






December 2020



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He Is and We Are 'Grace With a Face'

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

Thirty years ago I had a close friend who was struggling with an addictive lifestyle of serious sin. He was fighting to break free and working with a counselor to do so. The counselor said to my friend once about our friendship, "Tom is GRACE with a FACE to you." Frankly, it's one of the best things I've ever heard said about me. As we celebrate Christmas we remember the greatest moment of God entering humanity. The babe in the womb bursting forth as Emmanuel, God is with us. GRACE with a FACE. The God Man who is the rescuer of each of us from the darkness, and the opportunity for all to repent, believe, and receive an unexpected and unbelievable relationship with Himself.

Mark Houck, president and co-founder of the King's Men, a Pro-Life Union member organization, recently had a profound and unusual conversation with an abortionist in Philadelphia. Mark, who has been praying and reaching out in front of abortion clinics for more than 20 years, was walking down the street after four hours of standing outside Planned Parenthood. After walking a short while, he found himself waiting for a light to change next to an abortionist he had seen enter Planned Parenthood so many times. Mark had prayed for years that one day he would have a conversation with this abortion 'doctor'. Mark said to him, "When's the killing going to stop?" The abortionist responded defensively, but in a profound moment of grace they continued the conversation. Mark experienced the Lord's compassion along with righteous anger. Though this is a man who is regularly committing hor-

rific evil, he is still a human like each of us. They spoke at length. Mark even found himself asking the abortionist, "What are you doing for Thanksgiving?" Mark discovered things personal things about the 'doctor'. He told him we're praying for him. He spoke the truth, with love. Mark was GRACE with a FACE.

On January 23rd we will host the Philadelphia March for Life. Why? Because there is the constant and continued requirement to put a FACE on the huge numbers of innocent pre-born children that are quietly being exterminated in our local area. The truth must be proclaimed that abortion is a horrific act causing the death of more than 17,000 preborn children in Greater Philadelphia each year. Abortion also is long-lasting trauma for a similar number of mothers (and fathers) who willingly or unwillingly bring their own offspring to the slaughter. We need to call it out and bring the reality to the forefront.

When we invite a friend to an event like the Philadelphia March for Life, their life will be changed. They likely will experience and see an invisible truth. They will be inspired to pray, act, and speak. The march is necessary. We will be masked and physically distanced to prevent further Covid-19 spread. We look forward to seeing you there.

"Suddenly the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream and said to him, 'Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife. It is by the Holy Spirit that she has conceived this child.'"

Matthew 1:20



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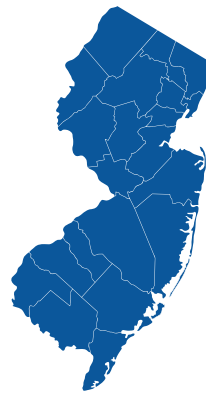
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Thank You For Joining the Virtual Stand Up For Life

We missed you! Watching a Stand Up for Life event on a screen is convenient, but certainly not as inspiring an event (particularly with all the students normally in the crowd) as the Pro-Life Union's regular annual dinner. However, we still had the opportunity to hear from Matt Walsh and to be inspired by some of the local pro-life action and passion for human life in Greater Philadelphia. We also raised money which will help us to carry on this great work. Thank you to all who donated! Your contribution will make a difference.

Did you miss it? You can still watch. And please patronize the businesses and thank those who sponsored the event. You can view both the event, and the virtual program and buyers guide at prolifeunion.org.

NJ Seeks to Codify Abortion



Neighboring state New Jersey's legislature is considering the 'Reproductive Freedom Act' that both strips medical workers of 'conscience protection' and legalizes infanticide. NJ Governor Phil Murphy and legislative leaders are stepping up efforts to codify abortion to create an impenetrable barrier to ever making abortion illegal. The bill allows abortions throughout the entire nine months of pregnancy. The bill permits non-physicians to perform abortions and also states, "a fertilized egg, embryo, or fetus shall not have independent rights under the laws of this state."

On December 1st a coalition of pro-life groups and concerned activists held a "Day of Outrage" protest at the offices of legislators sponsoring the bill. Christine Flaherty said, "This outrageous bill strips babies of their right to live, strips women of their right to safe healthcare, and strips NJ healthcare workers and taxpayers of their rights of conscience not to participate in abortion. It even disenfranchises citizens from being able to rescind it in the future." The keynote speaker at the Pro-Life Union's 'Right to Birth' Rally in October, Reverend Clenard H. Childress Jr., founder of BlackGenocide.org, said, "This change will further endanger women's health and put their lives at risk. This lowering of care for disproportionately African American women is typical of the callous abortion industry. Abortion is the most performed surgery on a women. No doctors??"

We don't want this in our neighborhood and we certainly want to prevent a bill like this in Pennsylvania.

Four Hours a Month? Sidewalk Servants Protecting The Unborn

In a new initiative for Sidewalk Servants and the Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia, Dr. Monique Ruberu announced at the October 31 'Right to Birth' Rally, Mass & March, that Sidewalk Servants is asking pro-lifers to commit to 4 hours each month to pray and witness in front of abortion centers. Impossible? For some. Likely to save a life? Yes! The commitment requested is to sign up for two regular two hour time-slots. The goal? Two pro-lifers each hour when abortion centers are open.

Ex-abortion center employees have said again and again that the abortion appointment "no-show" rate rises as high as 75% when pro-lifers are peacefully praying outside. Locally, we have witnessed so many who have had changed their mind over the years. Just Friday, a couple walking into Planned Parenthood with tears, then walked out with joy as they announced they had changed their mind.

Recently a young woman went to Planned Parenthood Center City and spoke with a Sidewalk Servant who shared information and resources with her, but still went inside. She found out she was 8 weeks pregnant with twins. The Planned Parenthood personnel advised her to abort, but she just couldn't. Two weeks later though, she acted on her fear and once again went to Planned Parenthood. At 3pm there were no Sidewalk Servants outside. THE SIDEWALK WAS EMPTY.

She didn't receive more literature or have someone outside praying that she would have a change of heart. She went in, took the chemical abortion pills, but a few hours later regretted what she had done and reached out to the ABORTION PILL REVERSAL hotline. They quickly connected her to Dr. Monique Ruberu and began the reversal process. When the woman described Planned Parenthood inside she said, "It was such a sad place, so sterile. I could hear the screams of women after their procedures. Everyone had a despondent look on their faces." Dr. Ruberu said, "When I met her in person I apologized that we weren't there when she went to Planned Parenthood the second time. I met this beautiful mom and her beautiful daughter, and thanked God that we now have to chance to walk with her."

Become a Sidewalk Servant TODAY. Go to prolifeunion.org/volunteer OR call (215)-885-8150 to register for more information.



A Tribute to Bill Wohlgemuth (1935-2020)



On September 22nd, the pro-life community lost a hero. Bill Wohlgemuth, the Pro-Life Union's former President of the Board of Directors for many years, went home to the Lord. Bill was tall in stature, but even larger in leadership, kindness and his love for the unborn.

As the Respect Life Leader at Saints Simon and Jude parish in West Chester, Bill organized fundraisers, vigils and marches to bring awareness to his fellow citizens of the sacredness of every human life. Bill helped us deliver our materials for Mother's Day and Respect Life Sunday to the churches in Chester County. He also served as an advocate for Life in Harrisburg, meeting with our Pa. State Representatives and Senators to urge them to pass laws to protect the preborn.

Bill and his wife, Pat, raised a daughter and three sons. He was the proud grandfather of four. Bill and his family enjoyed gathering together at their beach house in Maryland and sailing the sea. He brought so much joy to everyone he encountered with a bright smile and witty sense of humor.

Please pray for Bill's family as they go through the Christmas Season missing this great man. "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.'" Matthew 25:23



Member Spotlight



The King's Men's mission is to unite and build up other men in their natural vocation as leaders, protectors, and providers through education, formation, healing and action. They accomplish this with community presence, talks, seminars and "Into the Wild" retreats, which are outdoor, skill-oriented weekends. Don't miss the Sansom Healing Retreat for Men 3/25 through 3/28. More info at samsonretreat.com.

The Philadelphia March for Life: Saturday 1/23/21



Due to the pandemic, many schools, churches and individuals are canceling their buses and trips to the January 29th March for Life in Washington, DC this year. The annual March for Life is an inspirational and important gathering of 'pro-life America'. This year we will have a Philadelphia March for Life in Center City, beginning at 10:00 am. Before the March will be a Roman Catholic Mass at the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul. All are welcome.

The March will start at 10:00 am at 18th & Race St. in front of the Cathedral. It will proceed down Benjamin Franklin Parkway past City Hall and will split into two groups. One will head to Philadelphia Women's Center and the other to Planned Parenthood. After a brief time of prayer at each, the March will continue to the 12:00 pm Rally at Independence Mall.

Not able to March? You can join the 12:00 pm rally only at Independence Mall. There will be a concert at 11:30 am and then the Rally at 12:00 pm.

Please join us to remember the unborn, stand up for life, and express our freedom of speech. All social distancing guidelines will be followed and facemasks will be required. For more details visit prolifeunion.org.

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