



On Human Life:
"Humanae Vitae"
50th Anniversary

July 2018

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



Nominee Brett Kavanaugh



Judge Brett Kavanaugh appears to be an excellent choice for the unborn. His record indicates a pro-life stance. In *Garza v. Hagan*, Judge Kavanaugh forcefully rejected the ACLU's assertion of a new constitutional right of abortion on-demand for illegal immigrant minors in U.S. custody. In *Priests for*

Life v. HHS, he refused to apply Affordable Healthcare Act's burdensome HHS abortifacient mandate to religious entities and was later vindicated by the Supreme Court. Judge Kavanaugh is also a man of faith and is actively involved in his Catholic parish. He and his wife Ashley have two daughters.

Humanae Vitae at 50 Years

From Archbishop Chaput's address on 4/4/18

In his 1968 encyclical, *Humanae Vitae*, Pope Paul VI taught that the pill was, in fact, a form of prohibited birth control, yet many Catholic clergy, scholars and laypersons simply refused to accept the decision. That resistance continues in our own day. *Humanae Vitae* revealed deep wounds in the Church about our understanding of the human person, the nature of sexuality, and marriage as God created it. We still seek the cure for those wounds, but thanks to the witness of St. John Paul II, Pope Benedict, Pope Francis, and many other faithful shepherds, the Church has continued to preach the truth of Jesus Christ about who we are and what God desires for us.

Half a century after *Humanae Vitae*, the Church in the United States is at a very difficult but also very promising moment. Difficult, because the language of Catholic moral wisdom is alien to many young people, who often leave the Church without ever really encountering her. Promising, because the most awake of those same young people want something better and more enduring than the emptiness and noise they now have. Our mission now, as always, is not to surrender to the world as it is, but to feed and ennoble the deepest yearnings of the world — and thereby to lead it to Jesus Christ, and his true freedom and joy.

Natural Family Planning Resources

Couple to Couple League, ccli.org

Friends of Fertility Care, fertilitycarefriends.org

Gianna Center, phgiannacenter.com

Natural Women's Health (Dr. Monique Ruberu)
naturalwomenshealth-holyredeemer.com

Humanae Vitae & Me

By Tom Stevens, President & CEO

My wife, Ann, and I never considered using contraception. It's what the church teaches, so of course we would follow and have throughout our twenty-three-year marriage. It seemed only right and natural to choose Natural Family Planning (NFP).

During our Pre-Cana day, the session that taught about NFP was memorable. Three catholic couples shared about their intimate experiences. One of the key elements they communicated was the joy and closeness that existed when a couple was tracking the wife's cycle together and the man was dutifully writing the information down each morning in her NFP chart. There would be an intimacy that existed during the times of abstinence. Truth be told, it didn't always feel like joy and intimacy. Sometimes I would joke, "I hate NFP!" The fact is that love requires self-denial, self-control, and self-giving.

The challenge with *Humanae Vitae* is that our modern culture constantly offers and aggressively promotes an ideal world that is like "Pleasure Island" from the story of Pinocchio - the life of no constraints, pleasure as the ultimate aim, and no responsibility or consequences. The problem of course is that Pinocchio's "Pleasure Island" is not real. It's actually a farce where in the end you end up an imprisoned donkey wishing you could just get back home.

I thank God for natural family planning! Ann has been pregnant eight times and we do celebrate great joy and intimacy along with self-control. And yes, I still do track Ann's cycle, but now I use an app on my phone. ☺



Welcome New Member!

Our newest member organization, Every Good Gift is a job training ministry for young single mothers. They remove barriers to work by offering free on-site child care, part-time daytime hours, and a work location near public transit stops. Through mentoring by trained volunteers and workshops addressing job, life, and relationship skills they teach basic soft skills that are needed in every job. Every Good Gift makes gift baskets and small gifts. You can help by volunteering, purchasing their products, donating, and praying. Learn more at everygoodgift.org.

Support the Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia's mission through a secure, recurring online monthly gift.
Visit prolifeunion.org/lifeline to learn more and share our work with others.
The Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia is a 501(c) 3 organization!

Save November 18th!

Our Stand Up For Life Dinner with Keynote Speaker, Sr. Grace Dominic, will be here before you know it! Make sure to mark your calendars for November 18th at the Sheraton.



Please Support Local Vigils

Please consider attending these local vigils at abortion facilities to witness to the women entering that there are other options for them and their child.

- **Bryn Mawr Hospital** – Every Wednesday from 10-11 am and 4th Saturdays from 10-11 am
- **Philadelphia Women’s Center** – 8th & Cherry – Every Saturday 6:30 am
- **Planned Parenthood – Comly & Blvd.** - 1st Saturday, 9 am (Mass at St. Katherine of Siena at 8 am)
- **Planned Parenthood – 12th & Locust** - 3rd Saturday, 9 am (Mass at St. John the Evangelist at 7:45 am)
- **Planned Parenthood – Media** – Every Saturday, 12pm
- **Planned Parenthood – Upper Darby** - 1st Saturday, 10 am (Mass at St. Laurence at 8:30 am)
- **Planned Parenthood – Warminster** - 3rd Friday, 7:30 am to 12 pm
- **Planned Parenthood – West Chester** - 1st Saturday, 9 am (Mass at St. Agnes at 8 am)

Birthday Bags



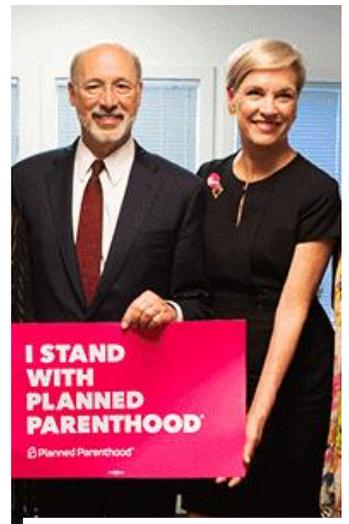
Teagan with mom Erin and sister Maeve.

Girl Scout Teagan Durkin recently visited our office bringing twenty “Birthday Bags” for the children at Guiding Star. In order to earn her Silver Award, Teagan had to contribute to a community group. Working with her parish, Holy Martyrs, she collected donations of books and funds. Each bag contains at least six children’s books, soft blankets for the babies to hold, a birthday card, cake mix, frosting and candles. The moms at Guiding Star will be so pleased to have birthday gifts for their children!



\$1.5 Million from PP for Wolf

Planned Parenthood has deep pockets for pro-abortion Governor Tom Wolf’s upcoming re-election bid. The group plans to spend \$1.5 million, stating that “Wolf is critical to Planned Parenthood’s survival” in Pa. Wolf and his wife Frances are both former PP volunteers.



Gov. Wolf with ex PP Pres Cecile Richards

He has vetoed legislation that would have banned late-term and dismemberment abortions and has promised to veto legislation banning abortions that target Down Syndrome children. Pray and act to gain a November election pro-life outcome! Wolf’s Republican gubernatorial opponent is Scott Wagner who has a significant pro-life voting record. You decide.

Pro-Life Court Victory

On Tuesday, June 26th, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the free speech rights of crisis pregnancy centers in California. The NIFLA v. Berreca case involved California’s “Reproductive FACT Act,” which would have required pro-life pregnancy centers to display abortion information for low-income women. The pro-abortion group NARAL blamed the 5-4 ruling on the newest Judge, Neil Gorsuch, saying “the anti-choice extremist” judge “sits in a stolen seat.”

Upcoming Events

Movie Showing – **Sexual Revolution, 50 Years Since Humanae Vitae** – Wednesday, July 25th, 7:00 p.m., Upper McShain Building of Malvern Retreat House, 315 S. Warren Avenue, Malvern, PA 19355. Free admission.

Humanae Vitae Conference – Sponsored by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, Saturday, October 13th, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Logan Philadelphia Hotel, One Logan Square, Phila., PA 19103. For more information contact Steve Bozza, Office of Life and Family, 215-587-5661 or sbozza@archphila.org.

Mother’s Home Gala Dinner & Fundraiser – Friday, September 21st, Drexelbrook Ballroom. For more information on tickets and sponsorship, visit mothershome.org.



Tom Stevens, President and CEO
tstevens@prolifeunion.org

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