



A message to the faithful of the archdiocese from Archbishop Michael Jackels

24 June 2022

Supreme Court overturns claim to constitutional right to abortion

Thanks be to God!

The US Supreme Court ruled today that "the Constitution does not confer a right to abortion. *Roe* and *Casey* are overruled, and the authority to regulate abortion is returned to the people and their elected representatives."

It's unclear what that means in practice, but it's a huge step in the right direction. There's clearly still work to be done to assure the most basic of human rights, the right to life, which is also the foundation of a just society.

Not everyone will receive this news as positive. So, while we may disagree with them about a right to abortion, we can be sensitive to their anger, and assure them that we most certainly uphold the rights and dignity of women.

And we can do *that* by offering women and children help during pregnancy and after childbirth, as well as by working for a just society where they can live in dignity, and by protecting the earth, so they have a place to live.

This is an answer to untold numbers of prayers and sacrifices offered for the protection of children in the womb, as well as the fruit of years of advocacy by a multitude of people; these pray-ers and workers are to be commended.

Finally, we entrust to God's loving care all the innocent children killed by abortion, as well as the people who suffer the wounds from having had or performed an abortion.

O God, send your Archangel Raphael to bring us Your healing.

Michael O. Jackels

Archbishop of Dubuque