"You back down on saving babies and moms, you get smacked down in the next election"

Good afternoon to you and to each of my esteemed listeners! Welcome to EWTN's Open Line Tuesday edition! I'm Barbara McGuigan here, alive and grateful to talk to you today and wondering if you're still basking in the serious pro-life victory in last week's election! Jesus is always on time; He's never late! May God be praised – and congratulations to you and to every voter who cooperated so beautifully with His powerful grace! Thanks be to God for a well-formed conscience, even more so when it courageously takes action, yes? God's airwaves are open. Here are the numbers to call:

In North America call 1-800-585-9396

Outside North America call 1-205-271-2985

Our email address is always Openline@ewtn.com

Brothers and sisters, did we or did we not send a powerful message to our politicians at all levels of government that every single human being's life is sacred and we want *everyone* to be protected from the womb to the tomb?

When Planned Parenthood's Cecile Richards cautioned before the election that "Abortion is in extreme danger," we knew something critically important was about to take place! Anyway, what an oxymoron! How can something extremely dangerous be in "extreme danger?" How can a thinking human being defend a so-called "right" that is always *lethal* for a preborn baby and extremely dangerous spiritually, emotionally and physically for the baby's mother...not to mention the sin-sick anguish the baby's father suffers. Very sick people need very strong medicine. And that's the spoonful our voters, Catholic or not, fed the Obama administration on Election Day.

Kathleen Gilbert of LifeSiteNews.com quotes Congressman Chris Smith, Co-Chair of the Congressional Pro-life Caucus, as saying:

> The American people have spoken, and replaced 38 pro-abortion Members with pro-life Members and replaced 14 unreliable Members with reliable pro-life Representatives...Of the 93 Members of the Freshman Class at least 77 are committed to defending the unborn...January will mark the beginning of the arguably most pro-life House ever. This is another message to President Obama that the American people will not be fooled by the Obama's accounting gimmicks and phony Executive Orders. They expect their elected officials to stand up for life without backing down."

In other words: Earth to lawmakers: Don't fake loyalty to millions of unborn babies and then vote to take our hard-earned money to cover abortions in the socialized

medicine scheme we refer to as Obamacare. You back down on saving babies and moms, you get smacked down in the next election. From now on...

An editorial in the *Washington Examiner* has explained how prominent incumbents lost "after serving for decades in the House" and has attributed the Republican gains to "powerful examples of principled opposition trumping entrenched power and money..."

The National Right to Life Committee lists 96 pro-life winners on their website. Now, that's the kind of "principled opposition" I'm talking about!! In fact, we even have four new female pro-life Governors elected and the entrance of the first pro-life woman, Kelly Ayotte of New Hampshire, into the current Senate! Go, "feminine genius," go! Finally, a woman's pro-life voice of truth will thunder amidst the pro-abortion lies in the Senate.

How I laugh when now, *after* the election, the anti-lifers are suddenly claiming that the victories of so many pro-lifers had nothing to do with abortion! That's what longtime abortion zealot Eleanor Smeal has written in *Ms.* Magazine.

As pro-life Matthew Archbold pointed out about Eleanor Smeal yesterday in the *National Catholic Register*'s blog: "Sure dozens of pro-choicers got booted from Congress but rest assured, it had nothing to do with abortion. Smeal… [told] her pro-abort compatriots that all is well and that they should all remain calm..."

Brothers and sisters, Matthew Archbold hits the nail on the head when he humorously demolishes Eleanor Smeal's claims:

> So while polls in this country generally show that the country is tilting pro-life and younger generations are increasingly questioning of abortion and pro-life Republicans have just been ushered into Congress in record numbers, please remember that pro-aborts have nothing to worry about. You keep telling yourself that Mz. Smeal. Repeat after me - pro-lifers aren't making inroads, pro-lifers aren't making inroads, pro-lifers aren't making inroads..."

But one pro-life "inroad" that truly can bless us all is our likely new Speaker of the House come January, John Boehner, a pro-life Catholic, who replaces a viciously pro-abortion but self-proclaimed "ardent, practicing Catholic" by the name of Nancy Pelosi. Syndicated columnist Kathryn Jean Lopez writes about John Boehner in the online *National Catholic Register* that, "Eight out of 10 Americans favor restrictions that would limit abortion. Here comes a speaker who believes that Washington is 'defying the will of the American people on abortion.'"

Miss Lopez writes:

> In the days before the election, the Catholic congressman from Ohio told talk radio host Sean Hannity: "We will not compromise our principles." And when asked what he was doing to prep for Election Day and after, he told radio host

> Mike Gallagher "I've been praying all day, every day," he said, "trying to make it through this election and make sure our team is successful." He added that prayer "does work." "You've just got to stay at it every day and build a closer relationship with Our Savior," Boehner said.

Immediately following the House takeover, when asked by ABC's Diane Sawyer what role Catholicism plays in his life, the presumptive Speaker said: "Well, it's given me a real foundation of faith. And - while I don't wear it on my shirtsleeve - I have - deep abiding faith in Our Lord."

Brothers and sisters, I don't know about you, but talking to Diane Sawyer about his "deep abiding faith in Our Lord" may not mean his faith is worn on his shirtsleeve, but it means his faith is embedded in his heart. He not only thinks with the Church, but he *feels* with the Church.

In a letter to House Republican members and soon-to-be members-elect two days before the election, Boehner paid tribute to his parents: "I grew up in a small house on a hill in Reading, Ohio, with 11 brothers and sisters… What little money my parents had they used to send all of us to Catholic schools."

Brothers and sisters, it is heartening to find a politician who, upon receiving the Defender of Life award from the National Right to Life Committee said:

> Respect for life has never been a political position for me. It just came naturally. It's me. It's what I believe. It's what my parents instilled in me as I grew up in America. I think millions of Americans had a similar experience… Americans love life, and we love freedom. They're both intertwined, permanently, as part of the American character. America is a nation built on freedom. And without respect for life, freedom is in jeopardy...When human life takes a back seat to other priorities -- personal comforts, economics -- freedom is diminished. By contrast, when we affirm the dignity of life, we affirm our commitment to freedom.

Brothers and sisters, as I began, to find a politician who gets it...who is willing to stand up for the babies and for the Lord and Giver of Life, a politician who affirms the very dignity of each human person, this is a gift from God. Thanks be to our Blessed Lord for John Boehner's parents' openness to life, which no doubt played a significant role in forming him for God. With such a Speaker of the House, our country and its citizens, born and unborn, have a fightin' chance.

So let us be thankful to God and cautiously optimistic. As Florida Senator-elect Marco Rubio said of the Republicans' congressional revival, "Tuesday's election was not a mandate, it was a second chance." Brothers and sisters, we know the God of our first choice is the Lord of our second chances! Let us continue to carry on our mission of evangelization, always speaking the truth *without* apology but always *with* charity. With ardent prayer and heroic virtue, may we be fitting subjects for His Majesty to use to turn

the tide of a sin-sick, godless culture that suffers from child aversion and disorders that will eventually cause our demise. It seems as though the tide may be starting to turn...Please God.

Brothers and sisters, I can't wait to talk with you! What do you think about the tide turning? How do you think this happened? What must we do to ensure that we stay on the right course? I welcome your comments and questions. Here are the numbers: 1-800-585-9396 and 1-205-271-2985.

Closing: Many thanks for your calls and emails! Thanks, too, for my great producers at EWTN: Tom Graye, Elena Rodriguez and Mike Romano.

I find myself occasionally re-reading the Manhattan Declaration, the great pro-life, pro-family, Christian manifesto that Catholics, Evangelicals, and Orthodox leaders issued just a year ago, on November 20, 2009. (Brothers and sisters, be sure to look it up yourself if you haven't lately!) In light of our recent pro-life election victory, I share with you the bold and noble ending of this masterpiece that Dr. Robert George, Dr. Timothy George and Chuck Colson co-authored:

> Because we honor justice and the common good, we will not comply with any edict that purports to compel our institutions to participate in abortions, embryo-destructive research, assisted suicide and euthanasia, or any other anti-life act; nor will we bend to any rule purporting to force us to bless immoral sexual partnerships, treat them as marriages or the equivalent, or refrain from proclaiming the truth, as we know it, about morality and immorality and marriage and family. We will fully and ungrudgingly render to Caesar what is Caesar's. But under no circumstances will we render to Caesar what is God's.

Until next week on Open Line, Blessed be God and may He mightily bless you! Bye for now!