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Pentecost Sunday

June 5, 2022

Dear Friends in Christ.

As we head into the summer months, the heat is intensifying in more ways than one. We await with great anticipation the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in <u>Dobbs v. Jackson</u> Women's Health Organization (2021), the case involving Mississippi's pro-life "Gestational Age Act" (2018) and the potential overturning of the infamous Roe v. Wade (1973) and Casey v. Planned Parenthood (1992) decisions.

Following the <u>leak</u> of Justice Samuel Alito's draft opinion, which says the Court must overturn both Roe and Casey since "[t]he Constitution makes no reference to abortion, and no such right is implicitly protected by any constitutional provision," a wave of protests and anti-Catholic vandalism spread across the U.S. From California to New York, churches were defaced with pro-abortion slogans, a tabernacle was stolen from a parish in Texas, and the offices of pro-life organizations in Oregon and Wisconsin were set on fire.

The unidentified arsonist who started the fire at the offices of Wisconsin Family Action left an ominous message graffitied on the building: "If abortions aren't safe then you aren't either."

If *Roe* and *Casey* are indeed overturned, we must brace ourselves for the increase in violence, vandalism, and persecution that will surely follow (there is a high likelihood that the pandemonium of Summer 2020 following the death of George Floyd will be repeated in our cities). To prepare ourselves spiritually, we would do well to reflect on the following words of Scripture:

"Dearly beloved, think not strange the burning heat which is to try you, as if some new thing happened to you. But if you partake of the sufferings of Christ, rejoice that when His glory shall be revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. If you be reproached for the Name of Christ, you shall be blessed: for that which is of the honor, glory, and power of God, and that which is His Spirit, resteth upon you." (1 Pet. 4:12-14)

Let us pray on Pentecost, and throughout the Octave of the Feast, for an increase of "His



Spirit" (the Holy Ghost) in our souls to strengthen us in "the inward man" (Eph. 3:16) for whatever lies ahead this summer and beyond.

With your help, Catholic Family News will continue to cover the events of the day and provide helpful commentary, analysis, catechesis, and spiritual insight as we face "the burning heat" together. If you find our content beneficial, please subscribe or renew your subscription to CFN today and spread the word about our apostolate to your family and friends. Together, we will hold high the standard of Christ the King and "fight the good fight of faith" (1 Tim. 6:12). Sacred Heart of Jesus, may Thy Kingdom come!

Sincerely in Christ,

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