CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE

CHRIST CENTERED CARE

**March 2024 Newsletter**

# President's Column

"If you, the American people, send me a Congress that supports the right to choose, I promise you I will restore Roe v. Wade as the law of the land."

Dear Friends in Christ,

This ominous statement from President Biden's recent State of the Union address portends an escalation of the culture war in America leading up to the November general election, and the stakes could not be higher. Healthcare issues will be front and center in the debates including the right to life of our most vulnerable brothers and sisters along with the religious liberty and conscience rights of healthcare professionals and institutions.

In his address, President Biden made it clear that his administration will continue its radical advocacy for abortion rights throughout all nine months of pregnancy. Furthermore, by presenting opposition to abortion on demand as an assault on individual freedom and unjust discrimination, he remains steadfast in supporting his department of Health and Human Services regulations threatening the conscience rights of those who refuse to participate in abortion.

Over the course of the next several months there will be a media barrage in an attempt to influence voters and the outcome of the election. The sheer volume of information will be bewildering. One of our goals will be to bring you reliable Catholic analysis of developments relevant to healthcare from our resources in medicine, law, bioethics and public policy.

An urgent issue you should be aware of now is the U.S. Supreme Court's hearing of the Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine v. FDA. CHCLA filed an amicus brief in the case challenging the FDA for its failure to provide proper oversight for dispensing the abortion drug mifepristone. By failing to uphold important safety standards, including mail order distribution of the abortion pill without in person medical supervision, women are at increased risk of serious life-threatening complications while performing medical abortions at home.

Our Bishops recognize the gravity of the issue and have asked us to pray for the outcome of the Court's decision, "for our struggle is not with flesh and blood but with…the world rulers of this present darkness." (Ephesians 6:12)

This year as we celebrate Holy Week and the Sacred Triduum united in the Mystical Body, let us rejoice and give thanks for our salvation in Christ and proceed with confidence in the infinite mercy and love of God "who is able to accomplish far more than all we ask or imagine by the power at work within us." (Ephesians 3:20)

God Bless,
Steven White, MD
President, CHCLA