



/ProLifeUnion



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February 2015

Guided by a commitment to the sanctity of every life, the Pro-Life Union fosters a cohesive vision and strategy for a Culture of Life in Greater Philadelphia. Our beliefs are incarnated in the context of the family and through service to those making the choice for life.

The Sanctity of Every Life

A commitment to the sanctity of life guides the endeavors of those in the pro-life community. Many women who have changed their position on abortion and those who have come to regret their choice often share their experience with the pro-life community. When a woman encounters love and the truth, she is able to choose life, to choose the good. When she witnesses perceived anger, condemnation or hostility, abortion seems like the safest choice. Our belief in the sanctity of life challenges us to treat all those we meet with kindness and respect, and at the same time, speak truthfully and joyfully about the value of each life. When a post-abortive mother was asked recently what words could be shared with women as they enter an abortion facility, she responded that we should simply say, "Can we help you?"

Upcoming Events

- **Saturday, February 7, 2015:** Mothers' Home is hosting their Fourth Annual Bowl-A-Thon at Sproul Lanes, Springfield. Two time slots are available: 3 to 5 PM and 6 to 8 PM. Each lane costs \$150. For that, bowlers will get a lane for 6 people for two hours, bowling shoe rental, and two pizzas and soda delivered to their lane. Raffle prizes will be available. Call Helen at [610-622-0632](tel:610-622-0632).
- **Sunday, February 22, 2015:** Pennsylvanians for Human Life Banquet with Gloria Purvis at the Springfield Country Club. Contact kathy.bond1@verizon.net, 610-696-0780 for details and tickets.
- **Wednesday, March 25, 2015:** There will be a premier showing of the documentary by Blackfriars Media "NaPro, A Woman's Alternative" a groundbreaking a film about an effective alternative to mainstream healthcare. Location is: Immaculate Conception Church, 600 West Avenue, Jenkintown. Time: 7 PM. There will be a Q&A session afterward with Dr. Monique Ruberu.
- **Tuesday, March 31, 2015:** Terri's Day – Marking the 10 Year Anniversary of Terri Schiavo's death. Mass celebrated at 5pm at the Cathedral Basilica followed by the Third Annual Life and Hope Award Gala at the Union League of Philadelphia at 6:30 PM. Glenn Beck is the honored speaker. Call 215-948-3863.
- **Friday, April 10th, 2015.** The King's Men Spring Gala at the Blue Bell Country Club with Dinner & Dancing, a Silent Auction and Live Art Exhibition. Contact mark@thekingsmen.org or call 267-980-5507.

Hope and Healing

On January 17th, the Office for Life and Family hosted their semi-annual summit. This a time for education and fellowship for those involved in the various pro-life ministries. A Prayer Vigil was held beforehand at Planned Parenthood to offer hope and help to women entering the abortion facility. It was a cold morning, but the truth was shared and the prayers offered brought warmth. The group was particularly blessed by the presence of young adults from Temple University and students from Mercy Vocational School. Attendees heard the conversion story of Jewels Green, who spoke about how abortion impacted her life and the healing she has experienced in recent years. A member of the group Courage also spoke and shared a compelling story of love, grace, truth and conversion and invited the attendees to learn more about Courage. Visit www.couragerc.org.



Marriage

In April, the Supreme Court will hear arguments about whether states must allow same-sex couples to marry and whether states must recognize the same-sex marriages of other states. The court will hear oral arguments and then rule in June. Pro-family groups hope that the court will vote in favor of the rights of voters to define marriage as a union between one man and one woman.

A Beautiful Life



The Pro-Life Union mourns the loss of a beloved friend and faithful supporter, Roseanita Coffey, and we honor and celebrate her for all she did to build a culture of life. The PLU is grateful for the service her children have given as church reps and volunteers for the organization. We are deeply grateful to her family for choosing the Pro-Life Union as recipient of memorial donations, along with St Ignatius Nursing Home.

Support the Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia's mission through a secure, recurring online monthly gift.

Visit www.prolifeunion.org to learn more and share our work with others.

The Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia is a 501(c) 3 organization!

Membership



Along with many outstanding pro-life organizations that have joined as Member Organizations, the Pro-Life Union is edified by the over 1,000 individual members who partner with us in building a Culture of Life. We welcome any person who shares in our Purpose and Mission, as well as our Belief Statements, to become a Member of the Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia. Our members share in the stewardship of the organization by sharing their time, treasure and talents as best as they are able. A few benefits of membership are receiving our Monthly Newsletter and Respect Life Sunday and Mother's Day Bulletin inserts, coordination of pro-life activities, as well as access to educational materials, flyers, brochures and pro-life items. Membership also includes invitations to informational events and participation with our group in the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. Invite a friend or family member to join us as well!

Welcome

Last month, we welcomed Theresa Leinker to the team as our new Development Director at the Pro-Life Union. Theresa brings over 12 years of experience raising funds and awareness for non-profits, especially children's hospitals. We are excited about all that we are hoping to do this year for women and children, and grateful always for your support. Please join us in welcoming Theresa!

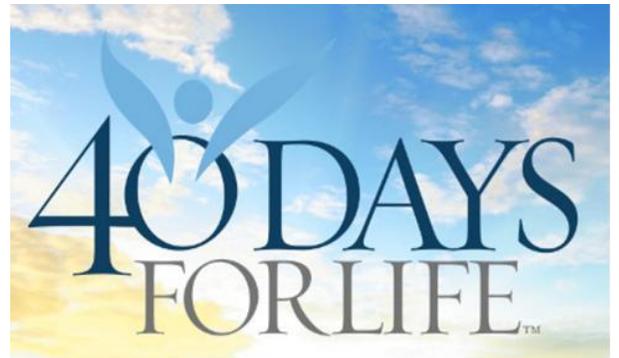
Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee of the Pro-Life Union continues to focus their efforts on reaching women at abortion facilities with the truth about the humanity of their unborn child and to let them know that help is available. Through outreach, we can also reach the broader community with the hope and help that is at the heart of the pro-life message. The activities in which we are engaged are done always with the motto "to be Christ to those we encounter." Please join us in two Upcoming Events and call our office if you wish to participate in the activities of the Outreach Committee.

- ☞ **Saturday, January 31st, 2015.** Join us for a prayer vigil at 7:30 AM at the Philadelphia Women's Center (777 Appletree St., Phila., PA) for prayer and witness. Sidewalk Counselors will be present. A Memorial Mass for John Stanton will be held at Holy Redeemer Church at 9 AM.
- ☞ **Sunday, March 15th, 2015.** Walk with the Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia in the Philadelphia St. Patrick's Day Parade. The Parade begins at noon at 16th and JFK. Call us for our meeting place and what time the PLU begins marching. More details will be available in the March Update.

40 Days for Life

The Spring Campaign begins on February 18th and continues through March 28th. In our area Campaigns will be held in West Chester, Norristown and Philadelphia. Please visit the website www.40daysforlife.com for details about your local campaign. The Pro-Life Union is working with parishes and church reps in Philly and the surrounding areas to Center City to ensure that the hours are covered at Planned Parenthood at 12th and Locust Sts. The hours for the Philly Campaign are Monday through Saturday 8AM-5PM. Please contact Monique Ruberu at roobearoo@hotmail.com or call Patrick Stanton at 267-718-4851 for more details.



Planned Parenthood Distortions

Ryan Bomberger wrote an incredibly passionate piece on www.lifenews.com on January 19th to Cecil Richards about her advocacy for abortion and her abuse of the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. It is well worth the read. Planned Parenthood has a penchant for lies, distortions and rewriting history. It is really the only way for the nation's largest abortion company to defend its existence. Sharing the truth is the most effective way to combat their lies. From Ryan's piece; *"In 1966, abortion wasn't legal. MLK wasn't praising the dismembering and suctioning of defenseless human beings. He, like many others during the 60s when Planned Parenthood feigned advocacy of strong families, was duped by an industry birthed in eugenic racism, that preached overpopulation mythology, demanded discriminatory immigration policies, and promoted forced sterilizations through its state eugenics boards."*

Good News in PA

- ❖ Abortions dropped to a record low in Pennsylvania, while there was an 8% increase of services provided to women and families in need through Pennsylvania's "Real Alternatives." The program was started in 1996 and offers women counseling, support and assistance so that they can choose life. Pregnancy care centers, homes and various Catholic charities receive funding through the program.
- ❖ Monique Ruberu, a NaPro trained ob-gyn is offering services in the Philadelphia area. She is currently accepting new patients and providing healthcare to women from a truly pro-life and holistic perspective. Please contact her office at 215-914-7910.