



/ProLifeUnion



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88 Pennsylvania Avenue, Oreland, PA, 19075
(215) 885-8150 | www.prolifeunion.org

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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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Acts of Mercy

On March 13, 2015, Pope Francis beautifully said that “mercy shows the beating heart of Christ.” As we continue our efforts in the pro-life movement, we can be a witness to God’s mercy when we encounter pregnant mothers, and also those working in the abortion industry.

Please consider joining one of the local 40 Days for Life Campaigns taking place in West Chester, Philadelphia, and Norristown. This is a truly wonderful way to make an act of mercy. Please call our office for details or visit the website to sign up for an hour at www.40daysforlife.com.

March for Life



The 2016 March for Life was held despite the crazy weather and the impending snowstorm. Thousands travelled to DC to stand for Life and against the horrific Roe vs. Wade decision. The theme of this year's event was “Pro-life is pro woman,” because “life is the empowering choice for women. It’s best for women and families facing unplanned pregnancies, and it’s best for developing female babies in the womb. Abortion harms women, and affects our society as a whole.”

A really beautiful story from this year’s March was the Mass held on the PA Turnpike when buses were stranded. An altar was made of snow and Mass was celebrated at noon on Saturday by priests from the Dioceses of Des Moines and Sioux City.

Harrisburg Happenings

Call your state representatives and ask them to support HB 1623 which would shift taxpayer funds away from Planned Parenthood. Encourage your pro-life reps to co-sponsor the upcoming “*pain capable/dismemberment*” legislation. These pieces of legislation would update the current abortion law to protect the unborn at 20 weeks when studies show these children can feel pain and also look to prohibit the barbaric practice of abortion by dismemberment. (visit: www.pafamily.org)

Upcoming Events

- **Friday Feb. 5th - 3rd Annual Wing Bowl Outreach** from 4-8 AM at Wells Fargo Center with **The King’s Men**. **The King’s Men** also host healing retreats throughout the year, visit www.samsonretreat.com.
- **Saturday, February 6th – Fertility Care Friends Mother-Daughter Tea** from 1PM to 4 PM at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, 654 Ferry Rd, Doylestown, PA. Registration is required for this event, go to www.fertilitycarefriends.org.
- **Sunday, February 14th – When Courage & Mercy Meet – featuring Abby Johnson**. 4:00-6:00 p.m. St. Peter Church 2835 Manor Road, West Brandywine, PA 19320.
- **Saturday, February 27th - 2016 Knights for Life Auction & Dinner** (see details on page 2)
- **Sunday February 28th - Pennsylvania for Human Life Celebrate Life Dinner**, Springfield Country Club. Reception begins at 4pm. Dinner at 5pm. Featuring speaker Alex Schadenberg: one of the world's foremost anti-euthanasia activists. Call 610.696.0780.
- **Thursday, March 31st - The Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network** will be celebrating its **4th Annual Terri’s Day Memorial Mass** at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter & Paul in Center City, Philadelphia. All are welcome. The “**Tribute for Life**” cocktail hour with buffet-style food and open bar will be held afterwards at The Stotesbury Mansion on Rittenhouse Square. Tickets can be purchased by calling [\(855\) 300-4673](tel:8553004673) or by visiting lifeandhope.com.

After Abortion

Rachel’s Vineyard provides help to those seeking healing after an abortion. Visit www.rachelsvineyard.org to find post-abortion healing in your area.

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

Knights for Life Auction & Dinner

Saturday, February 27, 6:00 p.m. Trenton Country Club, Trenton NJ - The Knights of Columbus, Fr. McCafferty Council #11013, invite you to join us for an amazing event benefiting the Pro-Life Union and Guiding Star Ministries. There will be dinner, open bar (until 8:00 p.m.), and silent and live auctions. Fr. Christopher Walsh, pastor of St. Raymond of Penafort parish in Philadelphia, will be our speaker. Support the event through: Event tickets - \$130/person; \$300/couple, Advertising in the program book or purchasing raffle tickets - \$50/ticket, or 3 for the price of 2. To register, visit www.prolifeunion.org/knights or call our office at 215-885-8150.

Special thanks to the committee for making the event possible: Bruce and Melinda Wright, Tony and Lisa Liccione, Rich May, Bob and Maggie Biggs, Moss Jacobson, Rick and Kathy Auletta, Eric and Brittany Miller, and Helene Crozier.

Guiding Star Updates

We are looking for volunteers, aged 18 or older, to assist the staff in supporting mothers and their children at Guiding Star Ministry, a home for women and children in Philadelphia's Germantown section.

Volunteers are needed to commit to weekly, four hour shifts - Monday-Thursday 4p.m – 8p.m. Weekend hours are also available. If you are interested email: efinnegan@prolifeunion.org. All volunteers are required to have background checks and child abuse clearances.



The Pro Life Union has been truly blessed by the generosity of so many in the months since “adopting” Guiding Star Ministries. The young adult group “Metanoia” gave a day of service at Guiding Star on January 30th. We look forward to the upcoming visit from our member group Monsignor Schuyler Knights Council #1333. The Knights will be making a change to the home which will allow for more mothers and children to be housed at Guiding Star. Finally, a mother’s group from Havertown hosted a baby shower for one of the moms-to-be. The sweetest gifts received by the new mom were the handmade cards from the children!

Guiding Star News

Carole King has served as the house manager at Guiding Star for many years. Miss Carole has been an integral part of this program for mothers and children. You could stop in any night during dinner and see her taking care of the children in the home and supporting the moms. This year Carole is retiring from Guiding Star. She will be missed, but she has truly touched many lives. Thank you, Carole, for your years of service.

Sidewalk Counseling

The Pro Life Union continues to call for peaceful and prayerful witness at our area abortion facilities. This activity is one of the most challenging aspects of pro-life work, but it is absolutely critical to be there for women. As part of this outreach, the Pro Life Union offers Sidewalk Counseling Training so that we can find the best way to reach women and provide them with alternatives, information, support and love. Our next training will be held on February 13th at 9 AM at Covenant Fellowship Church in Glen Mills. Another training will be hosted by our friends in St. Dominic’s Parish in Northeast Philadelphia on March 7th.

We look forward to being with the groups! In our training, participants will learn effective tools for reaching women in this critical moment, practical tips are provided and there will be a time for questions and answers. Please contact us if you would like us to present this training to your pro-life ministry.

A Travesty of Justice

Last summer, the videos released by the Center for Medical Progress (CMP) stunned the nation and compelled many people to take a public stand against Planned Parenthood. Planned Parenthood is being investigated in multiple states. As we noted in a recent letter from our Public Affairs Committee to the DA’s office, PA Inspection Reports revealed that Planned Parenthood has “failed to provide a safe and sanitary environment,” noting “dirty instruments,” and “darkened stains on patient benches,” among other unacceptable and unsanitary procedures. Yet, in a travesty of justice, the founder of CMP, David Daleiden, has been indicted. As Life News reported “Daleiden and Merritt were charged with one felony related to tampering with a governmental record and a misdemeanor count related to buying human tissue. The felony charge was in reference to the use of a fake ID. If convicted, Daleiden faces 20 years in prison while Planned Parenthood officials face no legal consequences for their actions.”

Volunteer Opportunities at the PLU

Are you able and interested in offering office support here at the Pro Life Union? Office help is needed at our office in Oreland a few hours a week with database maintenance, answering phones and other support. This a great opportunity for high school and college students or a retired person. Contact Anne Hinnegan at the office for more details!