



Meanwhile, programs to support women who make the choice to keep their babies, to the extent that they exist at all, are starved for funding and are not well promoted. Yet many political leaders typically cater more to abortion providers and advocates than to women who might well make a different choice, if only they were aware of and had other options.

We understand full well that no Supreme Court decision will reduce the availability of abortion in New York. With that reality as a backdrop, state government has nothing to lose and everything to gain by working toward reducing the rate of abortion. There is common ground to be found, even in a state like New York. The recent state budget provision dramatically expanding postpartum Medicaid eligibility is proof of this. But why not work together to do more?

- We envision a New York where a woman in a crisis pregnancy is never made to feel that she has no choice but to abort.
- We envision a New York where parents, husbands or partners, as well as society at large, do not put undue pressure on a woman to abort her child.
- We envision a New York where access to quality prenatal care and healthy birth outcomes are the same whatever your ZIP code, the color of your skin or your country of origin.
- We envision a New York where employers and educational institutions fully accommodate the needs of pregnant women and new mothers so that they can carry their babies to term without fear of negative financial, professional or academic consequences.
- We envision a New York where public policies promote adoption through tax credits and other incentives for both birth mothers and adoptive parents.
- We envision a New York where tax policies aimed at reducing poverty, like an expansion of the Child Tax Credit, enable single mothers and poor families to provide for the basic needs of their children.
- We envision a New York where no mothers or children fall through the cracks of the social safety net, and quality health care is guaranteed for all.
- We envision a New York where quality childcare is affordable and accessible for all.
- We envision a New York where marriage between one man and one woman is promoted as a societal good geared toward the stable raising of children.
- We envision a New York where boys and men are taught to respect women and to

accept and embrace the financial, physical, and emotional responsibilities of fatherhood.

- We envision a New York where post-abortive women who are suffering emotionally are given the services they need to heal, and the acknowledgment that their pain is real.
- We envision a New York where religious organizations can provide needed services to pregnant women and moms while remaining true to the tenets of their faith.

All of these goals can come to pass, even in a state like New York. Let us not put our trust in mere judges, legislators, governors, or presidents. Rather, let us put our faith in God, for whom nothing is impossible. Politicians can change policies and laws, but only God can convert hearts and minds.

So, in this month of Mary, mother of Jesus and mother of us all, let us pray through her intercession for an end to abortion in our lifetime and let us work toward making New York a state where even if abortion is not illegal, it will one day be unthinkable.

*May 12, 2022*

**Timothy Cardinal Dolan**  
Archbishop of New York

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Bishop of Albany

**Most Rev. Robert J. Brennan**  
Bishop of Brooklyn

**Most Rev. Michael W. Fisher**  
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**Most Rev. Terry R. LaValley**  
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**Most Rev. Salvatore R. Matano**  
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**Most Rev. John O. Barres**  
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