

April 30, 2026

Re: Candidacy for MI Council

Dear members of the MI National Mission of the Immaculata Council,

I would like to throw my hat in the ring, so to speak, and serve on the MI Council. I participated in the Youth Mission for the Immaculata summer month-long retreat in 1977 at Marytown in Kenosha, WI at the invitation of Brother Francis Mary, may he rest easy in Heaven. I have been a member since then. In 2003 I asked Shevawn Pearson if my son and two daughters might join the MI youth retreat in Libertyville, IL. She agreed and asked me to provide lectures on Mary and other relevant topics at that youth retreat. I continued to assist her with the MI summer program for the next few years as well as with the young adult retreats at Christmas time in Libertyville.

I have been an educator for 40 + years teaching undergraduate and graduate students at Franciscan University of Steubenville and Ave Maria University, and law school students at Ave Maria School of Law and St. Thomas School of Law in Miami, FL. In addition, working closely with the Holy See, I have prepared and led over 400 students to the United Nations to lobby on behalf of authentic human rights since 2004. My wife and I reside in Ave Maria, Florida but maintain a farm in Steubenville, Ohio as well.

Before Dr. Mark Miravalle came to Franciscan University, I taught the first Mariology course there using Rev. H. M. Manteau-Bonamy, O.P.'s book *Immaculate Conception and the Holy Spirit* describing Kolbe's understanding of Mary's union with the Holy Spirit that underlie her titles Mediatrix and Co-Redemptrix. Daily mass and rosary are the pillars of my spiritual life.

Just yesterday evening, April 29th, a young lawyer from Poland visited me and gave me two holy cards he brought back from Niepokalanow with second degree relics of St. Maximillian Kolbe attached that seemed to say, "stop dilly-dallying and apply" to the MI Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Scarnecchia

D. Brian Scarnecchia is a Professor of Law at Ave Maria School of Law in Naples, Florida where he teaches Jurisprudence, Bioethics & Law, and Catholic Social Teaching & Law and other law courses. In 2024 as a visiting Professor of Law at St. Thomas University School of Law in Miami, FL he served as their Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. Prior to coming to Ave Maria School of Law, he was the Chair of the Department of Catholic Social Thought, Director of Legal Studies, and Director Human Life Studies at Franciscan University of Steubenville in Steubenville, Ohio where he held the “Human Life International Chair in Honor of Fr. Paul Marx”. He also worked as an Assistant County Prosecutor in Jefferson County, Ohio and is a licensed attorney in Ohio.

Scarnecchia is the president of International Solidarity and Human Rights Institute (ISHRI), a non-governmental organization (NGO) in consultative status with the United Nations and the Organization of American States. He also serves on the Board of Directors for the Society of Catholic Social Scientists (SCSS) and is their main NGO representative to the United Nations. In addition, he serves on the Board of Directors of Population Research Institute (PRI) that monitors coercive population control programs worldwide. He holds a Juris Doctorate from University of Akron School of Law, a Master of Divinity from the Dominican School of Philosophy & Theology in Berkeley, CA and completed the course work for a Doctorate in Sacred Theology (all but dissertation) from the International Marian Research Institute at the University of Dayton in Dayton, OH.

Scarnecchia is the author of *Bioethics, Law, and Human Life Issues: A Catholic Perspective on Marriage, Family, Contraception, Abortion, Reproductive Technology, and Death and Dying*, and the co-author of the *Millennium Development Goals in Light of Catholic Social Thought* as well as numerous scholarly and popular articles. He serves as an expert on human rights issues for the Rome Forum of Catholic Inspired NGOs that works in close association with the Secretary of State, Second Division, for the Holy See. He lectures nationally and internationally on life issues, marriage and family, integral human ecology, and human rights.

He and his wife, Victoria, have six married children and twenty-one grandchildren.