human development, to human flourishing, to human protections and to human goodness, to vote no for one reason: the amendment is inhuman.

Inhuman because it rejects and the disrespects rights of women and girls of Ohio, inhuman because it rejects and disrespects the rights of parents, inhuman because it rejects and disrespects the rights of the baby about to be born.

When one reads

the language of the amendment, one understands that the issue, in the end, is not the legality of abortion, but human rights. There is a reason that the language of the amendment never mentions familiar human language: woman, girl, mother, father, parent, child, baby. There is a reason the crafters of the amendment language were enraged when more human language was included in the final version of the ballot. I invite you to read the language of the amendment itself, and seriously to consider what the language really means here: www.toledodiocese.org/voteno.

Read the language and read between the lines! Make no mistake, the proposed amendment would not only enshrine abortion into the Ohio Constitution, but take it to its furthest extreme by placing women and girls at risk in an unregulated abortion environment, by undermining the rights of parents to know if their young children are being counseled, encouraged and assisted in having abortions or receiving life changing hormonal treatments against their will, and by permitting late term abortions through nine months of pregnancy, even up until birth!

How telling to note that as humans, we delight in the announcement of the zoo that an animal mother is pregnant, we anxiously await the birth of her babies,

even name them before they are born, and mourn them if they are lost! How telling to note that in a great many schools in the State of Ohio, parents or

> guardians must give permission for their minor children to receive even an aspirin; and according to Ohio law, they must sign a minor child's application for a driver's license or permit, they must give consent for their minor child to have their ears pierced or to get a tattoo. According to

the proposed amendment, however, a minor could have a life altering surgical procedure without the consent of parents!

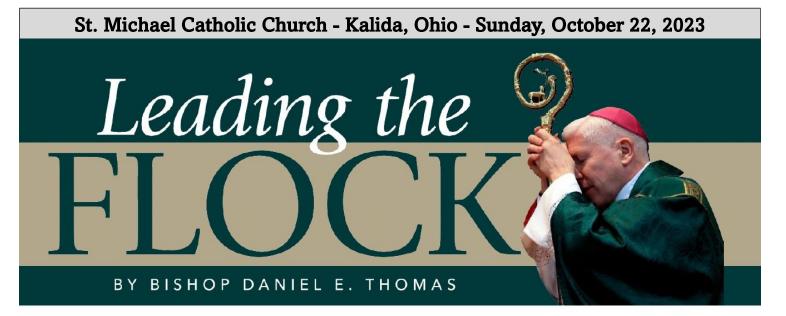
So what is the issue? Issue 1 is not a political issue, it is not a religious issue, it is not an individual issue. In the end, Issue 1 is a human issue that affects all persons and our entire community, regardless of political or religious affiliations.

As human persons, we are created good, we are made for good and made to do good. I encourage all people of goodwill to exercise their right to vote, to defend human rights, and to vote no on Issue 1 in accord with our human nature!"

In closing, dear friends, you've heard me say and I say it again: to be Catholic is to be Pro-Life, from conception to natural death. The amendment on which we are being asked to vote is nothing short of evil. I urge you to exercise your civic duty to vote, and I urge you to fulfill your moral duty to vote NO on Issue 1.

+ Deniel Stermer

Most Rev. Daniel E. Thomas **Bishop of Toledo** October 13, 2023



To be a voice in the public square during these days when voting is taking place on Issue 1, I recently presented an Op-Ed, "What is the Issue?," to the secular press, which I present to you in this column. You will note that it intentionally does not use

Catholic language, no scripture quotes, no Catechism or Papal references. Why? Because today being today, the public often rejects outright anything which even hints of religion. Instead, the article is an appeal to reason! To assist you and those with whom you will interact, I want to provide this reasoned approach to a thoroughly unreasonable amendment.



As Catholics, protecting, defending, nurturing and caring for all human life is a moral imperative. But the life of the most innocent, the most vulnerable, the most defenseless among us, the unborn baby in the womb, must be our preeminent concern. Issue 1 will take abortion to an unprecedented level, enshrining in our State Constitution the "right" to take the life of a baby, even one about to born!

"What is the Issue?"

issue or a "your" issue; it is not a liberal or "In these weeks and on November 7th, we will have conservative issue. Then what is it? the opportunity and responsibility as good citizens to cast a vote on Issue 1, a proposed amendment to the So what is the issue? Simply put, it is a human issue! Constitution of the State of Ohio. At first glance, The proposed amendment should compel all persons some believe that the issue is only about keeping of goodwill who are committed to human rights, to abortion legal, when in fact abortion is already legal

Our Civic and Moral Duty

in the State of Ohio, up to fetal viability. This amendment, however, seeks to make abortion, in its most radical form, a right enshrined in our Constitution, in direct contradiction to the Declaration of Independence. which holds as a self-evident

truth that all are endowed with the first unalienable right: the right to life. So abortion, in the end, is not the issue. Then what is?

Some will say it is a political issue. But this is not an issue of partisan politics, and we are not being asked to elect one candidate as opposed to another. This is not a democratic or republican issue; it is not an independent or green issue. Then what is it?

Some will say it is a religious issue. But this is not an issue of religious affiliation, and not the sole concern of one religion as opposed to another. This is not a Catholic or Evangelical issue; it is not a Muslim or Jewish issue. Then what is it?

Some will say it is an individual issue. But this is not an issue affecting only one person or concerning only certain members of our society. This is not a "my"



Fr. Nathan's Eucharistic Article 4 of 40

"Sorry Just Won't Cut It"

One thing we can't deny is that we are relational people. We are born of a person, we grow in a family, we have friends, we live in a society, etc. Relationships are great, they can build us up, they are there when we need them the most, they help us achieve heights and experiences that we can't do on our own. However, we also know we can screw relationships up, and when that happens how do we fix it? One word: sacrifice. A sacrifice is an act where we give up something of ourselves in order to make things right again. It's an act that makes up for the bad act, and depending on how bad the act was, determines the necessary sacrifice. For example, if you upset your spouse and you want to amend this bad act, you need a good act; so, you apologize. The apology is a kind of sacrifice where the person gives up his pride to express his care for her. This sacrifice heals the relationship because (1) it acknowledges the wrong that was done, and (2) serves as a vessel of love to apply to the wound of the relationship. Now, if you really upset your spouse, you might sense that a simple apology is insufficient and something more is needed. A simple apology may not adequately acknowledge the wrong committed nor apply the needed healing love. So, the spouse may not only have to apologize, but also offer a gift, like flowers. This is a greater kind of sacrifice because not only is the person giving up his pride in apologizing, but also his time to get the flowers and his money to buy them. This sacrifice more adequately acknowledges the wrong that was committed and thus not taking the other person for granted, and is a greater expression of love.

So far we just considered sacrifices between two people who are relatively equal (e.g. two spouses, two friends, etc.). But what if the relationship was unequal, what kind of sacrifice would be needed then? For example, your relationship with the state of Ohio, if you get caught speeding, will a simple apology cut it? Probably not; rather, you will be required to pay a ticket. Nonetheless, this too is a type of sacrifice: giving up of something important (i.e. your money) to (1) acknowledge the wrong committed to the state, and (2) serve as a vessel to heal the wound (the assumption being that by paying the ticket we are learning from our mistake). Notice, when the relationship is unequal and the lower party offends the higher party, a greater sacrifice is needed to restore the relationship. Let's take another example, if you crash your neighbor's party uninvited, only a simple sacrifice will be needed to set things right again with your neighbor because you two are relatively equal. However, if you crash the party of the President of the United States at the White House, you will be looking at jail time. Why? Because in a sense, we are not equal to the president and so a greater sacrifice will be needed.

Why all this talk about sacrifices? Well, up to this point in our conversation, we saw that we have a purpose and potential in our lives, which can only be unlocked when God is in the picture, and vet we know we have the capacity to kick God out of the picture. So, when we offend God who is infinitely unequal to us, and we want to restore our relationship to Him so that we can reach our potential, what needs to happen? As we will see, the theme of *sacrifice* dominates the rest of the Bible.

Fr. Nathan (nbockrath@toledodiocese.org)

	Th	is Week's Mass Schedule	
	TUESDAY, OCTO	DBER 24	
	8:00 AM	Tom, Alice & Stella Brinkman	
	WEDNESDAY, OC	TOBER 25	
	8:00 AM	Loretta Vorst	
	THURSDAY, OCT	<u>OBER 26</u>	
	7:30 PM	Paul, Valita & Kevin Lammers	
		Ted Sealts, Pete & Alice Gerding	
	FRIDAY, OCTOBE	<u>R 27</u>	
	8:00 AM	Carol Erhart	
	SATURDAY, OCT	OBER 28 Sts. Simon & Jude	
	1:00 PM	NM Smith & Markward	
	4:30 PM	Alice & Don Kahle Family, Alphonse & Frances	
		Schulte, Jim, Keith, Mark & Joe Unverferth	
		Jim & Angie Erhart, Richard & Gladys	
		Unverferth, Charles Nussbaum, Sylvester	
		Hanneman, Edna & Dick Kruse, Jerome, Ethel	
Don Bendele, Bob Schimmoeller			
	SUNDAY, OCTOB	<u>ER 29</u>	
	8:00 AM	Jim Warnecke	
	11:00 AM	Leroy & Mary Ann Warnement	
		Denny Maag, Brian Knott, Neil Schnipke	

Last Week's Collection: \$8,778.50

Choir Assignments - October 28 & 29

4:30: Ashleigh 8:00: Ashleigh 11:00: Renee

2023 Memorial Mass

Thursday, November 2, at 6:30 p.m. We will remember: Mary Jane Averesch, Martha Berheide, Tom Brinkman, Sharon Burgei, Carol Erhart, Marilvn Hamburg, Denny J. Heitmeyer, Melissa Hoffman, Betty Holtkamp, Harry Horstman, Brian Knott, Delores Maag, Dennis Maag, Dennis McCollum, Howard Rellinger, Allen Schroeder, Brian Schroeder, Juanita Selhorst, John Siefer. Irene Stechschulte. Janice Stechschulte. Joe Unverferth, Mary Kay Unverferth, Marian Verhoff, Connie Verhoff, Gia Dana Verhoff, Jim Verhoff, Dorothy von der Embse, Gerry Vorst, Carolyn Warnecke, Mary Ann Warnement & Dave Wehri All Choir Members are Invited to Sing at this Mass.

Putnam County Right to Life Thanks...

all the donors to our fundraiser for Protect Women Ohio. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Your donations will help the fight to end the radical abortion amendment.

Important Information about the Radical Facts About Issue 1

- A NO vote protects preborn life, health and safety of women and children, parental rights, and family values.
- A NO vote does not end abortions up to 22 weeks of pregnancy, or deny access to contraception, fertility treatments, or take away care for a miscarriage. Abortion up to 22 weeks is currently legal in Ohio and a NO vote does not change this.
- If Issue 1 passes, we will have enshrined abortionwithout-limits into the very constitution of our state. Not only that, parental consent laws will be eradicated. Minors will be able to obtain major medical procedures such as abortions and sex-change surgeries without their parents' knowledge.
- Get the facts. Pray! Vote NO on Issue 1 on November 7.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23 ROSARY FOR PEACE: 1:30 p.m. in church **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24** RCIA: 7:00 p.m. in Parish Center WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25 HIGH SCHOOL CCD: 7:00 p.m. (if no soccer game) **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26** ROSARY: 7:00 p.m. in church FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27 CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY: 3:00 p.m. in church

Cemetery Prayer Service

Sunday, October 29, at 1:00 p.m. at St. Michael Cemetery and 2:00 p.m. at St. Isidore Cemetery. In case of bad weath er, both services will be held at 1:00 p.m. in church.

Students at Mass This Week...

will be Stephanie Price's grade 3 on Wednesday, October 25 There will be no students at Mass on Friday, October 27 due to their Fall Break.

High School CCD - October 25

If the boys soccer team won their match on Saturday, Octo ber 21, there will be no CCD classes on October 25, due to the tournament game being played here at 7:00 p.m.

Bringing Holy Communion to Nursing Home

We are in need of someone to bring Holy Communion to the nursing home residents on the first Sunday of the month Call Greg Zeller (567-376-9757) for more information.

Boys High School CYO Coach Needed

Contact Connie Cleemput at ccleemput@bright.net if you can help coach High School Boys CYO Basketball.

Vote No on Issue 1 Signs

Putnam County Right to Life has Vote NO yard signs abou Issue 1, the abortion amendment. If you would like one, con tact PC Right to Life at 419-532-3662 or you can pick then up in the church basement, behind the bar.

Halloween Parade at Kalida High School

Trick or Treat in Kalida will be held on Friday. October 27 from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. The parade and costume contest wil follow at 7:30 p.m. at the Kalida High School Gym.

lota Omega Purse Bingo - Friday, Nov. 10... Halloween Parade at The Meadows of Kalida in St. Michael's Church basement. Cost is \$25 and proceeds October 25, beginning at 6:30 p.m., on the assisted living go to cancer research. Putnam County Hospice and CAP. If side of the building. Prizes will be awarded for best-dressed interested, please call Barb at 419-532-3515. If no answer, in different age groups. please leave a message.

Kalida Post Prom Chicken BBQ

Sunday, October 22, from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. or until sold out. \$10 each. No presale. Drive-through behind the Voag building. Thank you for your support!

Palliative & Hospice Care Information

Please join the Putnam County Council on Aging, Putnam County HomeCare and Hospice and the Putnam County Health Department at our upcoming event on Compassion Care: Everything You Need to Know About Palliative and Hospice Care and the Grief Recover Method. The event is on Thursday, October 26, 2023 from 1:00 - 2:30 pm at the Leipsic Community Center. RSVP's are not required, but appreciated by calling 419-523-4121 or toll-free 1-877-796-1760. Light refreshments will be provided.

		<u>SCHEDULE</u>
Tues, 10/24	8:00 AM	Collin Horstman
Wed, 10/25	8:00 AM	Emma Jerwers Alyssa Kahle Hunter Klausing Katelin Knueve
Thurs, 10/26	7:30 PM	Annaleice Maag John Recker
Fri, 10/27	8:00 AM	Jack Schulte Eli Selhorst
Sat, 10/28	4:30 PM	Lyla Siebeneck Adyson Miller Jagger Miller Olivia Olzak
Sun, 10/29	8:00 AM	Griffin Nienberg Maddalyn Nienberg
	11:00 AM	Riley Nienberg Eli Patrick Brady Rampe Katelyn Roof
4:30: PB: Becky Lucke, Becky Lucke, Mary Grote, D Schimmoeller <u>Ministers to H</u> 11:00: PB: M	bb Klausing, Jil Peter Morrisse <i>LECTOR:</i> ave Kahle, Mik arlene Hannen <i>LECTOR:</i> D <u>Iomebound:</u> ark Kahle, Ton Michele Niese	y, Glen & Annette Schroede Ioyce Schnipke e Krouse nan, Rose Recker, Wendy P onna Schnipke Ryan & Erin Kerner
<u>4:30:</u> Te		ctober 28 & 29 Feam 5 <u>11:00</u> : Team 6
The junior clas	ss is selling fru	Inior Fruit & Nut Sales it and nuts this year as a fun oney are due November 3, wi

Upcoming Wedding

Whitney Smith daughter of Chuck & Sharon, and **Trov Markward** son of Scott & Sandy, will be married on October 28, 2023. Please include them in your prayers.

