

## YOUR REFERENDUM UPDATE

The vote against the right to life was a wound to the soul, perhaps the darkest day in Ireland's history. A terrible cruelty has been inflicted on the most innocent in our society - helpless preborn children. Worst of all, two thirds of the Irish people are complicit in this cruelty. It bears their stamp: every abortion is one they voted for.

All of you who worked, campaigned and prayed to protect life, however, should hold your head high. You fought the good fight to protect mothers and babies and your conscience is clear.

Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts for your heroic efforts. Now we need your insight and your ideas as we reflect, plan, pray, and rebuild the culture.

*My very dear Friend,*

The result of the abortion referendum was utterly devastating. We have lost something precious and beautiful and we are all broken-hearted. The fall of Ireland's pro-life protection was a wound to the soul, and the complicity of the people is a dark stain on the nation. It feels like an unexpected and traumatic death, because that's what it was, the death of decency and kindness and compassion. But we must now pick ourselves up off the floor, and we must fight on, because no referendum can ever make abortion right. We must also keep the path lit so that, together with the next generation, we can rebuild the culture.

*In this report to you, then, we will examine:*

- **Why the referendum was lost**
- **How the media, not the Yes campaign, repealed the 8th – with Google's help**
- **The strengths and weaknesses of our fight to Save the 8th**
- **The role of the Church in re-establishing a culture of life**
- **What must we do now – we want YOUR opinions and YOUR ideas**

Every one of you who took part in what was an inspiring, brilliant and heroic NO campaign should hold your head up high. You fought to protect both mother and baby, and to save entirely innocent children from abortion.

You stood up against the greatest injustice in the world, and time will show that you are on the right side of history. That should make you proud, and we are proud to stand with you and with

