



/ProLifeUnion



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January 2016

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. We work in the four areas of the pro-life movement: outreach, education, public affairs, and alternatives.

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March for Life

On January 22, 2016, pro-life Americans will travel to Washington DC to join in the annual March for Life. This incredible event is a testament to the perseverance and vitality of the pro-life movement. Our opponents believed that after some time, cultural shifts and stalled legal efforts, the voices of the pro-life movement would dwindle or die. But, over the years, our voices have become stronger. Here is this year's schedule.

11:45 a.m. - Musical Opening. 12:00 p.m. – Rally. 1:00 p.m. - March
3:00 p.m. (approx) - Silent No More testimonies outside of the U.S. Supreme Court
3:30 p.m. - Visit your Representative or Senator to advocate for life



For details and information on the events surrounding the March for Life, please visit www.marchforlife.org

January Events

Vigil, Mass & Summit, Saturday, January 16th – Join the Pro-Life Community for a Vigil from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. at Planned Parenthood, 12th & Locust, Mass celebrated by Fr. Ken Brabazon at 9 a.m. at the Cathedral Chapel and a 10 a.m. Summit presented by Adoption is a Loving Option. Sponsored by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia Office for Life & Family and the Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia. For more info, call 215-587-5661 or 215-885-8150.

John P. Stanton Anniversary Vigil & Mass, Saturday, January 30th – Remembering our friend and founder's dedication to the unborn, we will gather at 8 a.m. at Philadelphia Women's Center, 777 Appletree, Philadelphia for a Vigil, followed by 9:30 Mass at Holy Redeemer Church, 915 Vine Street.

Welcome Aboard!

The Pro-Life Union is thrilled to have Mother's Home of Darby join us as a Member Organization! Founded in 1991, this wonderful non-profit has provided safety and shelter to hundreds of women and infants. Located on the Blessed Virgin Mary campus in Darby, this 54 room three-story building can house 28 residents through pregnancy and delivery. On January 3rd, a 25th Anniversary Celebration was held to congratulate Pat and George Isajiw for their years of love and service to the home. Pat and George were also quick to mention the service of other great pro-life friends – Jeanne Neary, Mary Alice Duffy, Esq., Father John McFadden and Helen McBlain. We are so happy to have this great pro-life institution on our team!

Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia Member Organizations

The Culture Project International – www.restoreculture.org
Alliance Natural Family Planning – www.alliancenfp.com
The King's Men – www.thekingsmen.us
Adoption is a Loving Option – www.adoptionisalovingoption.org
Mother's Home – www.mothershome.org

Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network – www.lifeandhope.com
Chester County Pro-Life Coalition – www.chescoproplife.org
Our Lady's House – www.ourladyshouse.org
Friends of Fertility Care – www.fertilitycarefriends.org
Knights of Columbus Chapters: **1333, 7515, 11013**

Always Forward

As we look back through 2015 and the many gifts you shared, we wanted to share a few highlights from the year.

With your help, we were able to:

- Pray and witness year-round outside abortion facilities in Philadelphia and the region, including two 40 Days for Life Campaigns.
- Train 30 new volunteers in sidewalk counseling.
- Encounter hundreds of men and women outside abortion facilities, through our staff and volunteers, to share the message of truth about the dignity of life.
- Host over 200 people during rallies as part of a nationwide response to videos revealing Planned Parenthood's practices.
- Staff the Pregnancy Hotline 24/7 to respond to pregnant women vulnerable to abortion.
- Add text messaging as an option on the Pregnancy Hotline for more women to reach a trained counselor.
- Respond to the need for safe housing for 12 pregnant women vulnerable to abortion, and their 16 children, through Guiding Star Ministries.
- Renovate 7 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, and the playroom at Guiding Star to better serve families.
- Provide counseling through Catholic Social Services for mothers at Guiding Star.
- Distribute diapers and baby supplies to families in need throughout the region.
- Educate thousands through our efforts on Mother's Day, Respect Life Sunday, and at the Stand Up for Life Dinner.
- Meet with lawmakers and build strong relationships in Harrisburg and Philadelphia to uphold laws protecting life.
- Grow the Union's membership to 3,000 strong across the Philadelphia region.
- Support our 10 member organizations in their efforts, from restoring the culture to promoting adoption.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Pro-Life Union can always use the time and talent of our members! If you are interested in volunteering with office work, making phone calls from home, becoming a hotline volunteer or using your talent to benefit our organization in some other way, please give us a call and we will gladly put your skills to use!

Memorial Crosses



A very poignant way to educate folks about the travesty of abortion is our Memorial Cross display. A total of 56 white crosses are placed on lawns of churches and schools with a sign which explains that each cross represents **one million** abortions in the United States since the 1973 Roe vs. Wade ruling. The crosses usually stay at a location for one month and they will be delivered, set up and retrieved by a volunteer from the PLU. Please consider asking your pastor or school principal to host this moving memorial display. Call Anne Hinnegan at 215-885-8150 to schedule.

Famous and Fortunate!

In the past, you have heard the accounts of famous people who were born despite their moms being told that they should abort their children. **Andrea Bocelli**, **Justin Bieber** and **Tim Tebow**'s stories have been featured in our Updates. But there are others whose tales may surprise you. According to the website Rebel Circus, **Celine Dion** credits her mom's parish priest for convincing her mother not to abort. **Cher**'s mom backed out at the last minute, telling her own mother, "Mother, I can't do it." **Jack Nicholson**'s mom was pressured by peers, but said no. Yoko Ono considered aborting son **Sean Lennon**, but John Lennon encouraged her to continue the pregnancy. **Steve Jobs** was almost a victim of abortion and years later, he thanked his birthmom for the sacrifice she made. And **Pope John Paul II**'s mom was advised to abort him after having a daughter die shortly after birth, but she defied her doctor's orders. It is sad to think of the amazing people who have lost their lives to this terrible tragedy, but we are certainly thankful to the moms and dads who chose life for their own wonderful celebrities!

Visit www.prolifeunion.org to learn more! Pro-Life Union is a 501(c)3 organization.