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# WHY DO CATHOLICS DO THAT?

- Father Jacob Maurer

Dear friends,

Over the last several weeks we have examined in brief some of the most common questions around vaccines - if they are safe, if they can be taken morally, and if we ought to take them.

To each of these questions we find

the Church answering in the affirmative: **vaccines are safe, they can be morally taken, and they ought to be taken** when it is reasonable to do so.

“We are called to an attitude of hope, beyond the paralyzing effect of two opposite temptations: on the one hand, the resignation that passively undergoes events; on the other, the nostalgia for a return to the past, only longing for what was there before. Instead, it is time to imagine and implement a project of human coexistence that allows a better future for each and every one.”

- *Humana Communitas in the Age of Pandemic: Untimely Meditations on Life's Rebirth*, Pontifical Academy for Life

As I'm sure you have realized by now, this series is by no means comprehensive! It is my hope that by addressing the most common concerns, highlighting the teachings of the Church, and providing references for further research, we all may be empowered to dive deeper into the wisdom of the Church personally and as a community.

We are blessed with unprecedented access to the riches of Church teaching and tradition, we can engage it both individually and together. With that same technology, we can debate, discuss, and learn from each other in-person & online. Through it all, we invite the Holy Spirit to enlighten us and guide us in the work given to us by the Lord.

In many ways these our times prompt us to more fully commit ourselves to proclaiming the gospel in word and deed. May we continue to pray that God may make fruitful our efforts - in our own lives and in the lives of all.

- Father Maurer

## Reference documents

*Dignitatis Personae* (On Certain Bioethical Questions), Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith, 2008 - [https://www.vatican.va/roman\\_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc\\_con\\_cfaith\\_doc\\_20081208\\_dignitas-personae\\_en.html](https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20081208_dignitas-personae_en.html)

*Moral Reflections on Vaccines Prepared from Cells Derived from Aborted Human Fetuses*, Pontifical Academy for Life, 2005 [https://www.pdcnet.org/C1257D43006C9AB1/file/B3945E0E17A0025085257D94004A597D/\\$FILE/ncbq\\_2006\\_0006\\_0003\\_0145\\_0154.pdf](https://www.pdcnet.org/C1257D43006C9AB1/file/B3945E0E17A0025085257D94004A597D/$FILE/ncbq_2006_0006_0003_0145_0154.pdf)

*Note on Italian vaccine issue*, Pontifical Academy for Life, 2017 <http://www.academyforlife.va/content/pav/en/the-academy/activity-academy/note-vaccini.html>