

# The Catholic Pro-Life Committee of North Texas

Volume 19 Issue 2

Summer 2011

## For the First Time: A National Pro-Life Strategy

By Karen Garnett, Executive Director



As the city where *Roe* began – the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision that led to abortion on demand – Dallas has been a center of impassioned pro-life activism for many years. Each year, pro-lifers march through Dallas in one of the largest Roe Memorial events in the country;

Dallas was the second city to sponsor a 40 Days for Life campaign, helping nationalize this prayer movement; and Dallas is home to the Catholic Pro-Life Committee, the largest diocesan respect life ministry in the U.S. Even with all our passion in Dallas, however, it will take thousands of cities throughout the country to reverse the tragedy of abortion.

This past year – the time for the miraculous – we

have witnessed a shift of a nation. This shift was foretold by national polls revealing a majority of Americans consider abortion immoral, are in favor of abortion restrictions, and are against taxpayer-funded abortion. What followed this revelation was unprecedented. For the first time in the 38 tragic years since *Roe v. Wade*, we're witnessing a nationwide strategy to derail – and defund – the abortion industry.

A coalition of national groups, including Priests for Life, 40 Days for Life and Students for Life, to name a few, joined together to “Expose Planned Parenthood” through nationwide webcasts and grassroots political efforts. For the first time, Planned Parenthood’s carefully-crafted “veneer of charity” is giving way to the Truth – that Planned Parenthood’s bottom line, fed by the death of millions of children, is its primary concern.

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## Landmark Legislation in Texas

By Ronda Moreland, Civic Action Ministry Coordinator

The pro-life movement can boast the most successful legislative session that many have ever seen in Texas. The 82nd Legislative Session came to an end, and the intensity lasted to the very last minute. The session brought overwhelming pro-life victories, including the passage of the Choose Life License Plate Bill and the strongest Sonogram Bill in the country. But one critical issue remained: whether Planned Parenthood would be defunded. The legislature heard our voices and responded during Special Session by defunding the abortion giant of \$35 million or more in taxpayer funds over the next two years!

While there were many pro-life leaders across the state who were instrumental in passing these bills, the Catholic Pro Life Committee of North Texas is recognized by many as a grassroots force through its regular e-communications providing legislative updates and urging action by you – devoted advocates for Life. For this reason, the CPLC’s



*Governor Perry Signs Sonogram Bill*

Karen Garnett was invited by the Governor’s office to the monumental Sonogram Bill Signing Ceremony at the Capitol. “It was such a blessing to be able to represent the CPLC and all of you on this historic day for Texas,” said Karen.

After 12 years of effort, Texas now becomes the 27th state to pass a law allowing the issuance of a

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# Life Matters

- National Pro-Life Strategy
- Landmark Legislation in Texas
- Pictures of 2011 Bishop’s Dinner
- “My CPLC Experience” by a Cistercian Graduate
- 10,000 March for Life!
- Boot Camp 2011: Pro-Life Activism

## Thank You for Being Part of the Miraculous!

On Saturday, March 26, 2011, more than 2,200 people gathered to declare “It’s Time for the Miraculous.” The crowd was entertained by Master of Ceremonies Dr. Ray Guarendi and inspired by the short film “Last Line of Defense,” featuring the CPLC Sidewalk Counseling Ministry. We were honored to welcome keynote speaker Carl A. Anderson, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, who shared his experience and words of wisdom about building a Culture of Life.



**Dr. Ray Guarendi welcomes guests**

**Supreme Knight  
Carl Anderson  
addresses the  
crowd**



**Bishop Kevin  
Farrell and  
Honorary Chair  
Roger Scott**



**Carl Anderson, Pro-Life Person of the Year Carol  
Everett, CPLC Executive Director Karen Garnett  
and Honorary Chair Tom Clark**



**John Paul II Orchestra performs**



**Honoree  
Omar Aguilar  
and CPLC  
Spanish Ministry**



**St. Francis Respect  
Life Ministry**



**Notre Dame Club of Dallas**



**Honoree Joanne Underwood and  
CPLC Convert-to-Life Ministry**





**Bishop Kevin Farrell** (fifth from left) stands with the **2011 Bishop's Dinner Honorees** (left to right): **Mike Swain, Susan Platt, Carol Everett, Lauren Muzyka, Omar Aguilar, Dr. Joe Pojman, Auxiliary Bishop Mark Seitz, Jeanette Goodman** and **Joanne Underwood** (Honoree **Mark Feldman** not pictured).

**We owe a debt of gratitude for the hard work and generous spirits of  
our *volunteer* Committee Chairs...**



**Edward Aguinaldo**  
AV Support



**Olivia Franklin**  
Private Reception



**Bill Lenchner**  
Audio Visual



**Helen McCleneghen**  
Private Reception



**JoAnn Murray**  
Auction Support



**Dan Polcari**  
Raffle



**Michelle Profanchik**  
Volunteers



**Rita Reis**  
Banquet Hall



**Ann Sears**  
Auction



**Janet Schaad**  
Reservations



**Monica Woodson**  
Check-In

And to **Ronda Moreland (Parish Promotions)** who shared her



heartfelt testimony and urged support of the CPLC's nine life-saving ministries

And finally, *a special thank you*  
to our host and shepherd  
**Bishop Kevin Farrell,**  
pictured with **Auxiliary Bishop Mark Seitz,** honored with the **2011 Bishop Grahamm Award for Exemplary Pro-Life Leadership**



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## Stories from the Street

By Rebecca Thompson, CPLC Sidewalk Counselor

Arriving at Robinson's abortion facility in Dallas on Saturday morning, there was already a busload of University of Dallas students (about 50 or 60) on the opposite side of the street somberly standing watch . . . praying decades of the rosary and alternately singing. Another group who faithfully pray on Saturdays at Robinson's were also gathered in prayer.

A couple who had turned away earlier drove back over to thank the UD sidewalk counselors who had talked with them. There were hugs, joyful laughter, tears, exchanged phone numbers, promises to keep in touch with updates about the baby . . . the baby that would not be aborted.

Another busload of students (also about 50 or 60) from UD arrived. When they learned the CPLC Rosary Procession was en route, the first busload of students delayed its departure and continued praying and singing. The students' melodic voices rippled softly through the neighborhood.

Some of the nearby business owners and workers roamed out of their businesses and watched. "What are they singing?" "Who are they?" "Are they Catholic?" The Church was there.

Two women turned into the abortion facility, stopped in the parking lot only for a few minutes, and then drove away. "Oh, that has happened quite a few times already this morning . . .

people coming to the facility, and they just turned around and drove off," remarked one of the UD sidewalk counselors.

The third bus (CPLC Quarterly Mass & Rosary Procession for an End to Abortion in Dallas) arrived from Mass at nearby Our Lady of Perpetual Help. These faithful pro-life prayer warriors joined the others on the sidewalk – now numbering over 150.

A Hispanic couple arrived in the parking lot entrance of the abortion facility and talked with one of the CPLC Spanish-speaking counselors. They, too, went to the nearby pregnancy resource center . . . choosing life for their child.

We praise Holy Almighty Triune God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – for the blessings of this day.



*CPLC Quarterly Rosary Procession outside Robinson's*

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## My CPLC Experience

By Daniel Pruitt, 2011 Cistercian Graduate and CPLC Intern

My experience with the Catholic Pro-Life Committee of North Texas for my Senior Project was a very informative as well as enriching and spiritually uplifting one. The goals I set for myself were to deepen my knowledge of the pro-life movement, establish myself as a willing contributor to the pro-life cause in the Dallas area, and to go out and in fact DO those actions that further the culture of life.

Reading the text of the famous court cases making abortion legally available (*Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*) alongside the text of well-known pro-life writers like Fr. Pavone has given me a knowledge base that will only continue to expand as I deepen my own commitment to the movement. I am also more informed about the practical, everyday "goings on" in the pro-life scene. Helping with and attending annual events like the Bishop's Pro-Life Dinner and

the Good Friday Rosary Vigil has given me the perspective of an "insider" in the Cause of Life. I now understand just how valuable my help is to the movement, and how valuable getting other people involved is. I helped with the silent auction at the Bishop's Pro-Life Dinner, and I can say with confidence that it is a whole lot of work. I only helped for the week before the Dinner, and there had already been an incredible amount done to prepare. Next year I want to get involved from the start so as to lighten the burden that much more.

The most informative event of my project was attending the Catholic Faith in Action Advocacy Day in Austin. I lobbied the aides of both the state house representative and state senator for my district. I chose to present on the Sonogram Bill (Senate Bill 16 and House Bill 15). I was one of five teens who

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## Landmark Legislation in Texas (continued from p. 1)

Choose Life License Plate, the revenue from which will help fund organizations that support adoption, such as our own Project Gabriel. Possibly the most public pro-life victory, though, was the passage of the Sonogram Bill, ensuring that the abortion-minded woman will have the opportunity to see her baby and hear the heartbeat before making a life-changing, and life-ending, decision. Abby Johnson, former Planned Parenthood Director, now Pro-Life Advocate, says this bill "will devastate" the abortion industry.

The results of this session demonstrate the importance of having representatives in Congress committed to defending life, and we are so grateful to all the legislators who courageously sponsored and supported these bills. We also owe a special thanks to those who were on the front lines in Austin lobbying for Life (all the while keeping us informed), including our friends at the Texas Catholic Conference, as well as Dr. Joe Pojman, Carol Everett and Jonathan Saenz. Of course, none of this would be possible without the guiding hand of Almighty God protecting His precious children.



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## 10,000 Marched!

In 2009 and again in 2010, Bishop Farrell challenged the Dallas pro-life community to march 10,000 strong on the anniversary of the tragic *Roe v. Wade* decision. In 2011, we met that challenge!

The 2011 Roe Memorial Events on January 22 began with the Roe Memorial Rosary outside the Routh Street abortion center. 800 pray-ers surrounded the abortion center, accompanied by Dallas Auxiliary Bishop Mark Seitz and Father Jason Cargo of St. Monica. Through the power of prayer, compassionate counseling, and above all, the grace of God, three mothers chose life for their babies that day!

Following the rosary, nearly 4,000 attended the Roe Memorial Mass concelebrated by Bishops Farrell, Vann, Seitz and Deshotel, as well as 31



*Bishop Mark joining in rosary*



brother priests. And at the close of Mass and a parallel worship service at First Baptist, **a record 10,000 of Dallas faithful, Catholic and Evangelical alike, took to the streets to March for Life.** The March was led by our youth carrying the "Marching For Their Lives" banner, the Knights of Columbus Color Guard, and 38 strollers representing the 38 years of killing since *Roe v. Wade*. The crowd rallied at the Earle Cabell Federal Courthouse (housing the district court where *Roe* was first filed), where Bishop Farrell challenged us to not only increase the numbers praying and marching, but to also stay actively involved in transforming our culture every day throughout the year.

To see photos and video from this event, visit [prolifedallas.org/2011\\_Roe](http://prolifedallas.org/2011_Roe). And please be sure to save the date for next year's memorial on **January 21, 2012**.

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## Nationwide Strategy *(continued from p. 1)*

Unfortunately, national efforts to defund Planned Parenthood have not yet been successful, though we're grateful for the tremendous gains in votes in both chambers of Congress for the Pence Amendment. Where the U.S. Congress left off, states, including Texas, have picked up. In the 82nd Texas Legislative Session, we saw incredible pro-life victories, such as the passage of the Choose Life License Plate and Sonogram Bills, as well as efforts to redirect family planning funds away from Planned Parenthood. (See CPLC Civic Action Coordinator Ronda Moreland's article on p. 1.)

While we stand in prayerful awe of the pro-life movement on the national and state stage, my heart, and focus, is on our fair city. Bearing the unique burden as the "home" of *Roe v. Wade*,

we carry the torch for all the unborn children who have died since 1973. In answering that call of responsibility, we were the first diocesan ministry to include sidewalk counseling as one of our formal ministries. Through each baby saved on the streets, we see the fruits of Our Lord converting hearts through our devoted counselors and prayer partners. We closed 2010 on an amazing record high of 85 confirmed "turnaways" in one month. We were scarcely done praising God and thanking our supporters for such an incredible triumph for life when we experienced another 80+ turnaway-month in March, and then . . . a miraculous **108** confirmed "turnaways" in April! It is these life-saving moments in our own backyard that fuel the mission. Your prayers, volunteer hours and financial support, through the grace of God, are literally saving lives. God bless you for all you have done and continue to do for Life!

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## My CPLC Experience *(continued from p. 4)*

advocated for the Catholic Church on issues ranging from abortion to human trafficking to proper education for undocumented immigrants. Though our impact may have been small, we definitely gained a perspective on just how complicated the law-making process is, and we also gave the aides the impression that the youth in America and in Texas are ready to defend Life, coming all the way from Irving down to Austin to do it.

The most powerful experience for me was praying the Rosary at the abortion centers in the hope that my prayers to our Blessed Mother would bring God's mercy to the victims and

especially the perpetrators of abortion. I pray that whatever their upbringing or family life has taught them, the men and women visiting and working at these centers will be open to the truth about abortion – the truth that it is not morally relative or subjectively evil, but something that is always evil.

If we as Catholics make the truth of abortion known to as many people as possible, we can transform the way in which the world views it. This is the ultimate hope of the Catholic pro-life movement, and, using this Project as a springboard, it is what I will be working for as I continue my efforts in promoting a Culture of Life.

# HONORS

## **In Honor of:**

All Respect Life Ministries  
around the world

All mothers who support life

All Pro-Life Mothers

All Mothers

All our grandchildren

All pregnant women  
who choose LIFE

All who have chosen life

John & Mary Ann Behan

Bishop Kevin Farrell

Barbara Brummitt

Baby Camp

Catholic Pro-Life Committee

Catholic Pro-Life Committee

Catholic Pro-Life Committee

Jesus Christ

Barbie Cook

Elizabeth (Cox) Cusack

June Dennis

Laurie Dennis

Leonard Harmeyer

Tanya y Gaby Lugo

Josephine Mark

Dr. Jean McMichael

50 million babies  
who've been killed

Isabella Moore

## **Given by:**

Maria Castillo-Lopez

Julien & Julianne Frost

Mrs. Annie Fuentes

Paul & Jennifer Hansen

Deacon Larry & Mary  
Frances Lucido

Ann Simons

Bill & Mary Trelc

Ross & Josephine Emmett

Jose & Carmen Moreno

Quinn & Barbie Cook

Ivan & Rosalie Camp

Harry & Deborah Freeman

Herminia Vasquez

St. Pius X Catholic School

First Class Auto, Inc.

Quinn Cook

Brian & Bonnie Cox

Wayne Dennis

Wayne Dennis

Bette Harmeyer

Maria Lugo

William & Loretta  
Schraufnagel

Quinn & Barbie Cook

Phillip & Stacie Blazek

Gary & Linda Olson

## **In Honor of:**

Mothers & babies

Caroline Elizabeth Murray

Jeff Nelson

Clara Ann Norman,  
60th Birthday

Our 30 grandchildren

Dan Polcari, birthday in  
January

Amy Polcari, birthday in  
January

Prayer for Lisa Hoang's  
unborn child

Pro-Life Missionaries

Ronda

Ellen F. Rossini

Evalyn Russell

Sandra Salinas

Dorothy Schatzman

Mary Helen Sexton

Adam Sherburne

Deacon Smith

The Carmelites

Vicki Thorn, Founder, Project  
Rachel & Director of National  
Office of Post-Abortion  
Reconciliation and Healing

Ashley Trurno

Mrs. Patricia Tucker,  
mother of Susan Laurence

Unborn Babies & their parents

Jean Vasel

## **Given by:**

Robert & Carol Baca

Michael & JoAnn Murray

Doug & Marguerite Nelson

Catherine Deitchman

William & Betty Cosgray

John Polcari

John Polcari

Hanh Le

Robert & Carol Baca

Milton & Shannon Catalina

Teresa Stadelman

Keith & Debra Russell

Jose & Carmen Moreno

Wayne Dennis

Stephen & Elaine Sexton

Michael & Laney  
Sherburne

Stephen & Elaine Sexton

Catherine Lawler

Larry & Beth Crouch

Michael & Michelle  
Rodriguez

Stephen & Susan Laurence

Robert & Carol Baca

Lewis Vasel

You can make a gift in honor or memory of or thanksgiving for  
someone special that will help mothers, save babies and  
advance a Culture of Life.

**Visit [prolifedallas.org/donation](http://prolifedallas.org/donation)**

# MEMORIALS

## **In Memory of:**

Julius Ralph “Danny”  
Dannemiller

Julius “Danny” Dannemiller

Danny Dannemiller

Danny Dannemiller

Theodore G. Donahue

George Fuentes

Georgian

Rita M. Gregg, My Mother

Carmen Guaderrama

Mary Harman

Leonard F. Harmeyer

Carolyn Lanzo

Violet & Greg Lemons

Jorge Lopez

Barbara Lorince

Cira Lucido

Patricia D. McCaffrey

Richard Paul McCoin

Michael & Michelle

Jose Moreno, Sr.

Emilia Moreno

Mother, Rena Broussard

My unborn child John Paul

My parents

My parents

## **Given by:**

Margaret Adams

Jim & Jeannine Weisman

Tom & Terry McDowell

Jim & Zuzanna Fennell

Stephen & Carolyn Donahue

Mrs. Annie Fuentes

Rita Wasinger

Suzanne Gregg

Ray & Isela Tautges

Tom & Terry McDowell

Bette Harmeyer

Herminia Vasquez

Robert & Carol Baca

Esmeralda Lopez

Harry & Deborah Freeman

Deacon Larry &  
Mary Frances Lucido

Richard & Lori McCaffrey

Mary Clare Cieslewicz

Steve & Mary Ann Niles

Jose & Carmen Moreno

Jose & Carmen Moreno

Robert & Linda Frink

Robert & Carol Baca

Roy & Judy Chaney

William & Loretta  
Schraufnagel

## **In Memory of:**

Joe Nelson

Jeff Nelson

Jesus & Consuelo Olivas (my  
parents)

Our Baby

John Palmer

Lizzy Prince

Joe Rodriguez, Sr., & all the  
Rodriguez Family

Gregoria Rodriguez, my mother

Domingo Salinas, brother of  
Carmen

Joe Savone

Don Schonhoff

Suzanne Sexton

Mary Helen Sexton

Special Intention

Michael John Stanley

Michael Stobb

Jim Sullins

Kevin R. Sullivan

Joe Sullins

Arabela Torres

Unborn babies lost

Jean Vasel

Jesus y Herminia Villareal

Billie Walshe

Jeff Weisbruch

Dean Yates

## **Given by:**

Tom & Terry McDowell

Doug & Marguerite Nelson

Consuelo Herrera

Art & Ann Criscuolo

Dave & Paula Palmer

Patricia Hammond

Javier Rodriguez

Mrs. Annie Fuentes

Jose & Carmen Moreno

Quinn & Barbie Cook

Tom & Terry McDowell

Stephen & Elaine Sexton

Stephen & Elaine Sexton

Mrs. Sumi Yi

Brannon & Christine  
Marlowe

Anthony & Lisa Stobb

Ted & Ferndale Sullins

Mary Kay Sullivan

Ted & Ferndale Sullins

Aaron Foley

Robert & Carol Baca

Lewis Vasel

Maria Lugo

Tom & Terry McDowell

Doug & Peg Weisbruch

Quinn & Barbie Cook

# THANKSGIVINGS

## **In Gratitude for:**

All the blessings God has  
gifted to us as a family

Husband Steve

## **Given by:**

Javier Rodriguez

Mary Ann Niles

## **In Gratitude for:**

38th Wedding Anniversary

Our 3 beautiful children

## **Given by:**

Rebecca Marks

Brannon & Christine Marlowe



## **Upcoming Events – *Save these Dates!***

- **July 9:** Quarterly Mass, Adoration & Rosary Procession
- **July 29-Aug. 2:** Youth For Life Pro-Life Boot Camp
- **Sept. 28-Nov. 6:** Fall 40 Days for Life-Dallas
- **Oct. 15:** Quarterly Mass, Adoration & Rosary Procession
- **Oct. 11:** CPLC 11th Annual Golf Tournament/Bishop's Cup
- **Nov. 19:** Holy Christ Child Luncheon & Advent-Christmas Gift Market
- **Jan. 21, 2012:** Roe Memorial Rosary, Mass and Dallas March for Life

Visit [prolifedallas.org/calendar](http://prolifedallas.org/calendar) for more information.



**September 28, 2011 - November 6, 2011**

More info coming soon at [prolifedallas.org/40days](http://prolifedallas.org/40days)

### **Rachel's Vineyard Retreats™**

Abortion AfterCare-Healing / The Rachel Ministries



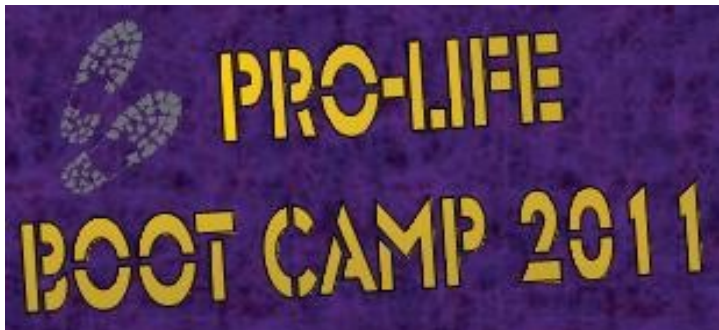
**2011 English Retreats**

July 29-31, October 7-9

**2011 Retiros en Español**

24-26 de junio, 4-6 de noviembre

**214-544-CARE • 972-679-4760 (español) • [racheldallas.org](http://racheldallas.org)**



**July 29 - August 2**

University of Dallas, Irving

**Registration Deadline: July 22**

[prolifedallas.org/bootcamp](http://prolifedallas.org/bootcamp)

For students entering grades 9 - 12 and ages 14 - 17  
Chaperones (21+) needed

Youth For Life Pro-Life Boot Camp:  
Total Pro-Life Immersion!  
Pro-Life Activism:  
Faith Without Works is Dead

#### **Main Speaker:**

**Former Abortion Provider and  
Pro-Life Activist Carol Everett**

**Music by: Joe Languell**

#### **Featured Activities:**

**Pro-Life Service Day, Sports Tournament &  
Sidewalk Counseling Training**

### **Your donation saves babies!**

Your 100 percent tax-deductible gift is critical to equipping the Catholic Pro-Life Committee to fulfill our unique mission in furthering the Gospel of Life in the Diocese of Dallas and beyond.

Every year we reach out to help an average of at least one mother each day to choose life instead of abortion — 543 chose life in 2010!

Using the enclosed envelope, please mail your gift to: CPLC, P.O. Box 59852, Dallas, TX 75229, or make a donation online at [www.prolifedallas.org](http://www.prolifedallas.org).

If you wish to support our mission with a special contribution such as a stock gift, a company matching grant, a monthly pledge, a willed gift, or other non-cash donation, please contact Director of Development Ellen Rossini at 972-571-8705.

Sign up for our weekly E-Alerts at:  
<http://www.prolifedallas.org/e-alert>

**Life Matters** is a publication of the Catholic Pro-Life Committee of North Texas, the Respect Life Ministry of the Diocese of Dallas.

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***Building a Culture of Life in North Texas***