abortion activists tout misleading stats about public support of Roe - a case most of America does not understand. We must stand up and speak up – letting our leaders know that we want – nay, what we demand: a justice who will uphold the promise of the constitution for all persons, no matter the age or stage. I urge you to visit *humanlifeaction.org* today to send a message to your U.S. Senators.

A hard fight is ahead of us. But take heart, the future is with us. Just this month, 200 young adults issued an open letter supporting the 50-year message of *Humanae Vitae*. In their words, the message may be considered "unfashionable," but that doesn't mean it's untrue. Thank you dear friends, for standing for what's true, no matter the fashion, no matter the cost.

Grace and blessings to you and yours,

On the Cover: Bishop Emeritus Charles Grahmann accepts the Founders Flame Honor on behalf of the inaugural Bishop's Pro-Life Steering Committee at the Silver Jubilee Bishop's Pro-Life Dinner.

Devoted to ending abortion and restoring respect for life