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March 2016

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The Pro Life Union of Greater Philadelphia is committed to the sanctity of every human life. We work in the four areas of the pro-life movement: outreach, education, public policy and alternatives.

St. Patrick's Day Parade!

The Pro Life Union is so excited to join in with the Philadelphia St. Patrick's Day Parade on Sunday, March 13th. This truly is a wonderful event in our beloved City. Smiling faces, beautiful children and happy families line the Parade route. What an incredible witness to the sanctity of life and the beauty of family! Our contingent will meet at 11am at JFK and 16th Street. Please plan to arrive on time as we are once again one of the lead off groups. Wear your green and a smile to witness for Life!



Lives Saved

The Pro Life Union has remained the strongest force for prayer and witness at the area's abortion facilities. We are proud to have the 40 Days for Life local campaigns (Philadelphia, West Chester, Warminster) as member organizations. Our unified efforts are having a transformative impact throughout Greater Philadelphia. In Center City, within the first few days, we know that five children were spared from abortion, and many in the community were given a pro-life message. There are still weeks left to join the campaign, so please contact us or visit the website www.40daysforlife.com.

Justice Scalia

He served the court and his country well. He was a devoted father and family man and his funeral Mass was an inspiration. Much more has been written and said about his impact on our country and his defense of truth, but we thought this famous quote was particularly suited for our readers.

"God assumed from the beginning that the wise of the world would view Christians as fools...and He has not been disappointed. Devout Christians are destined to be regarded as fools in modern society. We are fools for Christ's sake. We must pray for courage to endure the scorn of the sophisticated world. If I have brought any message today, it is this: Have the courage to have your wisdom regarded as stupidity. Be fools for Christ. And have the courage to suffer the contempt of the sophisticated world."

Upcoming Events

- **March 13th, 2016:** Philadelphia St. Patrick's Day Parade. Meet at 11 am at JFK & 16th Street.
- **March 31st, 2016:** Terri's Day – Marking the anniversary of Terri Schiavo's death. Mass celebrated at 5pm at the Cathedral Basilica followed by the Tribute for Life Celebration at the Stotesbury Mansion at 6:30 PM. Author Brian Gail will be the Master of Ceremonies. Call 855-300-4673 or email tshakely@lifeandhope.com.
- **April 20th, 2016:** The Culture Project's second annual Mass & Brunch will be hosted at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary. Mass will take place at the Immaculate Conception Chapel at 10am immediately followed by a brunch in the beautiful Eakins Room. This event is designed to bring the community together for prayer, fellowship and encouragement and is intended for all ages. restoreculture.org
- **April 22-24th: Life/Peace/Justice Conference:** Villanova University. This event is dedicated to education, discourse, activism, related to a broad range of issues of human rights and dignity. Visit the website for details and to register: www.lifepeacejustice.com
- **April 30th, 2016: Mother's Home Bowl-A-Thon.** 3:00pm – 5:00pm and 6:00pm – 8:00pm. Sproul Lanes – 745 S. Sproul Rd., Springfield, PA 19064. Please visit www.mothershome.org for details.

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

Double Your Donation!

Many donors make their gift go further with a corporate match from their employer. We receive matching gifts from employee programs at Chubb, Merck, and several others, and now, are included as a charity within the United Way's Donor Choice Program. If your company has a matching gift program through the United Way, you can designate the Pro-Life Union as the recipient of a matching gift. Inquire with your Human Resources department, or for more information about employee gift programs, call our office at [215-874-8288](tel:215-874-8288).

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!

Thanks, Sandy!

Sandy Sasso, who served on our Board as our recording secretary for over 10 years, retired in February. We are sad to see her go, but so very grateful for her diligence in recording minutes and her faithfulness and commitment to the Pro Life Union. We love you, Sandy!!

Guiding Star Update

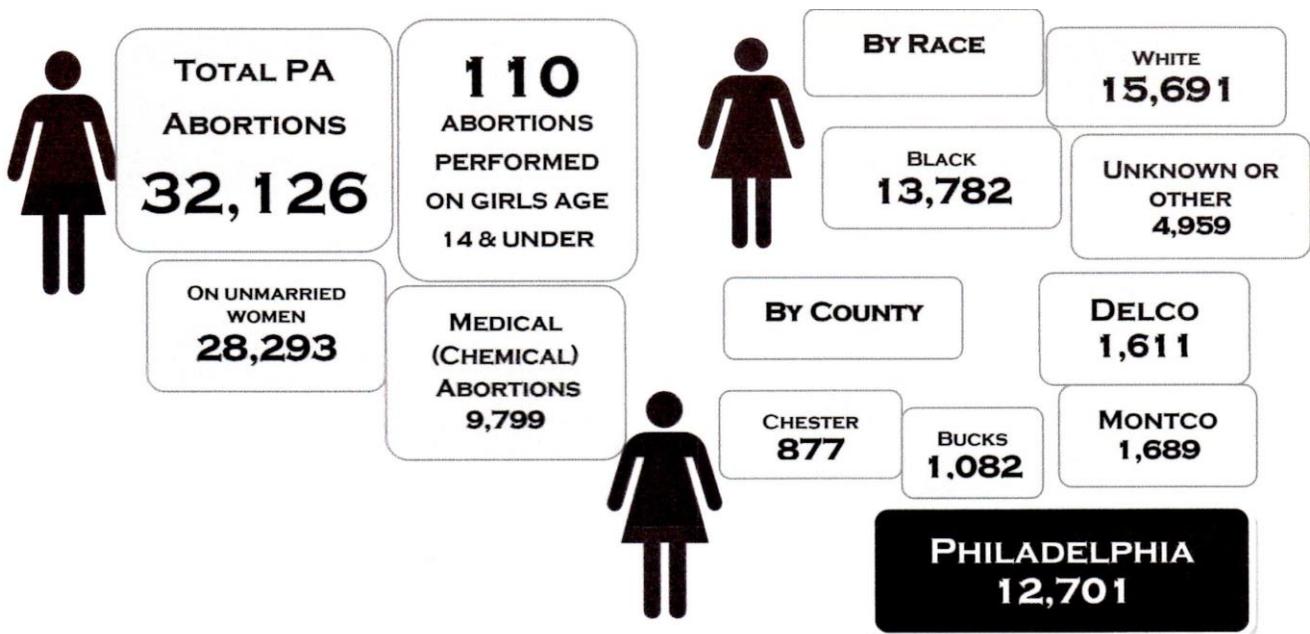
We are so excited to announce the birth of the newest baby born to one of our residents at Guiding Star. A beautiful baby boy was born on the last weekend in February and both mom and baby are doing well. Currently, there are six moms living at the maternity home in the Germantown area of Philadelphia. The house is filled with the laughter of children and the peace of being welcomed into a safe haven. The staff, volunteers and residents had a great time at the monthly community dinner, and the Weekly Wednesday gatherings include seminars for parenting, faith sharing and other topics.

We are seeking volunteers to support the staff, especially during the evening hours, so that the moms can focus on creating a healthy dinner and share a community meal with the children. These evening hours offer an opportunity to spend time with the children. Give us a call if you can help!

We offer heartfelt thanks to our friends and supporters - the students in the Works of Mercy Club at Regina Coeli Academy collected diapers and baby wipes, our good friends at Corpus Christi Parish in Lansdale hosted a Valentine's Day Baby Shower providing lots of baby items and gift cards, St. Joseph in Cheltenham donated baby items, food and diapers and the Knights of Columbus from West Chester helped with a project in the home allowing for additional space for residents.

Abortion Facts in PA

Pennsylvania recently released the 2014 statistics on abortion. The statistics reflect the sobering reality of the culture of death and compel us to pray, act and witness to defend the most vulnerable. The state requires that abortion facilities report how many abortions were performed each quarter. The Pro Life Union will make those numbers available as soon as the reports are collected by the State.



Pictured here are co-chairs Tony and Lisa Liccione, and Bruce and Melinda Wright, with Pro-Life Union executive director Edel Finnegan.

Knights for Life Event Raises Over \$22,000 for Guiding Star

Two Knights of Columbus Councils partnered in hosting a benefit on Saturday, February 27, raising funds for Guiding Star. Fr. McCafferty Council #11013 and St. John the Evangelist Council #7515, both in Yardley, PA, hosted the annual event including cocktails, dinner, live and silent auctions, and a raffle, to benefit the maternity home.

Key sponsors for the evening were Accupac, the Knights of Columbus Councils, and the Central Association of the Miraculous Medal Shrine. Rev. Chris Walsh, pastor of St. Raymond of Penafort, served as the master of ceremonies, and Fr. Joseph Okonski, pastor of St. Athanasius and St. Benedict parish, home to Guiding Star, opened the event. We are so grateful to the Knights of Columbus Councils for this amazing event, and are already looking forward to next year!

Thanks to the Blaney Family

The Blaney Family held their annual Beef and Beer event for Guiding Star on Saturday, February 27, at the Polish Eagles Sports Club in Philadelphia. The guests received and celebrated the news of the birth of the newest baby born at Guiding Star! The annual event raises funds to support all of the efforts at Guiding star. Ed Blaney, host of the event, said he enjoys hosting the party. "It's always a great time, and we're proud to support Guiding Star."

PLU Prayer for Housing

Lord God, you promised to send angels ahead of us to guard us along our way and bring us to the place You have prepared. Please send your angels to guide our efforts in preparing the places you have chosen to house the families we serve. May your angels move in the hearts and minds of all who will partner with us in making Your plan become a reality. May all that we say and do be pleasing to You in a way that will allow us to praise You and the angels forever in the glory of heaven. Through Christ our Lord. Amen