



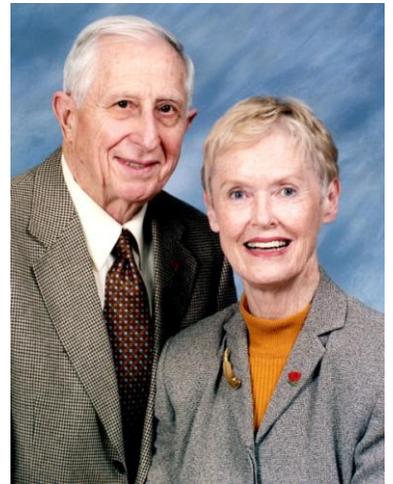
July 2013



Pro-Life Union\* 88 Pennsylvania Ave., Oreland Pa 19075 \* 215-885-8150 \* www.prolifeunion.org

### Last Gifts

Veteran pro-life advocate, Irene Moeller, recently lost her husband, Walter. She eloquently speaks of their experience with approaching the end of worldly life. "Most days we did nothing. But nothing was everything to my husband. We held hands. We listened to music. We took little naps. And every day was very much the same. (I know he wanted it that way.) And although he was unable to speak or express his thoughts, it was obvious that he treasured that time. Sitting together in the nursing home "listening" to each other's hearts – silently allowing God's grace to inform us – we were at peace. My husband had been a teacher and now he was teaching me so much in that last year we spent together: patience, the power of silence, allowing our Lord to lead us. Thank you, Lord, for these blessings – these last gifts beautifully wrapped in love." We celebrate Irene and so many others for their witness and their contribution to the Culture of Life.



Walter and Irene

### Truth Coming

The World Health Assembly, at a May meeting in Geneva, reported that women who abort suffer greater risk of breast cancer, pre-term birth, infertility and psychological problems. These effects have been reported for decades. We hope that now the AMA and U.S. doctors may begin to admit that abortion and contraception are not healthcare. Light a candle and speak to your doctor.



The U.S. bishops have called for a *Fortnight for Freedom*, a two-week period of prayer and action, to address many current challenges to religious liberty, including the August 1, 2013 deadline for religious organizations to comply with the HHS mandate.

A recent Gallup Poll showed that Americans believe that religion's influence has diminished. But, believers must be involved in the public square. This quote from the U.S. Catholic Bishops will inspire; "We encourage all citizens, particularly Catholics, to embrace their citizenship not merely as a duty and privilege, but as an opportunity meaningfully to participate in building the culture of life. Every voice matters in the public forum. Every vote counts."

### Pilgrimage to Italy

Join Fr. Joseph Coffey on a pilgrimage to Italy, October 22-31, 2013. Spend time in the churches, towns and cities of St. John Bosco, St. Gianna Molla and other great Italian saints. Visit Rome and attend the Holy Father's weekly public audience. For more information, call Corporate Travel at 313-565-8888 x 121 or 150 or visit [www.ctscentral.net](http://www.ctscentral.net).

### Abortion and Gender

In 2011, Dr. Sunita Puri published a study called "There is such a thing as too many daughters, but not too many sons": A qualitative study of son preference and fetal sex selection among Indian immigrants in the United States." During the study, 89% of women interviewed admitted that they had aborted after discovering they were pregnant with a girl. The women came from a variety of religious and educational backgrounds.

In India, the government forbids using ultrasound for sex selection. But here in the U.S., choosing abortion for whatever reason is legal. Women's rights groups continue to remain silent on this "war on women."

For more information on the study, visit [www.sciencedirect.com/science/article](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article).

### Help Wanted

If you are a high school or college age student on summer break, please contact the Pro-Life Union if you are interested in volunteer work. We have some special projects and would be grateful for the help!

Office task would include organizing our literature library, mailings and receptionist work. We will also need help as we come nearer to our annual *Stand Up for Life Dinner*. So, if you can commit to any period of time - whether it's one hour, one day or one week or more - please call us at 215-885-8150.

### Pro-Life Vigils

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

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday: 8 am Mass @ Nativity of Our Lord. (PP Warminster 610 Louis Drive)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday: 8:30 Mass @ St. Laurence.(PP Upper Darby)
- 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. )

## Abortion - Local

Shown below are the most recent data available on abortions and the residence of the mothers. It exists in all communities.

	Bucks	Chester	Delaware	Montgomery	Philadelphia	Five Counties
2010	1,189	964	1,749	1,706	14,731	20,339
2011	1,216	974	1,785	1,785	14,046	19,778

## U.S. House Action

H.R. 1797 with 133 sponsors "Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act" has been introduced in our U.S. House and was passed by the House Judiciary Committee by a 20-12 vote. It would prohibit abortions after 20 weeks because of the pain suffered by the child in the womb. Committee members were shown actual photographs of babies killed after delivery by Houston abortionist Douglas Karpen, who operates three abortion sites and has been compared to abortionist Gosnell. Three female ex-employees of Karpen have given testimony and the photos of abortion's reality. At the hearing, M.D.'s furnished scientific data relating to the pain incurred by children who are being aborted. Dr. Colleen Malloy, Prof. of Neonatology at Northwestern advised, "standard of care for neonatal intensive care units requires attention to and treatment of neonatal pain. There is no reason to believe that a born infant would feel pain any differently than that same infant were he or she still in utero. Thus, the difference between fetal and neonatal pain is simply the locale in which the pain occurs. The receiver's experience of the pain is the same. I could never imagine subjecting my tiny patients to horrific procedure such as those that involve limb detachment or cardiac injection."

## You Go, Owen!

In January of this year, eighth grader Owen Groesser, who has Down Syndrome, finally got a chance to get in the game for his Van Hoosen Junior H.S.'s basketball team in Michigan. Owen was thrilled just to be a part of the team and sit on the bench, but his



coach wanted to give him a chance to shoot the ball. As it turns out, he did much more than that. Groesser drilled two three-pointers in just two minutes of the game, making the packed gymnasium go wild! Footage of the game went viral and a Twitter campaign began worldwide to get Owen's video shown on ESPN's Sports Center. The campaign was successful and Sports Center not only showcased the video, but interviewed him and his dad. Congrats Owen, we hope to see you on ESPN again!

## Be a Summer Lifesaver!

We have received increased calls asking for material, financial and emotional help through our 24 Hour Hotline. The mothers we encountered choose life for their children and now need tangible support to provide for them. All of our work is crucial to building a culture of life, but being a life-line for those needing help with rent, food and diapers in a top priority. We depend on our members for financial support. Be a Lifeline this summer by returning the enclosed envelope with a gift, or visit our website and donate online. Thank you in advance for all you do and please know that you are in our prayers!



## July 20<sup>th</sup> Summer Vigils, Mass & Summit

Stand for Life on Saturday July 20th. Pro-Life people will join in prayer at the Philadelphia Women's Center on July 20th from 7:30-8:30am. Sidewalk counselors will be present to offer support to mothers entering the facility. If you have never prayed at an abortion facility, please consider joining us and helping mothers in need. Following this Vigil, Archbishop Chaput will celebrate a pro-life Mass at 9 a.m. at the Cathedral Chapel of SS. Peter & Paul. Immediately following Mass, a Summer Pro Life Summit will be hosted by the Archdiocesan Office of Life, Family & Laity.

## A Win in Harrisburg

H.B. 818 was introduced in order to reject abortion funds from the Obama "healthcare" bill. In April, it passed the House by a 142-55 vote. On June 5<sup>th</sup>, it passed the Senate by a 31-19 vote. The Governor signed the bill on June 17<sup>th</sup>.

The Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia joined together with the Pa. Family Institute, Pa. Catholic Conference, the Pa. Pro-Life Federation and others in working for this outcome.

In addition to rejecting the Obama abortion funds, the vote had more significance. Those voting against the bill in effect were endorsing abortion-on-demand. They voted to affirm what has happened since *Roe v. Wade*; 55 million American babies killed and their mothers dreadfully wounded. During the next months, constituents of those who voted no must be visited and the question posed, "Do you endorse the deaths of 55 million babies and the pain of their mothers?" The legislature is recessing at the end of June and returning in mid-September.

If your Rep or Senator voted for the bill, congratulate them. If they voted no, you must visit and ask them if they are really content with abortion-on-demand. Call us for any assistance.

## 2013 Stand Up For Life Dinner

Tables are already selling for this exciting annual event. Join us on November 24<sup>th</sup> at the Philadelphia Sheraton to hear our guest speaker, Sister Jane Dominic Laurel, a Dominican sister who will share her insight about marriage and family and the culture of life. 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>. Early Bird tables ordered over the phone by credit card or by sending a check to our office will be discounted to \$500.

**Early Bird Rate: \$55 per ticket or \$525 per table**

Standard Rate: \$60 per ticket or \$550 per table (ends 11/11)  
*After November 11<sup>th</sup>, prices increase to \$70 per ticket or \$650 per table. We encourage all to reserve early!*

## From the President

"Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports." – George Washington

