



Community-Based Culture of Life

By: Tom Stevens, President and CEO, Pro-Life Union

Philadelphia March for Life. Done. Now what? In April the Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia will open the first-ever Community-Based Culture of Life Initiative of its kind in Frankford (just north of Kensington), Philadelphia. **Mom's Place Life Center**, the goal is to transform Frankford, Philadelphia for a Culture of Life by building a sustainable, self-sufficient, and permanent pro-life presence there. Through education, community engagement, compassionate service and programming, we will partner with Catholic Social Services and the Capuchin Friars at the Padre Pio Prayer Center to build an effective program that minimizes abortion-risk in the area.

Mom's Place Life-Up Center will be at 1527 Church Street, Frankford, Philadelphia. Proposed services and resources:

- Classes: Parenting, child-birthing, father hood, prenatal and much more.
- Counseling, Therapy
- Diapers, wipes, baby supplies
- Pregnancy Fitness Classes: Fitness classes for pregnant women will be taught by a certified fitness instructor (specialized in pregnancy fitness).
- Housing Assistance.

- Car Seat and Crib Program, Newborn and Maternity Clothing Resources.
- Real Alternatives Information, STI/STD Information, Health and Resource Referrals.
- Fatherhood Initiatives
- Chastity/Abstinence Programming
- Moms Coffee Clubs, Toddler Play Area and other Family Support services.
- Nursing Room: Moms can nurse their baby when needed. This room will be a full-service program with comfortable seating, soft instrumental music, changing facilities and drinking water available
- Grandparents Corner
- Know God, Know Yourself, Know Others
- Low cost 'Mom's Place' Laundromat



"The thing the church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness, proximity. I see the church as a field hospital after battle. It is useless to ask a seriously injured person if he has high cholesterol and about the level of his blood sugars! You have to heal his wounds. Then we can talk about everything else. Heal the wounds... and you have to start from the ground up."

- Jorge Mario Bergoglio

The Truth about Abortion – Legal, Moral and Economical Implications

Luke Parlee is a ‘Distinguished Honors’ student at Central Bucks West High School in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. He recently applied to Boston College and chose the following question for his essay, “*If you had the opportunity to create your own college course, what enduring question or contemporary problem would you address and why?*” Below is his response.

If I had the opportunity to create a college course, I would address one of society’s most controversial issues. The course would be entitled “The Truth about Abortion – Legal, Moral and Economical Implications.”

Abortion, for many, is a sensitive topic. That is why I believe the college classroom is a great place for it to be discussed. The college years are crucial to character development and the best time to expose students to societal issues like abortion. The course would reveal that Roe v. Wade is a flawed law, intended to protect the right to privacy but disregards the more fundamental right to life.

Students would learn about the philosophy of Planned Parenthood founder Margaret Sanger. They would watch movies including, “Unplanned” and “Gosnell: The Trial of America’s Biggest Serial Killer.” In a society that values science, the course would emphasize the science behind the pro-life movement, that biological fact that life begins at conception. Also, the economic implications of abortion, including lost annual tax revenue and loss of valued work by contributing members of society will be examined. Most importantly, the course would present options other

than abortion. It would highlight work being done at crisis pregnancy centers that offer hope to women and support them to enable them to choose life.

The inspiration behind my course comes from growing up a practicing Catholic. As a Catholic I profess that life begins at the moment of conception and is the most sacred, fundamental right. Recently, I had an eye-opening experience while attending a prayer vigil out front of a local Planned Parenthood. Before long I realized that I was the youngest participant. In a conversation afterward with Tim Powell, the president of Bucks County Right to Life, I was made aware of how little support the push to ban abortion is from people my age. Clearly, my peers are unaware of the truth of abortion and that it is one of, if not the most critical social issue of our time. This is why if I were able to create a college course it would expose students to the truth about abortion and in keeping with the Jesuit tradition, “encourage them to use their God-given talents in the service of others to help make the world a more just and humane place.”

Besides being a ‘Distinguished Honor’ student, Luke is a three-sport varsity athlete and works at the New Britain Inn. He also loves surfing.

Article provided by Pat Dowling, Voices For Life



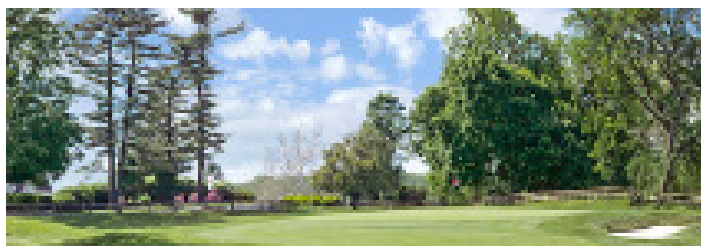
2021 Philadelphia March For Life



On Saturday January 23rd, more than 1500 Philadelphians gathered in Center City to rally for the unborn. The day started with mass and a non-denominational prayer service at the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul. The march was from the cathedral down race street but a peaceful and powerful witness for life in Philadelphia. On our way to Independence Mall we

stopped to pray and bear witness outside of Philadelphia Women's Center where over 6,500 children are made victims to abortion every year. We continued marching until we got to Independence Mall where we were greeted by live music by local musician Jack Terzian. The amount of young pro-lifers filling the lawn of Independence Mall was inspiring, and gives an abundance of hope for the future of the pro-life movement. The live music was followed by excellent speakers including Alison Centofante from Live Action, Ashley Garecht, Kathy Barnette, Reverend Herbert Lusk III, and Dr. Monique Ruberu. The active ways each are dedicating their lives to the unborn was the example and testimony that the people of Philadelphia needed to be moved to prioritize pro-life action in their own lives. If you did come to the march, we would love to hear what you thought of the event! Visit our website or email us at mail@prolifeunion.org.

Golfing For Gianna



Save The Date!
Monday May 3rd, 2021

Join us at LuLu Country Club in support of The Gianna Center.

The Gianna Center of Philadelphia is dedicated to providing general gynecological care, natural family planning education and infertility services which honor the sanctity of each human life, the dignity of women, and the sacramental integrity of marriage.



Introducing Newest PLU Staffer

Hello Pro-Life Union family! My name is Claire Pinto and I am the new Programs and Communications Coordinator at the Pro Life Union of Greater Philadelphia. I joined the team at the end of November and have been enjoying my work here more than I can put into words. In May, I graduated from West Chester University of Pennsylvania with a degree in Communications. I have that Catholic Newman Center to thank for helping me find my passion for the pro-life fight. I worked as a crisis pregnancy counselor at the Community Women's Center for six months after graduating and had the opportunity to encounter so many women facing crisis pregnancies. During those six months I came face to face with the many obstacles that lead women to choosing abortion, and was able to provide resources and alternatives so they felt confident to courageously choose life for their children. This work led me to the Pro-Life Union, and now I am working with incredible people providing real solutions to the real problems women are facing in Philadelphia. It is my honor to serve the unborn, and it is my honor to serve you!

Member Spotlight

Chester County *Pro-Life* Coalition

The Chester County Pro-Life Coalition's Mission is to promote, respect and protect all human life from conception to natural death by engaging, informing and educating the people of Chester County, while organizing many local events. we support our local politicians by attending meetings in Harrisburg with Senators and Congressmen, to persuade them to vote on a bill to protect unborn lives.

One of the important activities that CCPLC members participate in is to stand weekly in prayer in front of the Planned Parenthood Clinic in West Chester, PA, in hope to reach the mother to change her heart and save her baby's life.

CCPLC arranges a March For Life every January in West Chester to commemorate the anniversary of Roe/Wade, while marshaling buses to the D.C. National March for Life with over 900 people attending from Chester County.

We maintain a Website to inform people who we are and what we do, while promoting other organizations related to Pro-Life help which you can find at chescoprolife.org. CCPLC is in the process of organizing a March in the very near future. We ask that you join us in prayer and protest in front of P.P. in West Chester.

So you went to the Philadelphia March For Life, Now What?

- Educate yourself and others.
- Get to know, Support, and Volunteer for organization that provide alternatives to abortion.
- Understand the breadth of resources for pregnant women in the Delaware Valley, so that your ready to pass along info to someone in need.
- Go through the short "Quick-Start Video Series" to learn the basics of witness, prayer and outreach at abortion centers.

All of these resources and more can be found at prolifeunion.org



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