

## A Better Way Than Abortion

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

**A**cross Greater Philadelphia in 2019, more than 18,000 innocent humans died from abortion. On average, there are forty-seven (47) abortions every day, six days a week, within Philadelphia city limits. Imagine a school bus filled with children quietly losing their lives every day. Not clumps of cells, not almost humans; rather fully human rapidly developing innocent lives. No serious embryologist or medical or scientific expert suggests otherwise.

A human being, with unique DNA, begins life at the moment of conception. An independent heartbeat starts by 22 days gestation, and a complete nervous system, digestive tract and functioning limbs are present by eight weeks. The DNA created on day one will dictate the eye color, and the height and the temperament of a unique person who deserves the opportunity to experience the world and contribute to it. The heart that beats on day 22 deserves the chance to beat slowly during a blissful sleep or beat rapidly at an exciting sports event. The arms and limbs that stretch and shift and grab in week eight (8) deserve the freedom to reach for the stars or to embrace another.

Since *Roe v Wade* in 1973, approximately one million (1,000,000) innocent humans have been aborted in Southeastern PA. Imagine the individuals that are not with us due to legalized abortion.

The Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia seeks to help people understand the facts, the sanctity of life, and influence public policy. We also offer real alternatives. There are many services and resources across Greater Philadelphia for expectant parents during each trimester and after birth when life is chosen for their unborn child: Pregnancy Resource Centers, Catholic Social Services, local and state assistance programs, low cost/no cost medical clinics all support pregnant women, children and families. There are homes and housing resources for pregnant women and there are many adoption services for parents who are unable to keep and care for their child. We mourn the loss of life as we recognize the 48th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*.

We proclaim the fact and beauty of life in the womb. We shout out that there is a better way. There are alternatives to abortion — that leave the right to life intact, and mothers unharmed, and create a better society. Choose life. Join us on the 23rd the Philadelphia March for Life as we pray, march, and proclaim together — that there is a better way.

## 10 Years Since Gosnell Grand Jury Report

On January 19, 2011, the findings were released of the grand jury that was charged with investigating the activity of the Women's Medical Society in West Philadelphia; operated by Kermit Gosnell. While pro-abortion organizations have claimed that laws regulating abortion facilities hurt women, the Gosnell case prove the opposite to be true: abortion hurts women. As the report stated, "This case is about a doctor who killed babies and endangered women ... it is about disdain for lives and health of women and infants." (Page 1, Grand Jury Report)

The Gosnell case exposed the brutality and degradation that abortion inflicts on women and children in our city, and the awful truth is that this did not stop once Mr. Gosnell was behind bars. The more than 14,500 abortions that occur annually within Philadelphia's city limits are not safe or beneficial for women, they inflict physical and emotional wounds that last for a lifetime. And simultaneously, every single abortion means the death of at least one valuable, unique and unrepeatable human being.

Gosnell eventually stood trial and was convicted of three counts of first-degree murder for the death of three babies that were born alive and killed. He was also convicted of involuntary manslaughter in the death on Karnamaya Mongar.



# The Philadelphia March For Life

Join us in proclaiming the Right to Life for the Unborn

Saturday, January 23rd 2021

Featuring...



**Alison Centofante** is the Director of External Affairs at Live Action, the largest pro-life organization online with over 5 million followers. Live Action is dedicated to ending abortion and creating a culture of life. Alison has been featured on Fox News, ABC, NPR, The Christian Broadcasting Network, and other media outlets. Her work has been published in National Review Online, World Magazine, Red Alert Politics, and The Blaze. She was formerly Director of Alliance Relations at Alliance Defending Freedom working to serve, strengthen, and expand the alliance on life, marriage, and religious freedom and was the Communications Director for Concerned Women for America, the nation's largest public policy women's organization. Alison was named to Red Alert Politics "30 under 30" list and Christianity Today's Reader's Choice "33 under 33."



**Jason Jones** is a film producer, author, activist, and human rights worker. He was an Executive Producer on the 2006 film, *Bella*, which won several film industry awards, most notably the People's Choice Award at the 2006 Toronto International Film Festival. Jason was the Associate Producer of the 2008 film, *The Stoning of Soraya M.*, which won the NAACP Image Award as well as the Los Angeles Film Festival Audience Award. He was Producer in 2012 of the TV movie *Mother Marianne: Portrait of a Saint* and an Executive Producer of the film, *Voiceless*. His short films include "Eyes to See" (2010), "Crescendo" (2011) and "Sing a Little Louder" (2015). Jason works directly to aid the homeless, people facing genocide, and women with crisis pregnancies. He is president of Movie to Movement, the Vulnerable People Project, and the Human Rights Education Organization (H.E.R.O.). He lives in Texas with his family. He published his first book, *The Race to Save Our Century*, in 2014. He is the host of the podcast, *Jason Jones Show*, and is a frequent contributor to *The Stream*.



**Archbishop Nelson Perez**

Archbishop of Philadelphia



**Jack Terzian**

Singer/Song-Writer



**Kathy Barnett**

TV/Radio personality and Author



**Ashley Garecht**

Pro-Life Union Board Member



**Dr. Monique Ruberu**

Natural Women's Health Practice



**Rev. Herbert Lusk III**

Great Exodus Baptist Church

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1) What is the plan for bad weather?

Bundle up and bring your umbrella! Please consider sacrificing comfort for a few hours. We'll only cancel/reschedule if there is extreme weather event that shuts down travel — check this website on the morning of the March.

### 2) Will there be restrooms available?

At Independence Mall there will be Port-a-Potties available along 5th Street. Hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes will be available. There are limited locations available for public restrooms.

### 3) What Covid-19 precautions will be in place?

We are requesting and requiring that facemasks be worn at all times while participating in these events. We also ask that you stand and march 6' socially distanced from people that do not live with you. More on Website.

### 4) What if I am unable to attend?

Not a problem! We will be live streaming each event. However, we sincerely hope that you attend in person if possible. Livestream will be available on the Pro-Life Union Facebook page @prolifeunion.

For more FAQs about the march go to [prolifeunion.org](http://prolifeunion.org)

## The Schedule

9:00 AM

### Mass

Archbishop Nelson Perez will kick off the day with the celebration of Roman Catholic Mass at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul. All are welcome!

10:30

### Let the March Begin!

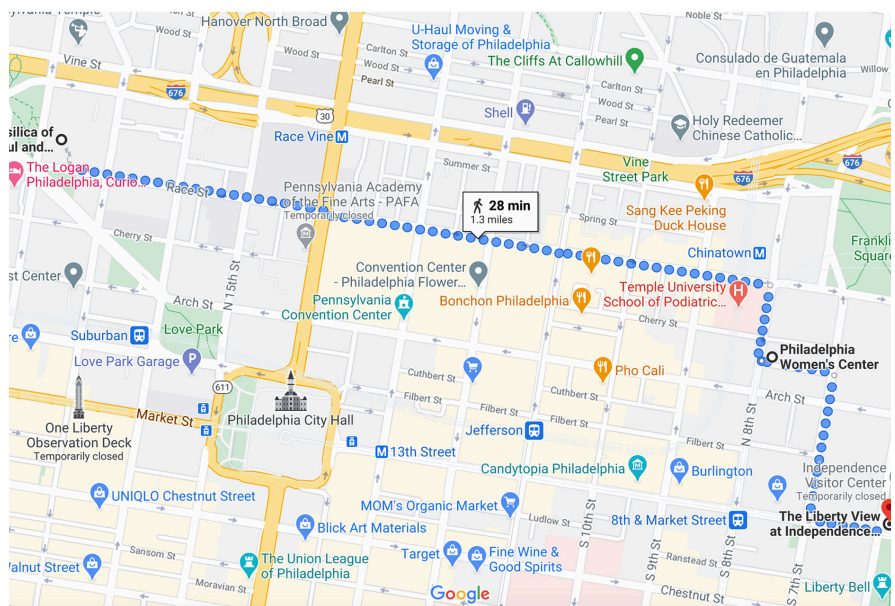
After mass and a short break we will begin our march to Philadelphia Women's Center, where over 6,500 abortions are performed each year.

12:00 PM

### Rally For Life

Our final destination along our march route will be the Independence Mall Visitors Center where we will conclude our day with a rally for life.

## The Route



## Life Goes On

By: Marlene Downing, Director, Hope Pregnancy Center

We are fresh into a new year with so much to be thankful for. Last year there were some challenges that turned into opportunities to love more and to put full trust in God. The nation was faced with the looming pandemic that was so devastating for our own families. The diagnosis was threatening to all around and fear claimed the lifestyles of many. Our country was divided in half. Arguments surged across social media platforms, tension was heightened amongst friends, family and even church members.

Here we are in a new year with very new challenges and opportunities. Be aware that fear may try to grip you as it did in 2020. Here is the good news. Life goes on! As we embark upon this new year we work to more closely focus on "Life". The unborn need us all to stay hopeful and be steadfast on the frontlines to ensure that life goes on. Our own life is not so much about our comfort but how we will sacrifice for the good fight.

Our hearts and minds must be strengthened to be a witness for Jesus. It is through him that we have eternal life. Life goes on !

Please remember this year to pray for your local pregnancy centers. Pray that the same crippling fear that tried to hinder us last year does not consume the young mother struggling to find peace in her life affirming decision. Pray that the right people stretch their hands to volunteer. Please pray for every need to be met and that the doors stay open. Please remember all of the Pro-Life Union member organizations as they provide life support to all in need. Pray for their resilience and abundance. Lastly, please continue to support the Pro-life Union of Greater Philadelphia. Stand with us on the sidewalks of abortion centers. Stand with us in the rallies for life. Stand with us in our efforts to make abortion unthinkable. It is with your help and your support that life goes on!



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Tom Stevens, President and CEO  
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### Support life. Give today.

- ☐ Yes! I want to fight to end abortion, provide alternatives to vulnerable families, support The Pro-Life Union and promote the Culture of Life. Enclosed is my donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help the Pro-Life Union's efforts in Greater Philadelphia.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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- ☐ I would like to become a monthly "Lifeline" donor! Please charge my credit card \$\_\_\_\_\_ each month.

- ☐ I would like to make a one-time donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ charged to my credit card.

☐ For Pro-Life Union.

☐ For Guiding Star Ministries.

☐ For the Philadelphia March For Life