23rd Annual

GREAT DEFENDER OF LIFE DINNER 2026

the HUMAN LIFE REVIEW

Honoring

His Eminence
Timothy Cardinal Dolan

Archbishop Emeritus of New York

The Union League Club

38 East 37th Street
New York, NY 10016

Monday September 28, 2026

NATIONAL REVIEW

celebrates life and its long relationship with

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Congratulations to
His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan!

Dale and Wendy Brott

THE HUMAN LIFE FOUNDATION

23RD ANNUAL GREAT DEFENDER OF LIFE DINNER

HONORING

His Eminence
Timothy Cardinal Dolan
Archbishop Emeritus of New York

Cocktail Reception

Welcome

Master of Ceremonies
Scott Shea

Invocation
Fr. Gerald Murray

Remarks

Sister Luca Benedict
Kathryn Jean Lopez
Maria McFadden Maffucci

Dinner and Dessert

DINNER HOST COMMITTEE

Mother Cabrini, Pioneer

Knights of Columbus Supreme Council

Dorothy Day, Activist

Dale and Wendy Brott
Charles and Mary Crossed Foundation &
Feminists Choosing Life of New York
James and Joan McLaughlin

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Jeffrey Lederfarb
Joseph Longo
Anna Maffucci
Grace Maffucci
Kerri Phillips
Elliot Small

About Our Honoree:



Timothy Dolan was named Archbishop of New York by His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI on February 23, 2009. He had previously served as Archbishop of Milwaukee, appointed there by Pope Saint John Paul II on June 25, 2002.

Born in Ballwin, Missouri to Shirley and Robert Dolan on February 6, 1950, he was ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Saint Louis on June 19, 1976. In 2001, the 25th anniversary of his ordination, then Monsignor Dolan was named the Auxiliary Bishop of St. Louis by Pope Saint John Paul II, choosing for his Episcopal motto the profession of faith of St. Peter: *Ad Quem Ibimus*, "To Whom Shall We Go?"



On January 6, 2012, Pope Benedict XVI announced that Timothy Dolan was to be appointed to the College of Cardinals. He currently serves as a member of the Dicastery for the Oriental Churches and the Dicastery for Evangelization. Following the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI, Cardinal Dolan participated in the Conclave that elected Pope Francis in March 2013.

Cardinal Dolan created the Pro-Life Commission in the Archdiocese of New York in 2011, the 38th Anniversary of *Roe* v. *Wade*. He completed a three-year term as president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in November 2013. He also completed terms as chair of the Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities and the Bishops' Committee for Religious Liberty. In March 2015, he served as Grand Marshal of the New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade, leading the celebration of St. Patrick and Irish heritage.

Following the death of Pope Francis in April, Cardinal Dolan participated in the Conclave that elected Pope Leo XIV in May 2025.

September 2025 saw the unveiling at St. Patrick's Cathedral of a mural by Adam Cvijanovic called, "What's So Funny About Peace, Love, and Understanding?"—the artist's interpretation of the Apparition at Knock in Ireland, which tells the story of New York's immigrants. Cardinal Dolan spearheaded the project over many years and helped to fundraise and guide the largest

commissioned artwork in the cathedral's history. An image of his mother as a young girl appears as part of the mural, along with depictions of New York saints, Venerables, and Servants of God.

On December 18, 2025, Pope Leo XIV accepted Cardinal Dolan's resignation, tendered according to Church law on his 75th birthday.

In February 2026, Police Commissioner Jessica Tisch named Cardinal Dolan Co-Chief Chaplain of the New York Police Department. In May 2026 Cardinal Dolan was named a Knight in the Legion of Honor, France's highest national distinction, for his great efforts rallying support from America for the rebuilding of Notre Dame Cathedral after the tragic fire in 2019. He is the author of many books, including: *To Whom Shall We Go: Lessons from the Apostle Peter*, 2004, and *I Am With You: Lessons of Hope and Courage in Times of Crisis*, 2021, a collection of sermons and writings from the early days of the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic.

Cardinal Dolan celebrated his golden Jubilee Mass—50 years of priesthood—at St. Patrick's Cathedral on May 14, 2026 . He asked his successor, Archbishop Ronald Hicks, to be the homilist. Quoting Dolan, Hicks said: "'I am a priest who is happy to help you'— those words reflect who and what Cardinal Dolan is to his core." After the Mass there was a block party on John Cardinal O'Connor Way, the block on the south side of the cathedral, with free hot dogs for all.

On September 2nd, it was announced that the Cardinal will receive the prestigious Athenagoras Human Rights Award, given by the Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. It will be presented on Saturday, October 17, at the AEP's annual Athenagoras Human Rights Award banquet at the New York Hilton Midtown Hotel in New York City.



Jeanne Mancini, Maria Maffucci, Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Dorian Anderson, and Supreme Knight Carl Anderson at the Great Defender of Life Dinner in 2016.

About Our Speakers . . .

Fr. Gerald Murray is Pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Yorkville, Manhattan. Father Murray was born in Brooklyn, New York in May 1959, and grew up in New Rochelle. He attended Regis High School and Dartmouth College. He entered St. Joseph's Seminary, Dunwoodie in 1980 and was ordained a priest on December 1, 1984. He was awarded a Doctorate in Canon Law in 1998. He has appeared as a commentator on religious topics for various television and radio outlets, including EWTN, EWTN Spanish, Fox News, Fox Business News, MSNBC, NY1, Newsmax, Radio Maria, Relevant Radio, Fox News Radio and the Voice of America. He is a contributor to *The Catholic Thing* and *Human Life Review*. He has a weekly program on EWTN Radio Open Line on Thursdays at 3 PM ET). He is fluent in French, Spanish, and Italian, and has a working knowledge of Portuguese. He served in the U.S. Naval Reserve Chaplain Corps from 1994 to 2005.

Scott Shea is a longtime radio producer and author who currently works on the Doug Tooke show on the Catholic Channel at SiriusXM, weekdays 2:00-4:00.pm ET. He has produced five original audio documentaries that have aired nationally, on Pope Francis (two parts), Pope Benedict XVI, Mother Teresa, and the History of the Catholic Channel. He recently produced a one-hour retrospective of *Conversation with Cardinal Dolan* that debuted on the day of Archbishop Hicks' Installation Mass. An avid fan of popular music from the 1920s through the 1990s, he is the author of *All the Leaves Are Brown: How the Mamas and Papas Came Together and Broke Apart* (Backbeat Books), which was named one of the best music books of 2023 by *Variety*. He is currently working on a biography of country legend Waylon Jennings for Bloomsbury Books, which will come out in October 2027. He lives in Riegelsville, PA with his wife and two children.

Kathryn Jean Lopez is a senior fellow at National Review Institute, where she directs the Center for Religion, Culture, and Civil Society. She is the religion editor of National Review magazine (where she has been on the editorial staff, including as editor of NationalReview.com, since 1997) and writes The Lifeline, a newsletter on pro-life issues. She is published widely in Catholic and secular publications and is also a nationally syndicated columnist with Andrews McMeel Universal. Lopez is author of *A Year with the Mystics: Visionary Wisdom for Daily Living* (Saint Benedict Press, 2019). Lopez writes frequently about religious freedom and persecution and serves on the board of the Shrine of the North American Martyrs in Auriesville, NY.

She is frequent collaborator with the Sheen Center for Thought & Culture and on the spiritual advisory board of Hard as Nails Ministry. She also serves on the Board of Regents at the University of Mary in Bismarck, N.D. She is also a fellow at The Catholic University of America's Institute for Human Ecology. Lopez is a certified spiritual director and trained abortion-clinic sidewalk counselor. She served as Chair of Cardinal Dolan's Pro-Life Commission.

Sister Luca Benedict, SV, is the Director of the Respect Life Office at the Archdiocese of New York, assisted by Sister Elena Marie, SV. She entered the Sisters of Life in 2016—joining her twin sister, Sister Pia Jude—and professed her final vows in 2024. Prior to entering the order, Sister Luca practiced medicine. She received her medical degree from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) School of Osteopathic Medicine and completed her residency in Internal Medicine at the UMDNJ New Jersey Medical School with a Fellowship in Hospice and Palliative Medicine at Montefiore Health System. Sr. Luca's previous missions have included providing support and services to women in the Philadelphia area who find themselves pregnant in difficult circumstances and evangelization and spiritual support to the Albany diocese.

About Our Staff . . .

Maria McFadden Maffucci is editor in chief of the *Review* and president of the Human Life Foundation. Maffucci was formerly the HLR's editor (from 1998–2020), executive editor and managing editor. Previously, she was managing editor of *First Things* and of the quarterly *This World*. She began her career at Boston University, working for *Partisan Review*, and the Center for the Study of Economic Culture with the late sociologist, Professor Peter Berger. Mrs. Maffucci's articles and reviews have appeared in the *Human Life Review*, *National Review* and NRO, *First Things*, *Newsmax*, the *Catholic Herald*, and *Verily*. A Holy Cross graduate with a B.A. in philosophy, Maffucci is married to Robert E. Maffucci, and the mother of three adult children, including a son on the autism spectrum.

Christopher Reilly is co-editor of the *Review*. Reilly is an author of academic and general audience works regarding theology, advanced technology, bioethics, and philosophy. He worked as a nonprofit leader and fundraiser for twenty five years. He has also served in various editorial board and peer reviewer roles. Chris has earned a Doctor of Theology (ThD) degree and three Master's degrees. His recent book is *AI and Sin*, published by En Route books in 2025. He is co-editor of a forthcoming book *The Abolition of Meaning: 15 Catholic Thinkers Challenge the AI Paradigm.*

Mary Rose Somarriba is co-editor of the *Review*. An award-winning journalist with more than 20 years of editing experience. She has served in the roles of culture editor and editor-in-chief of *Verily* Magazine, editor of *Natural Womanhood*, and managing editor of *First Things* and *The New Atlantis*. Since 2010, she has been writing for the *Review*, which she was introduced to at a very early age, as her parents have subscribed to the *Review* since its founding. A Providence College graduate with a B.A. in philosophy, she lives with her husband and five children in Cleveland, Ohio.

Christina Angelopoulos (née McFadden) is the managing editor of the *Review*. The fifth child of J.P. and Faith McFadden, she began working full-time for the Human Life Foundation in 2003. She has since worked to expand the Foundation's technology, operations efficiency, archive organization and presentation, and social media presence. A graduate of Fordham University, Ms. Angelopoulos lives in Westchester with her twin daughters, and also sings professionally in Manhattan.

Rose Flynn DeMaio, Financial director and board treasurer, is a graduate of New York University with a B.S. in Accounting. She was employed with J.P. McFadden at *National Review* when he founded the Human Life Foundation. Believing in J.P.'s ability to bring intelligent information to the public, she became the Foundation's independent accountant. After her retirement from *National Review*, she became the Foundation's Financial Director and Board Treasurer.

Ida Paz, the *Review'*s production assistant, started as a volunteer at the Human Life Foundation in the summer of 2016. She began working part-time in 2017, assisting in an HLF project that continued on through 2018. She became a full-time employee in 2019. Ida graduated with a degree in banking and finance. This led to various jobs in the banking industry, a quasi-government fundraising charitable agency, and medical office administration.

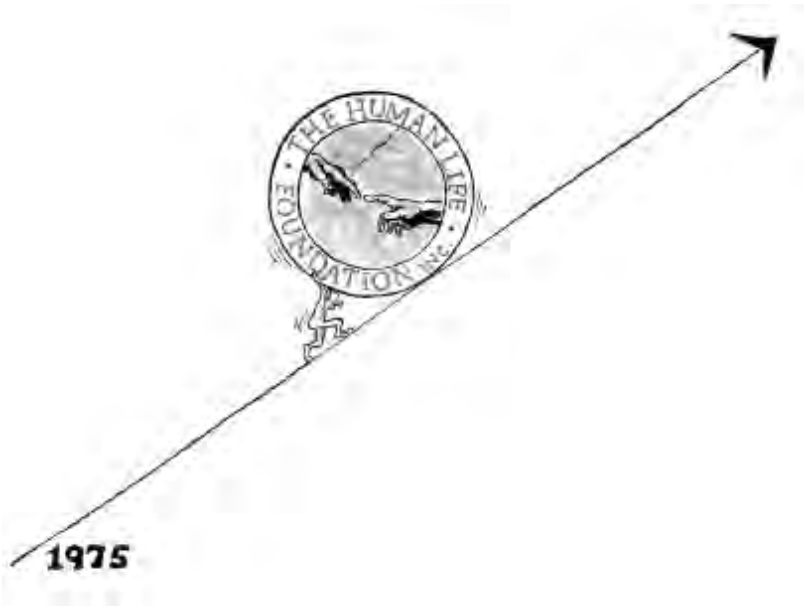
About the Human Life Foundation . . .

Founded in 1974, the Human Life Foundation, Inc. is an independent, not for-profit, non-sectarian organization chartered specifically to promote—and to help provide—alternatives to abortion. The Foundation seeks to achieve its goals through educational and charitable means, and welcomes the support of all those who share its beliefs in the sacredness of every human life (however helpless or "unwanted") and are willing to support the God-given rights of the unborn, as well as the aged, the infirm—all the living—whenever and wherever their right to life is challenged. All contributions to the Human Life Foundation are deductible from taxable income according to the Internal Revenue Code: Section 501(c)(3). The Foundation, which is chartered in the State of New York, is not affiliated with any other organization or group.

Education: Since 1975, the Human Life Foundation has published the *Human Life Review*, a quarterly journal focusing on abortion and a variety of other life-and-death issues. In 52 years of continuous publishing, the *Review* has compiled perhaps the most extensive record that exists of the abortion debate since *Roe* v. *Wade*. The entire archive is accessible online to subscribers at the Foundation's website, www.humanlifereview.com, where one can also read the *Review*, up-to-date news, blogs, and Faithful Reflections.

Charitable Outreach: The Human Life Foundation, from its beginning, has helped to support crisis pregnancy centers around the country through a Baby Saving matching-grant program. Contributions to the Foundation may be earmarked for this alone.





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Dear Friends,

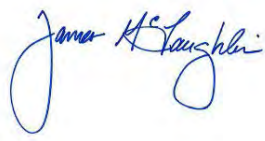
Welcome to the Human Life Foundation's 23rd Great Defender of Life Dinner. We are pleased to honor His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop Emeritus of New York, as our Great Defender of Life 2026.

The *Human Life Review* was founded by James P. McFadden more than 50 years ago, immediately after the *Roe* v. *Wade* Supreme Court decision. After his death in 1998, J.P. McFadden's daughter, Maria McFadden Maffucci, resolved to continue the irreplaceable role that the *Review* plays in defense of life. She serves as our President and Editor in Chief.

When Cardinal Dolan first came to New York, he wrote a note to Maria telling her that her father was "his hero." Tonight we return that tribute.

We gather together to revivify our commitment to the cause of life and to thank each of you. Nothing that we do would be possible without you. The Review's continued survival is due to your generous support and the dedication and hard work of the *Review*'s editors, writers, staff and volunteers, especially: Maria McFadden Maffucci, Mary Rose Somarriba, Christopher Reilly, Rose Flynn DeMaio, Christina Angelopoulos, Ida Paz, Jane Devanny, Madeline Fry Schultz, Patricia O'Brien, and William Blackburn.

Sincerely,



James McLaughlin
Chairman of the Board

Prior Recipients of the Great Defender of Life Award

2003 Henry J. Hyde
2004 Hadley Arkes
2005 Nat Hentoff
2006 Mary Kenny
2007 Chris Smith
2008 Rita Marker and Wesley Smith
2009 Ellen Wilson Fielding, William Murchison, Mary Meehan
2010 William McGurn
2011 Paul Greenberg
2012 James Buckley
2013 Susanne and Eric Metaxas
2014 Kristan Hawkins and Clarke Forsythe
2015 Micheal Flaherty and Ruben Diaz
2016 Carl A. Anderson
2017 Carly Fiorina
2018 Edward Mechmann and David Quinn
2019 Helen Alvaré and Rich Lowry
2020: (no dinner) Journal Tribute to Essential Workers
2021 Margaret Colin and Marvin Olasky
2022 Gerard V. Bradley and Pregnancy Help, Inc.
2023 Thomas Brejcha and George McKenna
2024 50th Anniversary Gala Celebration
2025 Dr. Christina Francis and Anne Conlon

The Human Life Foundation is so grateful to the following people for their support of this event:

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List current as of Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Cardinal Dolan: By No Means Finished Yet

George Weigel

There's a steak house on East 50th Street in midtown Manhattan, to which Cardinal Timothy Dolan and I would sometimes walk for dinner after a pre-prandial or two in his sitting room. The restaurant was less than a block away from the residence of the archbishops of New York, and the walk would ordinarily take two or three minutes. With Cardinal Dolan, it often took ten minutes, sometimes fifteen, because virtually everyone we passed along the way wanted to greet the archbishop, share a story, thank him for this or that, or just say hello.

I watched this time and again, and it reminded me of something one of Cardinal Dolan's predecessors, Cardinal John O'Connor, had said when I asked him in 1996 what Pope John Paul meant. "What he means," Cardinal O'Connor replied, "is that people know they have a pope." Not abstractly. Not as a historical factoid or "Jeopardy" answer. But as someone in high office with whom people believed they had a personal relationship that made a difference in their lives. Someone they could rely on. Someone they could look up to. Someone who understood them, empathized with them—in fact, loved them.

For the past seventeen years, the people of New York have known that they had an archbishop, and in the same sense in which John Paul II made them know they had a pope.

Since the announcement last December that Pope Leo XIV had accepted the resignation Cardinal Dolan was canonically obliged to offer a year ago on his 75th birthday, tributes have been paid to Cardinal Dolan's singular embodiment of Christian joy; to his skills as a homilist who combines accessibility with spiritual depth; to his effective work as a seminary rector forming exceptionally fine priests; to his leadership in the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; and to his willingness to both work with the powers of this world and speak hard truths to them when necessary. I'd like to focus on three aspects of the man that may not have received sufficient notice thus far.

First, beneath the smiling, gregarious Irish American big brother or uncle that is his public persona, Timothy Michael Dolan is a serious intellectual. He may well be the best-read bishop in the United States; that sitting room where we would sip and talk was overflowing with new books, and they were not there for decoration. They had been read, or were being read, and it was the rare title I'd mention to the cardinal that he hadn't heard about—and those that were new to him, he ordered. With an earned doctorate in

U.S. Catholic history, Cardinal Dolan knew the story of Catholicism in these United States inside and out and had the largest treasure trove of historical anecdotes I've ever encountered, many of them gleaned from his mentor, the great John Tracy Ellis.

Second, Cardinal Dolan is a fiercely loyal friend. After he got acquainted with the head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church (UGCC), Major-Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk, he became one of the Ukrainian leader's advocates and defenders. Dolan was sitting next to Shevchuk when the head of the Russian Orthodox Church's "foreign affairs" department, Metropolitan Hilarion Alfeyev, in a display of grotesquely bad manners and Russian imperial arrogance, befouled his invitation to address a Synod by lambasting the UGCC. The cardinal archbishop of New York turned to the major-archbishop of Kyiv-Halych and said, "If you want to walk out, I'll be right with you." And in the four years since Russia's invasion of Ukraine, no American bishop has been more supportive of the UGCC's head in the U.S., Archbishop Borys Gudziak, than Cardinal Dolan.

Then there is the cardinal's constant defense of religious freedom, manifest in his creating a small shrine honoring Hong Kong prisoner of conscience Jimmy Lai in St. Patrick's Cathedral. Regime-friendly (or compromised) Chinese in New York protested; the cardinal paid no heed.

Young Tim Dolan never wanted to be anything but a parish priest, and he's remained that at heart. When friends are ill, he calls. His parish visits as archbishop in both Milwaukee and New York were his favorite moments as a shepherd. Wherever he has served, virtually everyone regrets his leaving, which cannot be said, alas, of every senior churchman.

As of February 6, he will not be archbishop of New York. But Cardinal Timothy Dolan, in good health and full of energy, is by no means at the end of his ministry or influence. His presence will be felt stateside, and in Rome, for years to come. And we may thank God for it.

George Weigel's column "The Catholic Difference" is syndicated by the Denver Catholic, the official publication of the Archdiocese of Denver. This column first appeared February 4th, 2026.

Congratulations to His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan



and to

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of the Pro-Life Movement

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God Bless a Great Defender of Life

His Eminence

Timothy Cardinal Dolan

Archbishop Emeritus of New York

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Congratulations to

Timothy Cardinal Dolan

Defender of Life

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

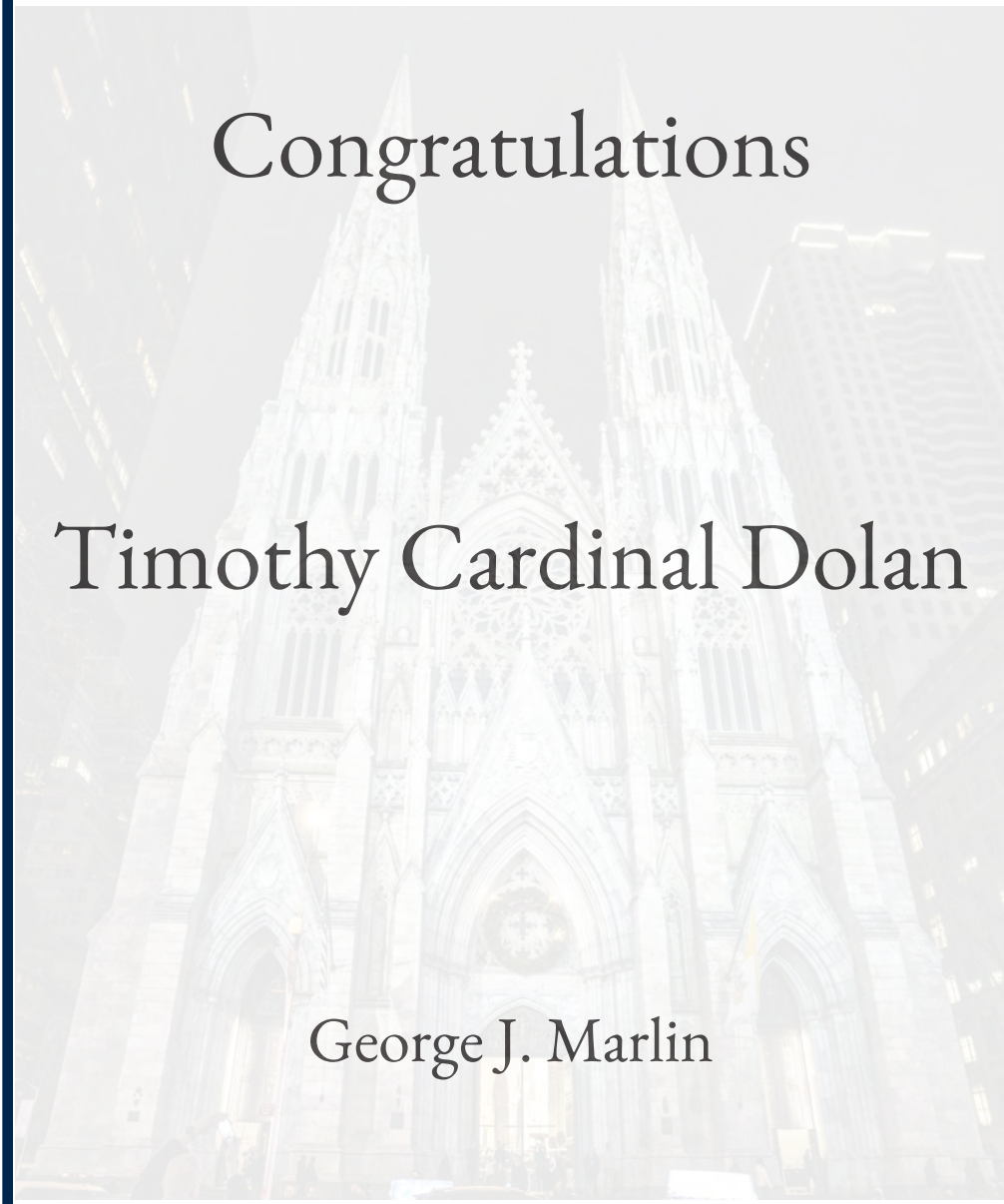
May the sun shine warm upon your face;

the rains fall soft upon your fields

and until we meet again,

may God hold you in the hollow of His hand.

The Hayes Family



Congratulations

Timothy Cardinal Dolan

George J. Marlin

We salute and pray

for the pro-life advocates

who counter

the forces of evil every day.

God Bless the righteous,

Allen and Mary Roth

Rusty and Juliana Reno

and the entire staff of



are grateful

for Cardinal Dolan's unstinting witness

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his Eminence

Cardinal Dolan

The Pascucci Family



With a Blessed Thanks

TO THE GREAT DEFENDERS OF LIFE!

WE HONOR

His Eminence
Timothy Cardinal Dolan

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In honor of

his Eminence

Cardinal Dolan

The Pascucci Family

Congratulations
to

His Eminence

Timothy Cardinal Dolan,

a Great Defender of Life

and a

Dedicated Champion of Human

Dignity, Who Always Bore

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May God continue to
Bless him for his generosity

John and Theresa Murnane

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Congratulations to Cardinal Dolan!!

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FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS



AND LOVINGLY REMEMBER
THOSE FAMILY MEMBERS
NO LONGER WITH US

Congratulations to

His Eminence, Timothy Cardinal Dolan

In Grateful Recognition of Your Extraordinary Efforts
on Behalf of Life

With profound appreciation and admiration, we honor Cardinal Dolan for his steadfast witness to the dignity and sanctity of every human life.

Through your courageous leadership, unwavering faith, and compassionate service, you inspired us and countless individuals to uphold the value of life at every stage and to promote a culture rooted in hope, love, and respect for the human person.

Your dedication to advancing the cause of life and defending the most vulnerable continues to be a powerful example for our Church, our communities, and future generations.

Thank you for your tireless commitment, faithful leadership, and enduring impact.

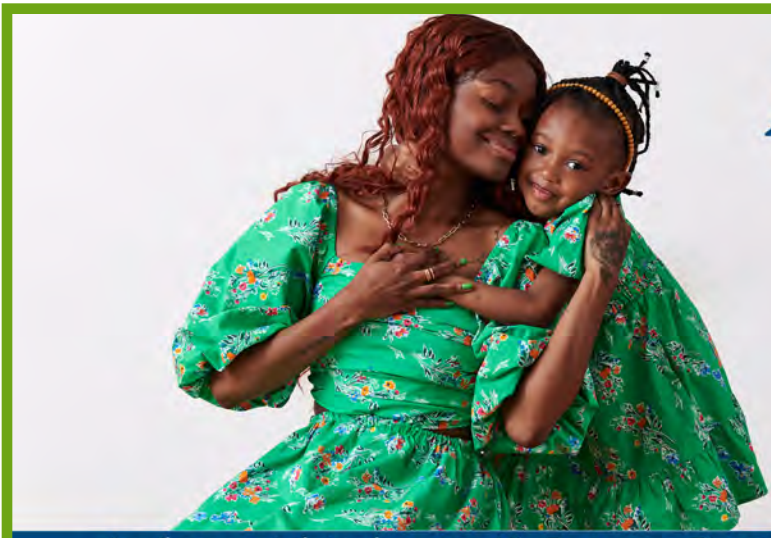
With deepest respect, gratitude and love,

The Fitzsimons Family

Linda and her offspring:

Matthew (Sarah), Justine, Eileen (Stanley), Michael (Cris), Brian (Lisa), Darragh (Jake)

Kyle, Erin (John), Ava, Isabel, Reid, Teddy, Kateri, Bryce, Cristiaan, Tripp, Weston



Avail

Avail congratulates honoree His Eminence, Timothy Cardinal Dolan, and recognizes Maria McFadden Maffucci and the Human Life Review for their commitment to the flourishing of life.

115 W. 45th St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036 | www.avail.org

THE CATHOLIC THING

The Faith & Reason Institute and *The Catholic Thing* congratulate His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan, and *The Human Life Review* for fighting the good fight, all Great Defenders of Life.

Robert Royal, Editor-in-Chief | **Brad Miner**, Senior Editor

Read *The Catholic Thing* daily for the best Catholic commentary on the internet, with contributors including Royal, Miner, Fr. Gerald E. Murray, Anthony Esolen, Mary Eberstadt, Hadley Arkes, George J. Marlin, David Warren, Michael Pakaluk, Francis X. Maier, and Fr. Paul D. Scalia.

The Christophers

The Christophers join in celebrating the Human Life Foundation's 2026 Great Defender of Life honoree, Timothy Cardinal Dolan. His dedication to promoting the values underpinning a just society serves as a guiding beacon for all those working to build a better world. And we salute the Human Life Foundation as they demonstrate the profound worth of every human life through their compassion and the daily help they provide to countless women and children. May they reflect God's love and mercy to all, now and in the future.



HOPE



"It's better to light one candle than to curse the darkness"

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Congratulations Your Eminence!

from your Brother Knights

K OF C

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Remembering

Richard Freeman Kingsbury

1941 - 2025



Strong Kind Loving Loved

Winnie, Marion, Laura, Jenny, Eva, John and Paul

Thank you!

Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan

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Let us protect and defend life, not just in words, but in the policies we support, the care we provide, and the compassion we show. Let Terri remind us to never stop believing in the sacred worth of every life.

Terri Schiavo
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“Even the smallest recollection of that day will be to me a source of happiness.”

- Archbishop Fulton Sheen

Witness this fascinating conversation:

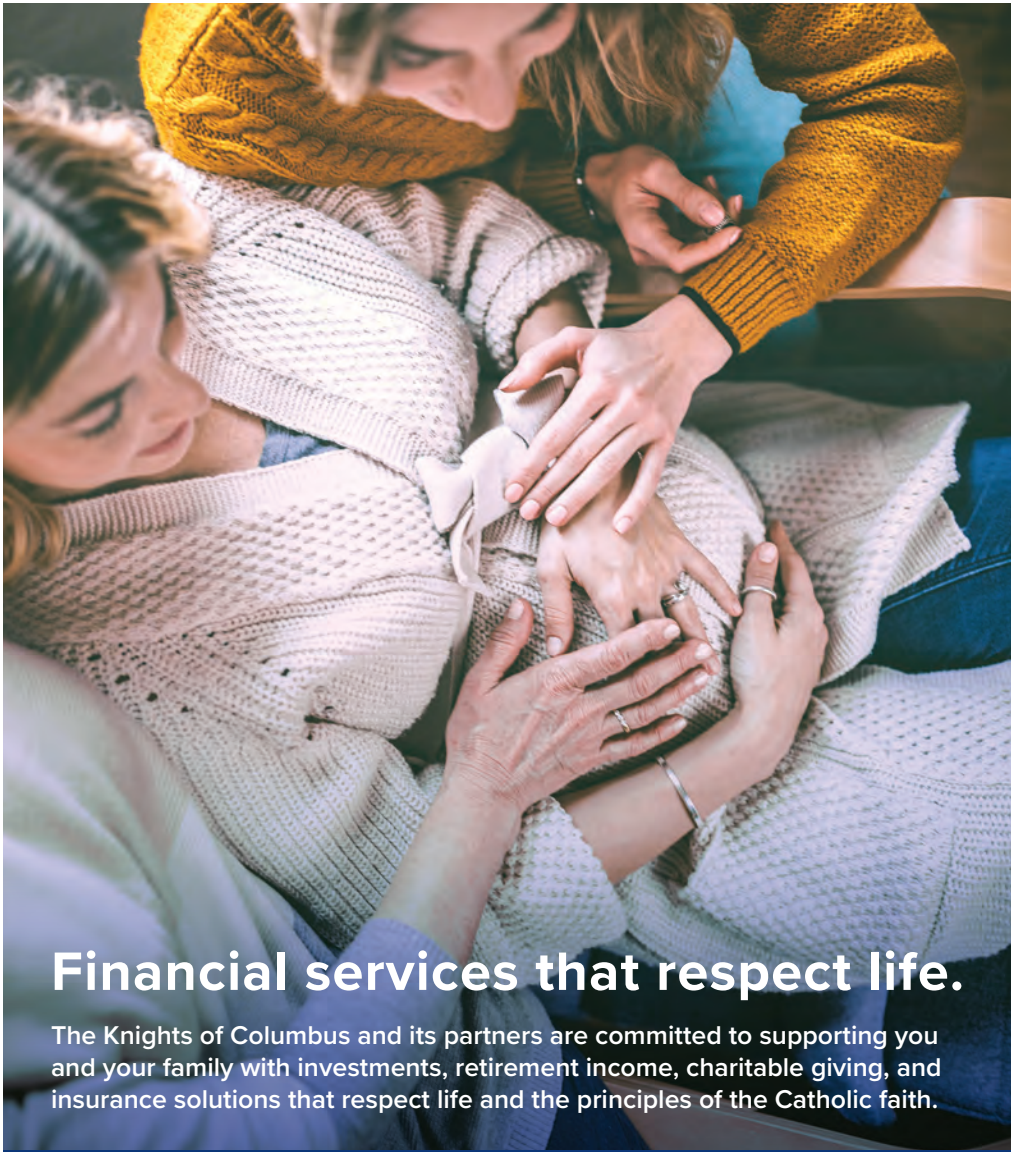
A long-hoped-for meeting between Archbishop Fulton Sheen and Malcolm Muggeridge – two great twentieth century authors and religious figures – brought together by James P. McFadden, the founder of the *Human Life Review*.

https://humanlifereview.com/sheen-muggeridge/



“Though Sheen had been weakened by recent open heart surgery, his wonderfully sonorous voice, rising and falling, pausing for maximum effect, obedient, like a musical instrument, to the wishes of its master, still worked its magic. Running in and out of that organ music, Muggeridge’s engaging voice resembles a cathedral gargoyle come to life. Finally, acting as both audience and impresario, is Jim McFadden, the matchmaker of this fruitful meeting of two Christian minds.”

—Ellen Wilson Fielding, Senior Editor



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