



June 2013



**PRO-LIFE-UNION**  
OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA

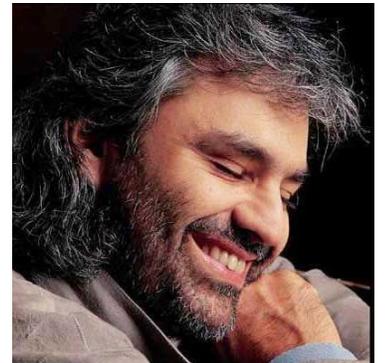
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## After Gosnell

The Pro-Life Union is grateful for the conviction of Kermit Gosnell. Thankfully the notorious abortionist has been spared the death penalty and we pray fervently for his conversion. We salute local journalist, J.D. Mullane of the Bucks Country Courier Times, for shaming the national media into covering the trial. He had the genius to take a picture of the empty seats reserved for the media. Abortion rights groups continue to blame pro-life legislation for the crimes of Kermit Gosnell. But, the real culprit is 'legal' abortion. Abortion always, always takes the life of an unborn child, whether it is performed at six weeks or six months. We believe that good will emerge from exposing the evil. The trial of Kermit Gosnell opened the eyes of many people to the reality of abortion. The deceptive language of 'choice' was unmasked. So, now those of us who believe in the sanctity of human life must continue to preach boldly to our family, friends, and enemies the dignity and value of every human person.

## Andrea Bocelli

Andrea Bocelli, the blind Italian opera singer, interrupted a concert to recount the story of a pregnant woman who was admitted to the hospital with appendicitis. "The doctors had to apply some ice on her stomach and when the treatments ended the doctors suggested that she abort the child," said the singer. "They told her it was the best solution because the baby would be born with some disability. But the young brave wife decided not to abort, and the child was born," he said. "That woman was my mother, and I was the child." He added: "Maybe I'm partisan, but I can say that it was the right choice and I hope that this could encourage many mothers who sometimes might find themselves in difficult situations but want to save the life of their baby."



## About Marriage

Its critical place in Human Civilization cannot be exaggerated. Civilization cannot exist without it. It is noteworthy that in 1597, five Spanish missionaries lost their lives in Georgia because they stood up for Marriage while the natives there were insisting on polygamy. Interesting is a comment made by Alexis deTocqueville in 1898 - "There is certainly no country in the world where the tie of marriage is more respected than in American or where conjugal happiness is more highly or worthily appreciated." Children have a right to be raised by a mother and a father.

In our state, Rep. Metcalfe introduced H.B. 1349 which stipulates that Marriage is between a man and a woman. If this bill is passed twice, it would be placed on a statewide ballot for a citizen vote.

Citizens who would like to make a sacrifice in support of traditional marriage may decide to boycott products and services from the following corporations who are promoting same-gender marriage.

Starbucks	General Mills	Target
J.C. Penney	Amazon	Levi's
Microsoft	Budweiser	Absolut

## Pro-Life Mass & Summit

Archbishop Chaput will celebrate a pro-life Mass on July 20<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. at the Cathedral Chapel of SS. Peter & Paul. Prior to Mass, a Vigil will be held and following Mass, a summer Pro-Life Summit will be hosted by the Archdiocesan Office of Life, Family & Laity. More details will be available in our July Update.

## Harrisburg

As reported earlier, H.B. 808 has been passed in the House by a 142-55 vote. It is now in the Senate where the Insurance Committee has passed it. If passed by the Senate Appropriations Committee, it will go to the Senate Floor and hopefully to the Governor. This is an extremely significant measure. A "no" vote endorses abortion-on-demand, which has brought death to 55 million American babies and endless pain to their mothers. It also forces citizens to pay for abortions.

After H.B. 818, we hope to eliminate public funding of abortion providers and also a bill allowing mothers to see their pre-born children via ultrasound.

## Pray For Ireland

The coalition government's proposed legislation, the Protection of Life during Pregnancy Bill 2013, would legalize direct abortion. The Irish people are fighting hard to protect their women and children from the abortion. A change in the law would allow the death of Irish children in the womb, for any reason at any time.

Cardinal Sean O'Malley had been scheduled to participate in the 2013 Boston College Graduation Ceremony. But when they invited the pro-abortion Prime Minister of Ireland, a promoter of the abortion legislation, the Cardinal said he would not attend. Irish Archbishop Eamon Martin recently stated, "If a legislator comes to me and says, 'Can I be a faithful Catholic and support abortion?' I would say no. Your communion is ruptured if you support abortion. You are excommunicating yourself. Any legislator who clearly and publicly states this should not approach looking for communion". Pray for Ireland and visit [www.youthdefence.ie](http://www.youthdefence.ie)

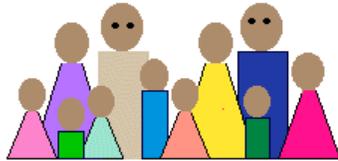
## Gosnell – Abortion Industry Norm

Pro-life people contest the opinion that Kermit Gosnell was an "outlier" and an "aberration." The recent investigation by Live Action and the videos posted on their website clearly show that the business of abortion is dirty, and dark. In our local area, PP in Delaware was closed for their dangerous practices. On May 24<sup>th</sup>, Maryland announced that 12 of 16 abortion facilities inspected by the State would close for failure to meet the State's safety regulations. To learn more about the abortion industry, visit [www.liveaction.org](http://www.liveaction.org).

## Maine's Death Rate

Life Site News reported that the death rate in Maine is now higher than its birthrate. According to *The Maine Labor Force—Aging and Slowly Growing*, produced by the state Department of Labor. An aging, slowly growing population and the declining rate of residents participating in the labor force will result in slow labor force growth during the coming years." The words of Mother Teresa come to mind "How can there be too many children, it is like saying there are too many flowers."

The Pro-Life movement does not deny the unique challenges facing large families today, but the blessings bestowed on those open to life far outweigh any downside. Some famous children of big families are John Wesley ~ one of 19 children, Franz Schubert ~ one of 14, St. Catherine of Siena ~ one of 25, and our own Ben Franklin ~ one of 17.



### Pro-Life Vigils

*You can make a difference in the lives of mothers and children by spending time praying at one of these Vigils.*

The Rosary is prayed after each of these Masses. (Location of abortion facility is in parentheses.)

2<sup>nd</sup> Friday – 9 am Mass – St. John Chrysostom, 615 S. Providence Rd. Wallingford (RHCC)

3<sup>rd</sup> Friday: 8 am Mass @ Nativity of Our Lord. (PP Warminster 610 Louis Drive)

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday: 7 am Mass @ Christ the King Church (PP - Comly & Blvd.)

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday: 8 am Mass @ St. Agnes Church (PP - West Chester)

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday: 8:30 am Mass @ Newman Chapel, (U of P - 38<sup>th</sup> & Chestnut St.)

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday: 7 am Mass @ St. John, 13<sup>th</sup> & Market (PP - 12<sup>th</sup> & Locust Sts. )

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Every Saturday Morning, from 6:30-8:30am, pro-life people from the area prayer and witness at the Philadelphia Women's Center located at 777 Appletree Sts., Phila., Pa

## Father Leon

Fr. Louis Alfredo Leon has recounted a beautiful story of love and forgiveness. At 13 years of age, his mother, Maria, was working as a maid to support her family when the owner of the home raped her and left her pregnant. Maria always defended her baby's life, without support of family members, who tried to force a miscarriage. In 1961, she gave birth to Luis Alfredo. Having no one else to turn to, she asked for help from the baby's father – her rapist. She and this man had three more children. The father visited the house and fulfilled his duties to them. At 18, Luis entered the priesthood, despite opposition from his father. Soon after, his mother revealed to him how he had been conceived. Fr. Leon stated, "God allowed me to be a priest, not to judge, but to forgive..." Years later, he received a call from his father who was about to undergo surgery. His father asked his son to hear his confession and returned to his faith after 30 years of being away from the Eucharist. Fr. Leon now counsels pregnant women undergoing difficulties.



## Save the Date!

Our *Stand Up for Life Dinner* will be held on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. at the Philadelphia Sheraton. We are excited to have as our speaker Sr. Jane Dominic Laurel, O.P., a Dominican sister from Nashville who teaches at Aquinas College. Sister has appeared on EWTN and has presented on topics related to theology, religious life, marriage and family. Attendees of all ages will profit from her wisdom.

This year, we are offering an early bird special for those who order their tickets on our website ([www.prolifeunion.org](http://www.prolifeunion.org)) or send payment to our office by July 12<sup>th</sup>. Please note the dinner ticket pricing below. (Early Bird tables ordered by credit card over the phone or check sent to our office will be discounted to \$500.)

Early Bird Rate: \$55 per ticket or \$525 per table (by July 12<sup>th</sup>)  
Standard Rate: \$60 per ticket or \$550 per table (July 13<sup>th</sup> to November 11<sup>th</sup>)  
Late Registration: \$70 per ticket or \$650 per table (November 12<sup>th</sup> and after)

## Proper Burial

When the Gosnell facility was shut down in 2010, we called and wrote to the Philadelphia Medical Examiner's Office regarding the bodies of the children aborted. We hoped to arrange services and a proper burial for them. We have again made this request and we will report back with any further information. Please pray that these beautiful children will be given the respect they deserve in death they were not granted in their short lives. Also, pray that their mothers will be given a chance to heal and grieve and mourn.

## The Morning After Pill

A federal "judge," Edward Korman, ruled that women and girls of any age can pick up the Morning After Pill without a prescription. Also known as "Plan B," this chemical concoction is designed to prevent ovulation. If not successful, it will stop the sperm. And as a final measure, it can prevent a fertilized egg from implanting. Many do not realize that this will kill a newly formed human being. Allowing young people to purchase the Morning After Pill without a visit to a physician or conversation with a parent defies medical and common sense. Our government should encourage communication between parents and children. This new ruling interferes with familial bonds in order to promote an anti-family agenda.

## Gen Life Banquet

Generation Life will hold its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Banquet on Sat., June 22<sup>nd</sup> from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Plymouth Country Club, 888 Plymouth Road, Plymouth Mtg., PA 19462. Join them for a night of celebration and hear about the wonderful work that Gen Life is doing throughout the world. Tickets are \$60 for adults, \$30 for students and a table of 10 is \$500. RSVP by June 11<sup>th</sup> by contacting Emily Ortiz at [eortiz@generationlife.org](mailto:eortiz@generationlife.org) or visit [www.generationlife.org](http://www.generationlife.org).