



Diocesan Office  
for Apostolic Ministry / Alcala Park

November 15, 1989

Ms. Lucy Killea  
Assemblywoman, 78th District  
2550 Fifth Avenue, Room 152  
San Diego, CA 92103

Dear Assemblywoman Killea:

I regret to inform you that by your media advertisements and statements advocating the "pro-choice" abortion position in the public forum you are placing yourself in complete contradiction to the moral teaching of the Catholic Church and consequently, I have no other choice but to deny you the right to receive the Eucharist in the Catholic Church. No Catholic can responsibly take a "pro-choice" stand when the 'choice' in question involves the taking of innocent human life.

The "pro-choice" stand is a choice for abortion. This is against both the teaching of the Catholic Church and the divine law. The harm you are doing by espousing the "pro-choice" view will require great efforts to repair. Like those who have abortions, the guilt remains with them, and so will your guilt remain with you as an advocate of this most heinous crime.

Since the "pro-choice" stand involves the taking of innocent human life, it only proves how immoral abortion is. If you say abortion is a matter of choice, you are forgetting someone. "Pro-choice" is a phrase that is incomplete; it lacks an object. One must ask the natural follow-up: the choice to do what? In this case, it is the choice to take a child's life.

As a public official, instead of attacking the defenseless life of the unborn, you should defend the life of the child, the child's inalienable right to life.

I pray that you will receive the light to form a right conscience on the fundamental teaching of God. The right to life is a fundamental right, and without it, there are no rights.

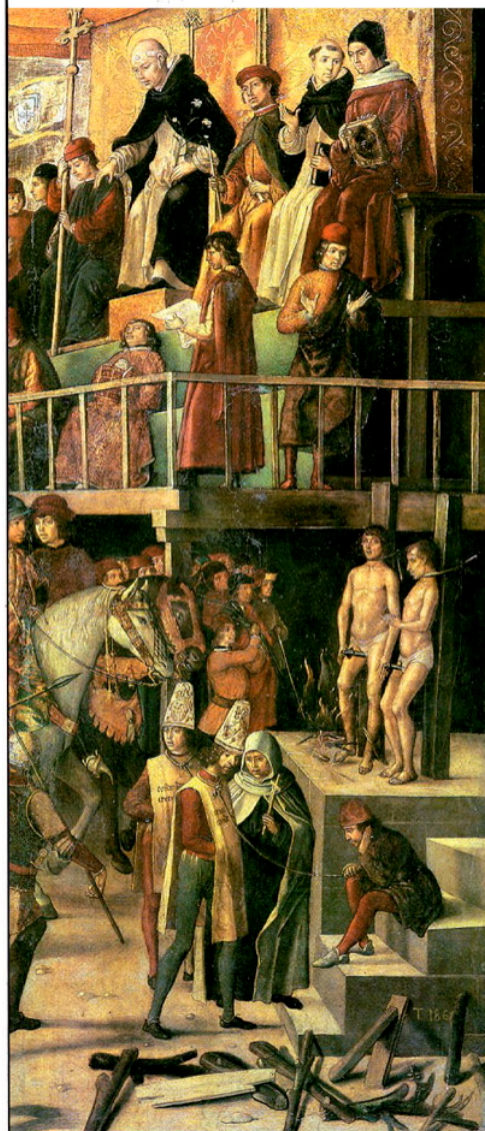
Sincerely yours in Christ,  
+ Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego

LTM:bb

## "A SEAMLESS GARMENT OF RESPECT FOR LIFE"

"No Catholic can responsibly take a 'pro-choice' stand when the 'choice' in question involves the taking of innocent human life."

Leo T. Maher  
Bishop of San Diego  
15 November 1989



In the name of Christ, the Roman Catholic Church tortured and murdered (burned at the stake) hundreds of thousands which took innocent human lives of "heretics" during the Papal and Spanish Inquisitions. "Will your guilt remain with you as an advocate of this most heinous crime?"