



Pro-Life Union* 88 Pennsylvania Ave., Oreland Pa 19075
215-885-8150 * www.prolifeunion.org

Respect Life Sunday 2013

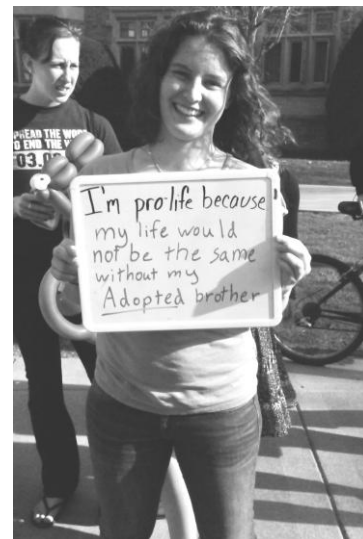
I'm Pro-Life Because...

In 1972, the American Catholic bishops initiated Respect Life Sunday and encouraged Catholics to participate in devotions and Respect Life activities to advance the culture of life during the month of October. So many of you reading this today have a deep respect for every human life which manifests itself in service to the unborn, the weak, the elderly, the oppressed, and the poor. But, it is rare that any of us really stop to think about why we are "pro-life." What makes us remain committed to protecting those in need?

I'm pro-life
because...

All life matters!

Here at the Pro-Life Union, we were encouraged to think about that question when our friend and supporter, Erin, shared a recent activity hosted by the Respect Life group at Notre Dame. The group asked students to write why they were pro-life on a white board. The stories flowing from that day are encapsulated in photos



and are a great testimony to every person's value and worth. Read more about the efforts at Notre Dame by visiting thenewprolife.blogspot.com.

Our pro-life belief stems from the knowledge that each and every person is created in the image and likeness of God. Each person is a masterpiece of His creation and a testament to His love. Please join us in this project to celebrate our pro-life beliefs by sending a photo with your pro-life commitment. We hope to use many of these photos on our social media channels and at our Stand Up for Life Dinner in November! Photos can be emailed to mail@prolifeunion.org.

Annual Stand Up for life Dinner hosted by the Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia

Please join us on November 24th at the largest pro-life event in our area. Over 1,300 people will come together to break bread with friends and hear the message of our guest speaker. **Sr. Jane Dominic Laurel, O.P.** will deliver our keynote address and encourage all with her wisdom on life and family issues.

We are pleased to announce this year's award recipients. Each recipient has witnessed uniquely, sharing the Gospel of Life in their community, and we are so honored by their service!

David Sao will receive the 2013 Chastity Award for his service to Generation Life and his joyful witness to the virtue of chastity. The recipient of the "James D Kelly" Pioneer Award is Eileen Stone. Eileen is a parishioner at St. Andrew's Parish and we honor her for years of service to the Pro-Life Union, Generation life and her parish Respect Life Committee. Les and Betty Ruppertsberger will receive the Defender of Life Award for their public witness to the sanctity of life and the dignity of each person. Please call us if you would like to honor an award recipient in the Dinner Program Book!

Sunday, November 24, 2013

Philadelphia Sheraton

Center City

17th & Race Streets, Philadelphia

Reception - 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Dinner - 5:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$60 per person.

Tables of ten are discounted to \$550.

Student tickets \$35, a table of ten just \$300.

Please send reservation and payment to:

Pro-Life Union,

88 Pennsylvania Avenue,

Oreland, PA 19075

215-885-8150.

A Pro-Life Family Example

There is much public lamenting about the high cost of college tuition. We can identify one college where students are receiving a priceless course in "Family 101" at no charge.

Mountain McGillivray was hired by Generation Life in 2005 and served as a fantastic speaker and educator who charismatically spread the message of life and chastity to thousands of teens in the Greater Philadelphia area. After leaving Generation Life, Mountain and his family moved to Connecticut. He coaches the women's basketball team at Quinnipiac University in New Hampshire. The team has been very successful, winning 52 games in the last two years including a 30-3 season this past year. The Quinnipiac Bobcats went undefeated in the Northeast



Conference, won the conference title and played in the NCAA Tournament. We caught up with Mountain recently so we could share how he and his family remain active in the pro-life movement.

Mountain is married to Grace, and they are expecting their sixth child in December. Their home school group, *Adore Te*, provides fantastic fellowship and witness to what it means to be Catholic parents. This past July, they and another family ran the first life chain in their town of Cheshire, CT. About 70 people lined up for life. Mountain and Grace also help with the 40 Days for Life campaign in the Hartford Diocese, have hosted Gen Life for a church talk

and a teen conference, and Mountain has been giving pro-life talks to the CCD for the past three years.

When asked how he first got involved, Mountain shared that his grandfather, Anthony Coppa, asked him to pray at a Vigil at Planned Parenthood when Mountain was 13. He recalled the enormous impact that sidewalk counseling and prayer made on him even at that young age. *"I think everyone feels compelled to come back again, to pray and offer hope to mothers"* and so Mountain stayed involved. Quinnipiac University can never offer its students more than watching the McGillivray family develop. No text is necessary, no lectures or classes are required. This observation is fundamental to the reality of family life in any human society. The critical roles of mother and father, when properly exercised, cause their children to virtually blossom. This family is a blessing at so many levels, but what a beautiful gift to these fortunate students. Thank you, Grace and Mountain, for personally illustrating Marriage and Family in such a compelling way.

Elisa

One of the blessings of working in the pro-life movement is the wonderful people you encounter. One of our members, Elisa, has faced many challenges in her life. Now in her early 50's, she looks back on these obstacles, and with joy, marvels at how God's grace and protection have been manifested in her life. Elisa's mother intended to abort her, but miraculously, Elisa was spared and she has had a deep sense of peace, despite her troubled childhood, that "God had a plan for my life." As a college freshman, Elisa became pregnant. She was advised by her doctor that the baby would be severely handicapped and he encouraged her to choose abortion. But, God's grace and love won out and she chose life. Her son Daniel was born whole and well. She considers herself spared from abortion twice and feels blessed beyond measure. Elisa continues to share her story about being saved from abortion with those she encounters. And she makes an incredible contribution to our movement. Thank you, Elisa!

Pro-Life Vigils

Protestants – 2nd Saturday, Planned Parenthood, 12th & Locust – 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Catholics – (The Rosary will be prayed after each of these Masses. Location in parentheses.)

3rd Friday – 8 am Mass – Nativity of Our Lord, 625 W. Street Rd. (PP Warminster)

1st Saturday – 8:30 am Mass – St. Laurence, Upper Darby (PP Upper Darby)

1st Saturday – 7 am Mass – Christ The King, Morell & Chesterfield (PP Comly & Blvd.)

1st Saturday – 8 am Mass – St. Agnes, West Chester (PP West Chester)

3rd Saturday – 7 am Mass – St. John, 13th & Market (PP 12th & Locust)

4th Saturday – 6:30-8:30 am – Phila. Women's Ctr., 777 Appletree Street

Un-popular Pill

Feminist author Holly Grigg-Spall has written a new book about the birth control pill. It asks provocative questions regarding “the Pill” and how it has impacted the lives of women.

“Contrary to cultural myth, the birth-control pill impacts on every organ and function of the body, and yet most women do not even think of it as a drug. Depression, anxiety, paranoia, rage, panic attacks - just a few of the effects of the Pill on half of the over 80% of women who pop these tablets during their lifetimes. When the Pill was released, it was thought that women would not submit to taking a medication each day when they were not sick. Now the Pill is making women sick... In a bid to spark the backlash against hormonal contraceptives, this book asks: “Why can't we criticize the Pill?”

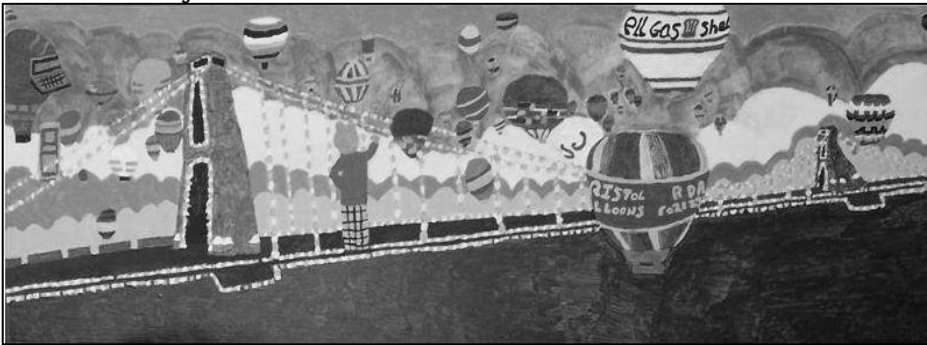
Recently, the Catholic Medical Association (www.cathmed.org) has been running radio ads asking some of the same questions. You can visit their website to hear the ads and also look into the research behind the questions.

Drive for Life



How many hours a day do you spend in your car? Imagine using those hours to take a stand for life and possibly save a life! We have an incredible way to make that a reality. The Choose Life plates spread the message of life on your car and also generate funds that are used to help crisis pregnancy homes and centers. For a one-time cost of just \$44 (\$24 to the state and \$20 to one of our centers), your car can be a driving billboard for life! Visit www.pachoose-life.org or call 215-885-2919.

True Beauty



Artist Tazia Fawley, spent six months painting “*Rupert Flies Over the Suspension Bridge*.” Heart and Sold, an organization supporting artists with Down Syndrome, discovered the painting and offered it to the Royal Couple for their newborn baby. William and Kate do not normally accept gifts but decided to make an

exception and in so doing, celebrated the life and gift of the artist who has Down Syndrome. Suzie Moffit, the director of Heart and Sold said, “In England, there always has been a stigma attached to (Down Syndrome), and now that is washed away by the fact that the Duke and Duchess have accepted that painting. For this to happen, it’s kind of turned that negativity around.”

Miracle Baby

When she was pregnant with her daughter Abigail Rose Beutler, doctors told Congresswoman Jaime Herrera Beutler, a pro-life Rep from Washington State, that her baby had a potentially fatal diagnosis that would claim her life shortly after birth. The child had been diagnosed with Potter’s Syndrome, a condition which prevents the child’s kidneys from developing properly and is typically fatal. In an interview with the Today Show, the congresswoman said that baby Abigail will need a kidney transplant in the year ahead, but her parents and doctors consider the child a miracle.

“She is doing amazing,” Jaime said. She and her husband,

Daniel, hope their experience sends a message to other parents who may be in similar situations. “We had more doctors tell us ‘no’ than tell us ‘yes,’ and there are other parents who have had similar experiences,” she said. “We’d like this to be part of the conversation when this diagnosis comes again, so these parents have an option.”





Steve, Goodbye for Now!

The pro-life movement lost one its warriors, Steve Santoleri, in September. During his last five years, he carried the cross of cancer without complaint and remained involved in the pro-life movement even in the toughest parts of his illness.

His brother Dave, summed up Steve perfectly at the funeral Mass held at St. Cornelius Church on September 17th. *"So who was Steve Santoleri? A wood worker, a wine maker, a sailor, a beekeeper, a DuPonter, an entrepreneur, A King's Man, A Man of Malvern, a Knight of Columbus, a friend of Jesus, a mentor for Generation Life, a witness for our Lord, a man of strong Faith, and a Family man - **who has many, many friends.**"*

No exaggeration was required by David, just the simple recounting of his brother's life lived by following Jesus. Steve was involved in every area of the Pro-Life Movement and shared his time, talent and treasure so generously. His work with Generation Life has left an enormous impact and it was beautiful to see the vibrant team of missionaries and full-time staff at the funeral Mass. So many people came together to thank the Lord for Steve and to comfort his family.

Lord, we thank you again for your man, Deacon Steve Santoleri, who did so much for the Culture of Life and inspired so many to also follow Jesus. Please join us in praying for the happy repose of his soul.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, October 13th : **Johnny's Run for Life** -, join other runners for the 5th annual "Johnny's Run for Life". The run is in memory of John Williamson, Jr., a remarkable pro-life young man who passed away in 2009. Johnny's last Facebook entry was "Choose Life." This year, 20 scholarships will be awarded to Catholic school students and the funds raised will support a local crisis pregnancy center. The location is Wilson Farm Park, 500 Lee Rd., Wayne, PA 19087. Mass is at 8:30 a.m., the 5K Race begins at 9:00 a.m., 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk at 9:30 and Awards Ceremony at 10:30 a.m. For additional information, call 610-527-2227 or 610-446-5600 or register online at www.johnnysrunforlife.com.

Sunday, October 20th : **Mother/Daughter Buffet Supper** hosted by Pennsylvanians for Human Life. The event, featuring gift baskets and boutique vendors, will begin at 4 p.m. at Meehan Hall at SS. Simon and Jude Parish. For information call Kathy Bond 610-696-0780.

Saturday,

October 26, 2013

7:00-8:30 a.m.

**Prayer Vigil and
Sidewalk Counseling**

Philadelphia Women's Center

777 Appletree Street

Philadelphia, PA 19106

