

Life Matters

A publication of

Catholic Pro-Life Committee of North Texas ♦ Respect Life Ministry of the Diocese of Dallas

*Saving Lives and
Supporting Families
Thanks to You!*



What's inside ...

- Changing landscape of Dallas abortion industry
- Meet the Bishop's Dinner Honorary Chairs
- Mother shares her journey with CPLC's GEMS
- Celebrating new pro-life partnerships

And more!



www.prolifedallas.org

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The landscape is changing.

Are we ready?

Karen Garnett, Executive Director

Catholic Pro-Life Committee of North Texas

Dear Friends of Life,

The landscape of abortion in Texas, in particular in Dallas, is changing like never before. On the heels of the two most pro-life legislative sessions in Texas history, we have seen an unprecedented number of abortion facilities close across the state and an estimated 20% decrease of abortions in Texas. Our sidewalk counselors report **3,300 fewer abortion clients** in Dallas this past year compared to 2013, plus over **575 abortion-minded women chose life** outside the Dallas abortion facilities in 2014! We have so much to be thankful for!!

But the abortion industry in Texas is not going quietly into the night. **They are fighting back.** Abortion providers have challenged the implementation of pro-life law HB 2, stalling the enforcement of the final provision requiring all abortion facilities to meet ambulatory surgical center standards. If the courts allow HB 2 to be fully implemented, it is expected that the abortion facilities now remaining in Texas will be reduced to only eight. Until then, abortion providers who refuse to upgrade their facilities to meet the new safety standards remain operational.

In Dallas last year, we celebrated the closures of both Northpark as well as Robinson's facility on Record Crossing. Sadly, while abortionist Lamar Robinson closed his facility at Record Crossing, he re-opened the previously closed Northpark facility. But less than a month later, the landscape shifted again as the hospital which had granted admitting privileges to both Robinson and Jasbir Ahluwalia (Routh Street abortionist) closed its doors; thus both abortionists lost the privileges required by HB 2 to perform abortions. The new number at "Robinson @ Northpark" has already been disconnected, and it is our prayer that HB 2 will be fully implemented in the coming months, and that Routh Street, too, will **close**.

But even if HB 2 is fully enforced, two abortion facilities – Southwestern on Greenville and the new Planned Parenthood on West Virginia – will continue to operate, as they are already ambulatory surgical centers. The opening of the Planned Parenthood in South Dallas this past year evidences a trend in the abortion industry to focus on "mega" facilities, over 10,000 square feet, intended to service large geographic areas and clients traveling in from across the state.

As the abortion industry redoubles its efforts, it is critically important that we recommit ourselves. We cannot afford to breathe easy when so many children remain at risk and mothers and fathers are suffering. Thanks to you and God's grace, we look forward to another amazing year of saving lives, supporting families, and helping the suffering find healing. Your support makes it all possible!

Blessings in Christ, for Life,

On cover: CPLC GEMs graduate Maria Fernanda with daughter Marifer and husband Juan Pablo Segundo

Giving moms hope

New Adopt a Hopeful program saves lives

Because of your prayers and support, over 575 babies were confirmed saved from abortion in Dallas in 2014, and an additional 262 mothers were what we call “hopefuls” – they left an abortion facility undecided about choosing life, but we have no record of their return. To help these “hopeful” mothers choose life, the CPLC initiated the “Adopt a Hopeful” program this past fall to assure these hurting, anxious women that someone is praying for them. On one of the first days that CPLC counselors gave out the “Adopt a Hopeful” prayer cards, three of the mothers immediately chose life! Here’s one story:

... She arrived at the abortion facility for her initial consultation. Upon leaving, she stopped to speak to one of the CPLC counselors. The counselor offered her material help; but she declined. Then the counselor handed her an “Adopt a Hopeful” prayer card, telling her that a family was praying for her and her unborn child. The mother looked at the card, began to cry, and declared, “Oh my God, what was I thinking! No, we are not doing this.” The CPLC counselor affirmed her decision: “You can’t do this because you love your baby so much.” The young mother agreed. “You’re right. I love her so much. What was I thinking?” She looked at the card one more time and left. This summer, she will welcome the birth of a precious life thanks to the power of prayer and God’s amazing grace!

Each day, mothers stand on the precipice of a deadly decision. Your prayers and support can help them make the decision for LIFE. To learn more about how you can give the gift of hope, visit prolifedallas.org/hopeful.

Leading on life

2015 Bishop’s Dinner Honorary Chairs Mike & Barbara Weller

We are pleased to introduce Michael and Barbara Weller as this year’s Honorary Chairs for *The Bishop’s 22nd Annual Catholic Pro-Life Dinner* on April 18, 2015. The Wellers are parishioners of St. Ann, Coppell and have two sons, Eric (14) and Aidan (12), whom they adopted in 2007.



In 2011, the Wellers attended their first Bishop’s Pro-Life Dinner. During the event, the words of keynote speaker Carl Anderson and the slideshow picture of Texas’ oldest abortion facility, Fairmount, being razed in uptown Dallas seared Mike’s heart with the understanding that “this is not our parent’s battle – it’s ours.”

Since that dinner the Wellers have been engaged supporters of the CPLC. We are so thankful for the Wellers’ leadership role and pray you and your friends and family will join them at the annual dinner to help save and change more lives!

Thank You!

2014 Christmas appeal a life-saving success!

Thank you to all who responded to our urgent year-end appeal. Earlier in 2014 we were blessed by record Bishop’s Pro-Life Dinner proceeds, but our fall giving was critically lower than expected. Thanks to your generous response to our need, we not only qualified for the \$10,000 matching gift, we also exceeded the goal of raising \$45,000. Your sacrificial gifts will help save many lives in 2015!



Why I support the CPLC

“I give because of the cause. The cause is so necessary and requires action.

“I deal with a lot of different charitable initiatives and agencies, and I don’t know of anyone that is more effective and has been more effective for more years than your organization.

“One of the things that has always impressed me is how efficient the CPLC is with the money you’re receiving ... how low your operating expenses are, how professional your staff is, and the dedication that you all have and exhibit.”

– **Walter E. (Ed) Johnson**, co-founder of Grandy’s restaurant; Advisory Board Chairman for Christian Community Action; longtime CPLC supporter and Honorary Chair of the 2008 Bishop’s Pro-Life Dinner.

You can leave a **Legacy of Life** by supporting the Catholic Pro-Life Committee, the Respect Life Ministry of the Diocese of Dallas. Consider adding the CPLC to your will to help ensure a culture of life for the future. For information on bequests and other non-cash contributions to the CPLC, contact Ellen Rossini, CPLC Director of Development, at 972-571-8705.

In her words

Project Gabriel mother shares her GEMS journey

My name is Susana Toral, and I am one of three women who graduated from the GEMS Academy this past year. I would like to tell you a little bit about myself and my journey into GEMS.

I call this program my rock.
... GEMS is a group who supports me, who helps me stay strong in God and guides me through the roughest paths.

GEMS has been an extraordinary source of help and peace for me and my son, Julian. I was introduced to GEMS in the summer of 2013 while I was pregnant and felt all alone; my mother, Telma DeToral, was actually preparing to be a Gabriel Angel, without knowing the truth I was hiding. When she found out I was expecting, she realized that I needed help through my pregnancy. She connected me with Ingrid Meyer, CPLC's Gabriel Angel Coordinator, and that is where it all began.

I call this program my rock. To me, this isn't just about getting a scholarship. It is more than that. GEMS is a group who supports me, who helps me stay strong in God and guides me through the roughest paths. With my eyes on God, I will always be full of hope and faith. In this group I only see loving ladies who have shown their affection to my son and me. They are wise, smart, fun, and caring, but they are also a fountain of resources, knowledge and wisdom.

What I love most about the group is the way they pamper us mothers. I also love the "Soulmate" segment which teaches us how to find a godly man to love and cherish us and tells us about our dignity as daughters of God. Someday, if I have a daughter, this is exactly what I would like for her to listen to when she becomes a teen.

Carolina is an amazing counselor and I love the way she mentors me and helps me to appreciate and value myself. Elizabeth, Marilyn, and everyone else on the GEMS team are all very friendly and inspire good thoughts and trust. Even though I am happy to graduate, somehow I don't want to leave GEMS. I wish I could have these ladies with me forever.



With this scholarship I plan to enroll in school to learn how to play an instrument or maybe even do some theater! I would also like to learn how to do some public speaking to help me with my new job.

I appreciate having this opportunity to share my love for GEMS.

Thank you to my Mom; thank you, Ingrid; thank you, Carolina; thank you who support the CPLC; and God bless you, everyone!

Making new friends - for life!

40 Days for Life in South Dallas paves the way to historic partnership

On September 24th, at 6 a.m., fifteen prayer volunteers gathered in the dark in front of the new Planned Parenthood, using flashlights to sign in for the first day of the 40 Days for Life-Dallas prayer vigil. Chilled by the early morning air, some had driven almost 40 miles to get there. They heard the call and were willing to sacrifice sleep, time, a day of work, whatever it took, to pray and witness for life. Others came that morning from homes only minutes away but with heavy hearts that Planned Parenthood had set up a killing business in their neighborhood. For some it was their first time in front of an abortion facility, and they wept at being there. All stood together as a part of the Body of Christ, united in urgent prayer as the clients began to arrive.

Throughout the campaign, the opportunities for witness were amazing. Passerbys continually stopped to ask why we were there. Many had not heard that Planned Parenthood performed abortions, let alone that it's the largest abortion provider in the country. Often, they parked their cars and joined us on the sidewalk.

During that 40 days, nine babies were saved, that we know of! And over 2,700 prayer warriors came to pray! Multiple denominations were represented, including thirteen churches and organizations which participated for the first time. In one hour alone, we saw prayer volunteers from St. James, St. Pius X, St. Michael the Archangel in Garland, Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship, Online for Life, Inspirational Body of Christ, and First Look Life-Affirming Medical Clinic from Waxahachie.

One particular new arrival to the sidewalk set this campaign apart – Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship. The members of OCBF heard the news that Planned Parenthood had arrived in their neighborhood and were on fire to respond. We owe a special debt of gratitude to Pastor Charles Wolford, Chris Wheel and Jettie Johnson from OCBF's Family Services and Jonathan Pitts from The Urban Alternative who worked tirelessly for this effort. These wonderful servants of Christ not only prayed during the vigil, but also hosted all the campaign events. And Dr. Tony Evans himself was a surprise speaker at the Kickoff Rally!

The Lord has roused His people in South Dallas, and we've made new friends – for Life!

Playing 'fore' life!

14th Annual CPLC Classic / Bishop's Cup Pro-Life Charity Golf Tournament



Tournament Co-Chairs Richard Bridgeman and Dave Willingham (pictured above with Scott MacMaster) were among the 90 golfers who enjoyed a fun and blustery day at The Tribute Golf Club on October 13, 2014.



The first place Bishop's Cup was awarded to the David Morrow Foundation team (left) of John Wigen, Joseph Ditto, Ryan Smith, and Brent Burns.



Bill Finegan, Joseph Bates, Michael Goethals, Dennis Sullivan



Bill Dowd, Jeff Drummond, Mike Brady, Phil Doepfner

Memorials

In Memory of:

Loved babies in Heaven
Baby Suarez-Pinon
Flo Supan
Charles Thoman
Unborn children
Unborn Babies
Unborn babies lost through miscarriage
Unborn babies

Given by:

Kenneth & Gloria Streit
Ana Pinon
Eddie & Karen Garnett
Paul & Karin Sztatkowski
Edwin Altomare
Coco Sanchez
Robert & Carol Baca
Robert & Carol Baca

In Memory of:

Mariana Villegas-Singleton
Fr. Walker
Jil Weinstein
Cecil Williams
Katherine Wolcheck
Catherine Wolcheck
Dean Yates

Given by:

Richard & Charmain Singleton
Lucy Nicholas
Miguel & Kathryn Caballero
Jennifer Williams
John & Donna Burkhardt
John & Donna Burkhardt
Quinn & Barbie Cook

Honors

In Honor of:

Camille Adams
Bucky Arnold
Deanna Averett
Miguel Caballero Ayala
Babies (born & unborn), All Mothers
Joe & Helen Donick
Carlos Barreola-Caballero
All my children & their spouses & children
Blessed Mother
Donna Burkhardt
Kathleen Burkhardt
BVM
Lucia Caballero
Callan Family
Tom & Regina Chadwick
Father Reuben Chen
James Agustin Collard
Ferro & Esperanza Fuselier
Mrs. Barbie Cook
Sister Jane Dominic
Panther Dufault
Precy Fordan
Elizabeth Garcia
Karen Garnett
Carly Gassman
Grandparents of the Unborn
Skyler Peyton Hasen
Doris Hessek
Cassandra & Paul Husak & children
Beverly Kishpaugh
C. Ladner
John Le
Lewicki Family
Rob, Xavier, Aarisse, & Sammy Liao
Mary E. Little
Rebecca Lucido

Margaret & Ken
Mary the Mother of God
Lucia Caballero Morales
Alison Murphy Morales
Ana Maria Moreno
Jose & Carmen Moreno
Mother who offered me for adoption.
Any mother or baby who needs help

Given by:

Quinn & Barbie Cook
Elizabeth Arnold
Mr. Eric Lund, CPA
Miguel & Kathryn Caballero
Robert & Carol Baca
Robert & Carol Baca
Miguel & Kathryn Caballero
Lillian Barto
Coco Sanchez
John & Donna Burkhardt
John & Donna Burkhardt
Coco Sanchez
Miguel & Kathryn Caballero
Bryan & Elizabeth Quarles
Elizabeth Amorella
Shawn & Jessica Kruse
Tawona Bell
Gordon & Sally Collie
Quinn & Barbie Cook
Valerie Liao
Dave Schauf
Dr. Steve & Amie Fordan
Brian & Bonnie Cox
Jay & Cindi Tenney
Stephen & Elaine Sexton
Robert & Carol Baca
Michael & Laney Sherburne
Kevin & Judith Rohr
Valerie Liao
John & Patricia Kishpaugh
Larry & Mary Witkowski
Mary Agnes Gilbert
Bryan & Elizabeth Quarles
Valerie Liao
John & Patricia Kishpaugh
Deacon Larry & Mary Frances Lucido
Robert & Rosemary Patrick
Carlos & Alejandra Hernandez
Miguel & Kathryn Caballero
Terence & Nancy Murphy
Jose & Carmen Moreno
Jose & Carmen Moreno
Kathie Mallard
Mary Pitt

In Honor of:

All mothers who choose life
All Moms who choose life
Mothers who chose Life
Mothers & unborn babies
Loving, scared mothers everywhere
Caroline Murray
Daniel & Katherine Murray
& children
Jeff Nelson
Laura O'Connell
Our Lady, Our Mother
My son David
Father Frank Pavone
Dan Polcari
Pope Francis
Intentions of Pope Francis
All our good, Holy Priests
Our Priests
Pro-Life Workers
Laura-Lea Ray
Mr. & Mrs. Laurence V. Reynolds &
Children – Stephen, Charles & Ed; Mary
Frances (a miscarriage)

Rocha Family
Maxine & Lloyd Rooney
Kent Sanders
Sara
Suzanne Sexton
Mary Helen Sexton
Liam Sierra
Special needs children/families
Fr. Ambrose Strong
Tammy, my daughter's birth Mom
Maria Dao Thi Thau
Fr. Tim Thompson
Tricia, Erin, Mackenzie & Sam
All the unborn children
Unborn babies
Unborn babies & mothers
Unborn & newborn babies
Maria Venegas
Andrew Visosky
Brice Weinstein
Doug & Peg Weisbruch
Barb Weller

Given by:

Frances Trojacek
Mrs. Annie Fuentes
Jose & Carmen Moreno
Robert & Carol Baca
Kenneth & Gloria Streit
Michael & JoAnn Murray
Michael & JoAnn Murray

Doug & Marguerite Nelson
Miguel & Kathryn Caballero
Coco Sanchez
Robert & Rosemary Patrick
Jose & Carmen Moreno
John Polcari
Mrs. Annie Fuentes
Margaret Coty
Lucy Nicholas
Richard & Charmain Singleton
Loretta Schraufnagel
Cooper & Laura Ray
Sidonie Reynolds

Claudia Rocha
Steven & Tammy Duke
Quinn & Barbie Cook
Robert & Rosemary Patrick
Stephen & Elaine Sexton
Stephen & Elaine Sexton
Thys & Patti Jones
Mrs. Teresa Ferrara
Steve & Becky Reimer
Mike O'Rourke
Vanessa Nguyen
Quinn & Barbie Cook
Scott Fanatico
Edwin Altomare
Chris & Norma De Leon
Robert & Carol Baca
Robert & Carol Baca
Lorena Fierro
Bradley & Rebecca Visosky
Miguel & Kathryn Caballero
Brian & Meg Hastings
Gregory & Michelle Easley

Thanksgivings

In Thanksgiving for:

Jennifer Baugh
Kirby
Life and Faith
Family

Given by:

Dan & Teresa Gallagher
Larry & Mary Witkowski
Lucy Nicholas
Stephen & Elaine Sexton

Gifts to the Catholic Pro-Life Committee may be made in honor or memory of or thanksgiving for a special someone or intention to be remembered at a daily Mass offered for the CPLC's intentions. We also notify the recipient of your generosity at your request. You may support our ministries today at prolifedallas.org/donate. Thank you!



See pictures of Jan. 17 events at prolifedallas.org/roe

“On the Road to Victory”

2015 Roe Memorial Events transform downtown Dallas
Thousands joined Bishops Farrell and Olson at the Roe Memorial Mass on January 17th in the convention center in Dallas and then the ever-growing, always inspiring North Texas March for Life and Rally featuring both Bishops, Christian radio personality Rebecca Carrell, Jonathan Pitts from The Urban Alternative, Dr. Robert Jeffress of First Baptist Dallas, and the inspiring testimony of Irene Castaneda. Thanks to all who joined us for this amazing day for life! Let us continue together “On the Road to Victory” when every life will be respected and protected!

Mark Your Calendars!

Texas Catholic Advocacy Day

March 24, 2015 Austin, Texas



Advocacy Trainings

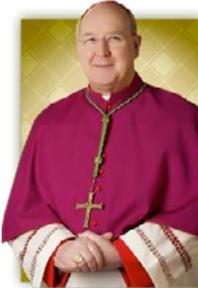
January 28 at 7 p.m. at Santa Clara Regional Community Center
February 21 at 12 noon at Our Lady of Angels Parish

www.dallascatholicadvocacy.org

The Bishop's 22nd Annual Catholic Pro-Life Dinner

April 18, 2015

Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas



Every Life is a Masterpiece

Benefiting the Catholic Pro-Life Committee

www.prolifedallas.org/dinner



Saturday, March 21, 2015

3:30 - 9:45 pm

Nolan High School Arena

Keynote Speakers

Matt Fradd & Kara Klein

Youth Rally for ages 13-18

Joint event of Youth For Life
The Diocese of Fort Worth and
The Catholic Pro-Life Committee

www.purebychoicedfw.com

2015 Youth For Life Pro-Life Boot Camp

Tentative Dates

Session 1: June 26 – 28

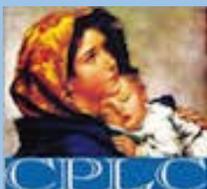
Session 2: July 24 – 28

University of Dallas, Irving

For students entering grades 9 - 12 and ages 14 - 17
Chaperones (21+) and Jr. Staff (18-20) needed

www.prolifedallas.org/bootcamp

Visit us at www.prolifedallas.org



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