



UPDATE

February 2013

Pro-Life Summit

On January 12th, the Pro-Life Community marked the Anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* here in Philadelphia. The morning began with a Prayer Vigil hosted by Generation Life and the Pro-Life Union at the Philadelphia Women's Center. The amazing team from Generation Life led us in prayer and song, as mothers were offered hope and help. After the Vigil, we gathered for Mass at the Cathedral Chapel and then attended a Pro-Life Summit hosted by the Philadelphia Archdiocese Office of Life, Family and the Laity. The Summit brought over 100 together for fellowship and encouragement. The importance of sharing the powerful message of Life to all with kindness and unity was stressed. Leaders of many area groups were present. Special thanks to Steve Bozza from the Office of Life, Family and Laity for a job well done. Ask yourself, what can I do to build the Culture of Life?

March for Life 2013



This year's March was a huge success. Over 500,000 attended the annual Event. Rep. Chris Smith articulated the truth about the Pro-Life Movement with these words *"The pro-life movement is comprised of noble, caring, smart and selfless people. It is an extraordinarily powerful, non-violent, faith-filled human rights struggle that is growing in public support, intensity, commitment and hope."* The new leaders at March for Life would have made the Event's founder, Nellie Gray, proud! Visit their website to start planning for next year. www.marchforlife.org.

(Photo: www.nytimes.com via Google images)

Write for Life

Last month, Delaware County's largest abortion center, RHCC in Upland, closed rather than comply with safety standards passed by the state of Pennsylvania. As we pray for the recognition of the sanctity of every life, let us offer a prayer of thanksgiving for this closure. Meanwhile, there are reports that RHCC may seek to re-open within the Crozer-Chester Hospital itself. Letters, emails or calls to the President of Crozer-Chester Hospital opposing any such accommodation are requested. These should be sent to Mr. Patrick J. Gavin, President Crozer-Chester Medical Center, 1 Medical Center Blvd., Upland, PA 19013; ckhsinfo@crozer.org; 610-447-2000.

Celebrating Life

- ♥ The Chester County Pro-Life Coalition gathered on January 20th to Witness for Life in West Chester. The very successful event featured song and encouraging words from speakers, including Cristina Barba of Generation Life. The "Witness" award was bestowed on the Regina Luminous Academy students for their faithful presence at the West Chester Planned Parenthood. Congratulations to them, we hope others will follow their example.
- ♥ St. Katherine of Siena in Wayne hosted a "Music for Life" concert in honor of Mattei Radu, a young man who devoted much of his life to the pro-life and chastity causes and died suddenly in 2010. The beautiful music of the concert featured Mattei's father, Valentin Radu and other talented musicians. Congratulations to the Respect Life Committee on their successful event that fittingly celebrated the gift of life with the joy of music!
- ♥ Thirty-thousand strong joined in Dublin, Ireland for a Vigil for Life. The Irish people continue to pressure the government to keep their pro-life promise to protect the unborn and their mothers. Congratulations to the organizers of the event, and in a special way to our friends, Youth Defence, for always joyfully standing up for life. To watch a video of the event and to learn more about this group, visit www.youthdefence.ie.



"The Bieb's" Mom

Justin Bieber's mom, Pattie Mallette, is an executive producer on the upcoming pro-life short film, "Crescendo." Pattie had a troubling childhood and as a teenager, began using drugs and alcohol. She became depressed and suicidal and temporarily checked into a mental facility. At 17 years old, she found that she was pregnant with Justin. Though many encouraged her to have an abortion, she refused. Pattie feels this movie will let women know that there are places to go and people to take care for them when they are pregnant and feel alone with

nowhere else to turn. The makers of "Crescendo" hope to raise \$10 million for pregnancy centers. Screenings begin worldwide on Feb. 28th.

Celebrate Life Banquet

Last month, we mistakenly gave the wrong date for this annual event. Pennsylvanians for Human Life will hold their *Celebrate Life Banquet* on February 24th at Springfield County Club, Route 320, Springfield, PA 19064. The reception begins at 4 p.m. and dinner is at 5 p.m. **Dom Giordano** will be the special guest speaker. **Stephen Freind** will receive the Margaret Way Hoffner Award and **Terence Heaney** will receive a Lifetime Achievement Award. For more info, call 610-696-0780 or email pennlife@verizon.net.

Pa. Legislature

Obama Opt Out is our first priority. Perhaps de-funding abortion providers will follow. In 2011, PP received \$542 million from tax funds – 45% of its total income. They possess \$1.2 billion in net assets. They committed 333,964 abortions in 2011. Other legislative goals include providing ultrasound images for mothers considering abortion, protection of marriage, stipulating that abortionists have hospital admitting privileges within 30 miles of the abortion site, stopping abuse of Abortion Control Act counseling provisions, prohibiting the cover-up by abortionists of sexual abuse of minors. A real plus would be fetal models displayed in classrooms.

Terri's Day



The Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network is delighted to announce that Archbishop Charles Chaput, Archbishop of the Diocese of Philadelphia, will celebrate "The National Memorial Mass for Terri's Day" Friday, April 5th, 2013 at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul at 18th Street & Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Phila. Gov. Sarah Palin will be the honored speaker at the Award Gala following the Mass at the Philadelphia Downtown Marriott. You can go to Terri's Life & Hope Network's website (www.lifeandhope.com) to learn more about Terri's Memorial Mass, purchase tickets for the Gala with Governor Palin, and learn how you can get involved in Terri's Day 2013!

Pa. Abortions

The state has released its 2011 Abortion Report.

	By County of Procedure						
	Bucks	Chester	Delco	Montco	Philadelphia	Five County	State of Pa.
2010	965	1,169	855	141	17,598	20,728	36,778
2011	864	1,069	791	434	17,054	20,212	36,280

African Americans constitute 12% of the Pa. population, yet 41% of the state's abortions were committed on African American mothers. Hispanic mothers accounted for 9% of abortions. Girls 18 years of age and under suffered 3,215 abortions. Over 88% were performed on unmarried mothers and for 46% of the women, it was not their first abortion.

Only a Lawn Sign

On a private lawn in King of Prussia, a sign reads, "Lord our God, Creator of all life – born and unborn – please forgive us for killing over 50 million unborn babies since 1973." At Christmas, the owner was approached by a young mother wheeling a baby carriage who said, "Thank you, thank you, for your sign." She then showed him her six week old baby. Both were brought to tears. The homeowner, Vic, summed it up; "I am still blown away by the whole experience. I can't get over it. The Holy Spirit used my sign to inspire her to keep her baby. Thank you, Lord, for saving this baby's life."

Gagged in Warminster

On three occasions, Warminster citizens have spoken to Warminster Supervisors requesting they stop abortions in the Township at PP. Over 11,000 children have been killed there. On 1-17-13, a young female resident attempted to advise the Supervisor of the suffering of mothers from abortion. Her prepared message would have consumed 3-4 minutes, as did the earlier messages. Amazingly, she was not permitted to speak. The Township Solicitor stopped her and was supported by Thomas Panzer, who was acting as Chief Supervisor. This violation of the First Amendment and Township Meeting protocol deserves a strong reaction from us and other Americans.

Fewer Abortionists

The PP Guttmacher Institute reports that 27 states (including Pa.) and DC have had a decrease in abortion providers. Earlier, we reported on the closing of abortionist Brigham's facilities. The abortion facility legislation, H.B. 732, has caused closings in our state. Joyfully, we can now add RHCC. In 1992, there were over 2,100 abortion facilities in the U.S.; now there are 600 plus. More closings should follow, as the Pa. Dept. of Health carries out the inspections specified by H.B. 732. The DOH found that no abortion facilities passed and all were given time to comply. But, more zest is required. PP Warminster was inspected in June 2012 and 35 pages of violations were found, including a failure to verify that employees were not child abusers. Yet, we have no report of a re-inspection and it is still open. Why? Contact Michael Wolf, Acting Secretary Pa. DOH; 717-787-6436.

Debit Card Saves Life

In 2012, a mother entered the Philadelphia Women's Center at 8th & Cherry to have her baby killed. Her debit card was denied, so her friend left to get cash. The mother left the building and spoke to pro-lifers who suggested that God was sending her a message. She was moved and subsequently changed her mind. Pro-life people visited her, bringing furniture and gifts for her other children. Her "debit card baby" is now born and in good health. Praise the Lord!



Why We Witness

Every Wednesday, for many years, pro-life people have prayed outside of the Center City Planned Parenthood. Women entering are offered hope and prayer, and given a brochure listing the available alternatives to abortion. A few weeks back, a woman walked up to those praying, saying that she had intended to abort her child nine months ago but after seeing them, she chose Life. Her baby is to be born any day! As Archbishop Chaput has said **"Don't ever underestimate the beauty and power of the witness you give to your pro-life work."**