Bioethics: Creating a Culture of Death?

In her liturgical services, the Eastern Orthodox Church prays for “a Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless and peaceful.” Modern society is increasingly unprepared to face the reality of death and the uncertainty and confusion which surrounds it. The Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania (Orthodox Church in America) is pleased to inaugurate an on-going discussion on some of the issues surrounding life, death and the sacredness of human life. This first lecture on the subject of Bioethics is offered in cooperation with St Tikhon’s Orthodox Theological Seminary.

Award winning author Wesley J. Smith is a Senior Fellow in Human Rights and Bioethics at the Discovery Institute, a consultant to the International Task Force on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide, and a special consultant for the Center for Bioethics and Culture. In 2008, the Human Life Foundation named him a Great Defender of Life for his work against assisted suicide and euthanasia.

Smith’s book *Culture of Death: The Assault on Medical Ethics in America*, a warning about the dangers of the modern bioethics movement, was named one of the Ten Outstanding Books of the Year and Best Health Book of the Year for 2001 (Independent Publisher Book Awards). Smith has published hundreds of articles and opinion columns on issues such as the importance of being human (human exceptionalism), assisted suicide, bioethics, the morality of human cloning, the dangers of the animal rights movement, the anti-human elements in radical environmentalism, legal ethics, medical ethics, and public affairs. His writing has appeared in Newsweek, New York Times, and the American Journal of Bioethics.

Throughout his career in public advocacy, Smith has appeared on well over a thousand of television and radio talk/interview programs, including such national shows as ABC Nightline, Good Morning America, Larry King Live, and CNN World Report.

Smith is a parishioner at St. Innocent Orthodox Christian Church in Livermore, California.

Tuesday, Sept. 28, 7:30pm
St. Stephen Orthodox Cathedral
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*Light refreshments to follow lecture.*