

Life Matters

A publication of

Catholic Pro-Life Committee | Respect Life Ministry of the Diocese of Dallas

Inspiring a new *Pro-Life Generation*



What's inside ...

- It's an exciting time to stand together!
- Forging partnerships with new options for moms
- Meet the Bishop's Dinner Honorary Chairs
- Project Gabriel Mom shares her "GEMS Journey"
- Pictures of 2017 Roe Memorial Events

And more!



www.prolifedallas.org

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It's an exciting time to stand together for LIFE!

Becky Visosky, Executive Director
Catholic Pro-Life Committee

Dear Friends of Life,

I am so excited to write to you today as we begin a new year in our shared mission to protect life at every age and any stage. For those of you I have not had a chance to connect with yet, let me start by saying how honored I am by the opportunity to help lead this incredible organization with such a passionate and professional staff devoted to serving the most vulnerable among us each and every day. I am most grateful to those who have grown this organization from its humble beginnings, chief among them, Karen Garnett, our honorary Executive Director Emeritus.

The foundation of the CPLC has given us the fortitude to help steer remarkable advancements for the Cause of Life here in North Texas and beyond. We expect this year to be no different. While we face new challenges with the anticipated reopening of a third abortion facility in Dallas, we also have new opportunities with state and federal leaders who profess to share our pro-life commitment. We plan to hold them to their promises and challenge them to defend life from conception until natural death.

We began the effort this month as we marched together in downtown Dallas and Washington, D.C. **But this was just the first step.** The next step is **making our voices heard** throughout the legislative session. We are committed to keeping you updated with the most current information and means to connect with your legislators when critical issues are being debated – like the “No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act” being considered by Congress.

In addition to keeping our eyes on D.C., we will also be headed to Austin on April 4 for the bi-annual Catholic Faith in Action Advocacy Day. If you have not had a chance to be a part of this important event, I encourage you to visit cathdal.org/advocacyday to learn more. And whether you are a seasoned participant or new to Advocacy Day, we welcome everyone to the training on February 11 at St. Michael in Garland at 12:30 p.m. We expect this legislative session will present several critical opportunities to advance protections for life and family, including a ban on research on aborted fetal tissue, defunding abortion providers while funding alternative health resources, and increased reporting on abortions to help demonstrate what we already know – **women deserve better than abortion.** We will also advocate for much-needed conscience protections and for reform of the foster care system to encourage the loving option of adoption.

While there is a great deal of work ahead, there is also reason to celebrate! On **April 1, 2017**, we will welcome our new shepherd, **Bishop Edward Burns**, at our **24th Annual Bishop's Pro-Life Dinner**. I hope you can join us for this special evening featuring *national speaker and courageous cultural commentator Eric Metaxas*. Please visit prolifedallas.org/dinner to reserve your tickets today!

Grace and blessings to you and yours,

On the cover: Students for Life at North Texas March for Life

◆ Devoted to ending abortion and restoring respect for life ◆

Forging partnerships

Christ Child Luncheon celebrates new options for moms

Each year, we gather to open wide the doors of Advent at the Christ Child Market and Luncheon. Thanks to an amazing host committee, the event had many new facets this fall – a new venue, vendors and beneficiaries.

Shoppers enjoyed a market filled with beautiful gifts and décor. The luncheon followed with an inspiring and entertaining address by Fr. Edwin Leonard, sharing his own discernment journey and calling us to prayerfully open our hearts to discern God's call for each of us.

The luncheon culminated in a moving recognition of Project Gabriel mothers who were outstanding participants in our transformative education program, GEMS, and a special thank you to the woman who started this ministry in Dallas and has shared it with so many others, Patty Sherrod. After over twenty years of service for the Catholic Pro-Life Committee, Patty has now joined one of our new partners, Bella House.

Bella House and Mater Filius, beneficiaries of the Christ Child event, are new maternity homes in Dallas. They are an answer to many pro-life prayers, allowing the pregnant mothers CPLC serves to have a safe and supportive place to call home. We are excited to begin this next chapter in North Texas as our Gabriel Angels extend their loving outreach to mentor not only mothers served by our local pregnancy resource centers, but now these two wonderful homes as well. The Culture of Life in North Texas is growing, brick by brick, person by person, heart by heart.

Leading on life

2017 Bishop's Dinner Honorary Chairs Joe and Kathy Murphy

We are pleased to introduce Joe and Kathy Murphy as this year's Honorary Chairs for the 24th Annual Bishop's Pro-Life Dinner on April 1, 2017. Kathy and Joe are both from the Philadelphia area where they met and then married 48 years ago. They have lived in the Dallas area since 1977 and have four children and eight grandchildren. They are members of Our Lady of Angels parish in Allen.

The Murphys have been longtime supporters of the CPLC, annually contributing in memory of founding member Margaret Baillargeon. In addition to their pro-life activities, Kathy and Joe are involved in and support our Catholic students at the University of Dallas, where Joe serves as chairman of the Board of Trustees, as well as Our Lady of Perpetual Help School and Bishop Dunne Catholic School. They live and serve with the belief that “All Lives are a Gift from God.”



Thank You!

End-of-Year Appeal exceeds goal for life

Thank you to all who gave during our end-of-year appeal. We announced the unfortunate news of the anticipated reopening of Northpark abortion facility and our plans to be present on this new front line for the babies at risk and mothers and fathers in need. We looked to you to help us realize these plans. **And you answered!**

Thanks to your overwhelming generosity, we not only met but **exceeded our goal** for the appeal, raising over \$85,000 for our life-saving, life-changing ministries!

Please join us as we continue to **pray for the miraculous** that the facility will not open. But know that if it does, we will be there without fail because of you. **Thank you!**

Why I support the CPLC

“To be Catholic is to be pro-life. To be Catholic is to rejoice in families! To be Catholic is to heal hearts and to mend souls. To be Catholic is to help people understand that love does matter, that children are a blessing, and that motherhood and fatherhood are a gift from God. To be Catholic is to be pro-life! The Catholic Pro-Life Committee is here to heal, to protect and to provide for new families.”

– Father Jason Cargo
St. Joseph, Richardson

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 Becky Visosky, CPLC Executive Director, at 817-658-8701.

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Joe Marshall
Director of Operations
Aurora Tinajero
Director of Ministries and Multicultural Dept.
Patricia Vasquez
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Director: Eileen Kuhlmann
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Parish Coordination
Director: David Carr
Project Gabriel with GEMS
Director: Ingrid Meyer
Prayer Ministry
Director: Susan Platt
Speakers Bureau
Director: Sheree Havlik
Youth For Life
Director: Jacquelyn Smith

In her words

Project Gabriel Mom shares her “GEMS Journey”

Project Gabriel helped me when I was at my lowest. They gave me two wonderful angels that became part of my family. Joining the program changed my life because they helped me deal with my pregnancy; they gave me hope. The ladies there taught me how to stay optimistic and stop beating myself up, how to forgive myself, and how to deepen my faith.

I was born Catholic just like my mother and grandparents. It had been six months since I had gone to church. When I became pregnant, I didn't know what to do or where to go. My mother had agreed to help me, but I didn't have a clue what to do. My father finally forced me to have an abortion. I think it wasn't a coincidence that I chose the one next to the Project Gabriel office where I met Ingrid.

I was all alone in my apartment; my father had deserted me, and my mother was in the Congo. At that moment, God became my best friend. I would talk to Him every day, and He would answer in his own way. For example, I would wake up some days not knowing if I would have a decent meal. God never gave up on me.



“Going to GEMS classes and listening about how God loves me and my baby was the highlight of my life. It gave me hope that, by keeping my baby, I was doing the right thing. One of the classes that really touched me was the one about forgiveness. In Matthew 6:14 it is written “For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly father will also forgive you.”

The priest that came that day showed us that forgiving people and ourselves is for our own good. You have to forgive people in order to free yourself. I also learned to forgive myself and move on. I cannot start a new chapter in my life if I am stuck on what I did in the past. I should learn from my past mistakes.

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We also talked about self-respect. Making a mistake does not define who I am and does not give other people the right to humiliate me or walk all over me. God loves everybody especially the ones who redeem themselves. I know he forgave me and that he loves me.

On October 20, 2015, I gave birth to a healthy baby boy I named Gabriel. I named him like the angel because he is my little angel, the blessing that came out of all these hard times. I got to spend three amazing months taking care of him before he went to live in the Congo with my mother and grandparents while I finish school. That baby is my whole world; there is nothing that I wouldn't do for him.

Sometimes I just want to give everything up, pack up my bags and go back home, but then my mother reminds me of Gabriel. I want to finish school as fast as I can so that Gabriel can finally live with me. I am missing so much right now, like his first words, first steps or even his first birthday. I miss him so much, and I cannot wait to have him with me again. Everything that I do, every hardship that I endure is for my little man. I will forever be thankful to Project Gabriel. Through the program, I am working very hard in order to have a steady job and bring Gabriel here with me.

More about this ministry at prolifedallas.org/projectgabriel

Praying and marching for life

2017 Roe Memorial Mass and March for Life

It was a two-day grand slam for LIFE! Saint Monica and San Juan Diego welcomed nearly 2,000 people to celebrate Mass with Bishop Greg Kelly, Pastor Jesús Belmontes and many more priests and deacons in thanksgiving for the gift of life and remembrance of those lost to the culture of death. The next morning was a brisk one, but the rain stayed away as pray-ers stood vigil outside abortion facilities and marchers filled Dallas City Hall Plaza (Praise God!). The spirited dancing of the Matachines was the gathering call followed by the beautiful Procession of Roses with forty-four children, teens and adults. Then thousands took to the downtown streets to the Earle Cabell Federal Courthouse for a rally of great music, inspirational speeches and a final solemn prayer as the roses were laid at the courthouse.



Bishop Kelly with Couples for Christ at St. Monica



Mass at San Juan Diego



Procession of Roses at City Hall



Bishop Lynch students and Knights lead the March



Powerhouse speakers and sponsors gather before rally



Choosing LIFE together!

Honors

In Honor of:

40 Days for Life volunteers
 An end to abortion and respect for human life
 Cheron Adams
 Father Anibal Adorno
 Father Americo
 Avery
 Miguel Caballero Ayala
 Lost Schauf babies
 All aborted babies and parents of babies
 White Rose Babies
 All babies never born
 Babies, moms, dads and extended families
 All babies
 William Robert Beardslee II
 Yvonne G. Breen
 Brenda
 Jan Brotherman
 Kathleen Burkhardt
 BVM
 For the love of my grandchildren
 Father Tim Church
 Damien Cook
 Michael Cook
 David — fighting Planned Parenthood
 Pro-life families
 My family
 Alison Ferren
 Father George Foley
 Evelyn Grace Friedman
 God and our Blessed Mother
 God who gave us two kids
 Macaria Gonzales
 Good Shepherd
 Kendall Harrel
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Heidenreich

Given by:

Scott and Kate Morrison
 Julianne Frost
 Camille Hebert
 Jesus and Elida Adrian
 Jesus and Elida Adrian
 Sal and Adriana Liberto
 Miguel and Kathryn Caballero
 Dave Schauf
 Julianne Frost
 Kenneth and Gloria Streit
 Marcela Alvarado
 Robert and Carol Baca
 Terrie Nolan
 William and Sally Beardslee
 Walter and Yvonne Breen
 Gonzalo Romero
 Tom and Terry McDowell
 John and Donna Burkhardt
 Chet and Elizabeth Geniusz
 John and Carla Chandler
 Scott and Cynthia McKenna
 Quinn and Barbie Cook
 Quinn and Barbie Cook
 Margaret Coty
 Robert and Carol Baca
 Robert and Rosemary Patrick
 Terence and Nancy Murphy
 Gordon and Sally Collie
 Betty Moberly
 Coco Sanchez
 Marilyn John
 Raul and Cecilia Rangel
 Jesus and Elida Adrian
 Rose Arceneaux
 Dale Heidenreich

In Honor of:

Julie
 Bishop Greg Kelly
 Our Lady of Fatima
 In Honor of Life!
 Mary, Most Holy
 Matthew
 Chris and Amy Maurer and Family
 Lucia Morales-Caballero
 My birthmother
 All mothers choosing life
 Mothers, fathers and babies
 Wade Olson
 Parents
 Concepcion y Rosa
 Patrick, Maria and Cecilia
 Joe and Rebeca Peterman
 Dan Polcari
 Pope Francis, Priests, Brothers and Sisters
 Priests of St. Jude Catholic Church
 Bill Ptacek
 Irene Rangel
 Roger J. Scott, Jr.
 Fr. Andrew Semler
 Cathy Setrak
 Sidewalk counselors
 Sidewalk counselors
 Sidewalk counselors
 Sidewalk counselors
 Victoria Tanco
 Fr. Tim Thompson
 Jack and Susan Towle
 Donald J. Trump
 All of the unborn
 Unborn with disabilities
 Fr. Josef Vollmer-König
 Gabriel Weinstein
 Brice Weinstein

Given by:

Dixie Sweeney
 Jose and Carmen Moreno
 Jose and Carmen Moreno
 David and Karen Hales
 Joseph Revesz
 Chuck and Teri Mancuso
 Michael and Jyl Martel
 Miguel and Kathryn Caballero
 Kathie Mallard
 Frances Trojacek
 John and Patricia Kishpaugh
 Quinn and Barbie Cook
 James and Linda O'Malley
 Juan Castro
 Dr. Brian and Kelly Deville
 Teresa Peterman
 Anna Polcari
 Mrs. Teresa Ferrara
 Philip and Randy LaRose
 Karen Ptacek
 Raul and Cecilia Rangel
 Joanna North
 Jose and Carmen Moreno
 John and Donna Burkhardt
 Jesus and Elida Adrian
 Joseph and Mary Borchart
 Robert and Carol Baca
 Eddie and Karen Garnett
 Chris and Victoria Tanco
 Quinn and Barbie Cook
 John and Donna Burkhardt
 John and Donna Burkhardt
 Joshua Atria
 Mrs. Teresa Ferrara
 Christopher and Danette Volkmer
 Miguel and Kathryn Caballero
 Miguel and Kathryn Caballero

In Memory of:

Joe Adams
 Estefana Alonso
 Fermin Alonso
 Carlos Amador
 Mother Anne Christine
 Jesus M. Jose Falcon Ayala
 Unborn babies
 Down Syndrome aborted babies
 All babies lost to abortion
 Aborted babies
 All babies
 Millions of sacrificed babies
 Our baby we lost in the womb
 Margaret Baillargeon
 Margaret Baillargeon
 Kenneth Richard Becket
 Mary Rose Bednarz
 Joseph Bevilacqua
 Ellen Lucille and Floyd Bradshaw
 Joe and Arline Brody
 My brother
 Carolyn Meredith Brown
 George Brummitt
 Joe L. and Faye A. Buford
 Mother Celine
 Nancy Chew
 Nancy Chew
 Children lost
 Dean Oliver Clarke
 Diane Cook
 Leslie Cook
 Joann Corey
 Patrick and Anna Cuddigan
 Fallen Dallas police and their families
 Sally Deese
 Christine Thorpe Dennison
 Mrs. and Mrs. Frank Draxinger
 Tom Eberhart
 Jesus Esparza
 Barbara Falcon
 Deceased of Jex and Baltitas families
 Zuzanna Fennell
 Zuzanna Fennell
 Zuzanna Fennell
 Zuzanna Fennell
 Zuzanna Fennell
 Judith Lynn Fontenot
 Pascual Frias
 Julien Frost
 George Fuentes
 Peggy Fulbright
 Lorraine Galley
 Mr. and Mrs. Carmon Georgia
 Julia Gonzalez
 Michael Gonzalez
 Grandchild
 My grandparents
 Maria Rosell Gutierrez

Given by:

Quinn and Barbie Cook
 Jesus and Elida Adrian
 Jesus and Elida Adrian
 Juan and Carmen Amador
 Discalced Carmelite Nuns/
 Mother Juanita Marie
 Evangelina Ayala
 Margaret Coty
 Mrs. Teresa Ferrara
 Mariano Garcia
 Terrie Nolan
 Robert and Rosemary Patrick
 Kenneth and Gloria Streit
 Marilyn John
 Terry and Mary Dawes
 Joseph and Kathleen Murphy
 Robert and Carol Baca
 Larry and Linda Bednarz
 Frances Bevilacqua
 Robert and Carol Baca
 Sharon Alberque
 Chet and Elizabeth Geniusz
 Walter and Yvonne Breen
 Quinn and Barbie Cook
 Cassandra Buford-Houlihan
 Discalced Carmelite Nuns/
 Mother Juanita Marie
 Kevin and Kristin Bull
 Marvin and Leah Cannon
 Dr. Cristina Valdez
 Dr. Carlton and Phyllis Clarke
 Quinn and Barbie Cook
 Quinn and Barbie Cook
 Linda Battey
 Robert and Carol Baca
 Francisco Vaca Rojas
 Robert and Mary Criswell
 Jeff and Cathy Marchino
 Dale Heidenreich
 Kathy Eberhart
 Jesus and Elida Adrian
 Daniel and Donelle Hamilton
 Eileen Jex
 Jim Fennell
 Gary and Doris Kruse
 Betty Lutz
 Jose and Carmen Moreno
 William and Virginia Russ
 Reed and Donna Fontenot
 Juan Castro
 Julianne Frost
 Mrs. Annie Fuentes
 Edward and Patty Fullbright
 Harry and Deborah Freeman
 Glenn and Eileen Georgia
 David and Irma Gonzalez
 Luis and Gladys Gonzalez
 Herbert Hundt
 Robert and Carol Baca
 Maria Kruseman

In Memory of:

Daniel Hadbavny
 Bobby Hamilton
 Mary Helen Harman
 Virginia Haro
 Eva Herrera
 Mr. and Mrs. M. Hesseand
 Hank Hutchings
 Miguel y Victoria Ibarra Ibarra
 Patricia Jaminet
 Edward and Joan Kelly
 Marie and Richard King
 Jack Kispough
 Bernard (Bear) Langwell
 Hazel Jeanette Lawson
 Marcelle Lederer
 Daniel Leon
 Robert and Mary Little
 Ernest T. Lopez
 Losey and Rico X
 Jorge Lopez Magana
 Jackie Markwald
 Susan McCready-Barnes
 Dianne McDowell
 Gail McKenna
 Patrick McKenna
 Fr. McNelis
 Bertha Morales
 Apolonio Moreno
 Grandson Angel Moreno
 Gloria Morris
 Dawn Ann Murphy
 Jeff Nelson
 Birthmother, Netty
 Rios Niebla
 My parents who adopted me
 Deceased parents
 Paul, Marcella, Betty and Ken
 Aurelia Perez
 Jonathan Petrin
 Lillian Reinart
 Jimmy Rosewood
 Gertrudis (Tules) Saenz
 Grace Sambrano
 Joyce Sandras
 Forest and Viola Schauf
 Bill Schraufnagel
 Arden Smith
 Souls in Purgatory
 Harold Francesco Sparks
 Isabelle Swirlzynski
 Rita Szatkowski
 Mother Teresa of Calcutta
 Charles Thoman
 Unborn
 Virgina Vaughn
 Maurizio Giovana Velasquez
 Nicolas Villalobos
 Grandchild Tyler James Weston
 Ivo Wilwerding

Given by:

Harry and Deborah Freeman
 Jesus and Elida Adrian
 Mary Ann Harman
 Dr. Cristina Valdez
 Raul and Cecilia Rangel
 Glenn and Eileen Georgia
 Henry Hutchings
 Carmen Wilson
 Kim and Jeanne Frazier
 Richard Kelly
 Steven and Theresa King
 John and Patricia Kishpaugh
 Tom and Terry McDowell
 Dr. Larry Lawson
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 Alicia Gonzalez
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 Michael and Laney Sherburne
 Michael and Laney Sherburne
 Judge Pat McDowell
 Scott and Cynthia McKenna
 Patrick McKenna
 Mrs. Teresa Ferrara
 Miguel and Kathryn Caballero
 Jesus and Elida Adrian
 Jose and Carmen Moreno
 George and Barbara Woodroof
 Leo Murphy
 Marguerite Nelson
 Ann Herman
 Carmen Wilson
 Kathie Mallard
 Loretta Schraufnagel
 Kenneth and Evelyn Melvin
 Raul and Cecilia Rangel
 Caroline Petrin
 John and Cheryl Felderhoff
 Nancy Minchillo
 David and Irma Gonzalez
 Kristina Hennessy
 Michael and Laney Sherburne
 Dave Schauf
 Loretta Schraufnagel
 Jeffrey and Renee Smith
 Raul and Cecilia Rangel
 Veronica Sparks
 Alice Fly
 Paul and Karin Szatkowski
 Mrs. Annie Fuentes
 Paul and Karin Szatkowski
 Mary Noon
 Jesus and Elida Adrian
 Veronica Sparks
 Jesus and Elida Adrian
 James and Eileen Finkeneller
 Donald and Carol Eagle

Thanksgivings

Given by:

Giving thanks and honor to God for the precious gift of Life!

In Thanksgiving for:

Juan Castro

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 daily Mass for CPLC intentions. We also notify the recipient of your generosity at your request. You may support our ministries today at prolifedallas.org/donate. Thank you!



24TH ANNUAL
BISHOP'S PRO-LIFE DINNER
 APRIL 1, 2017 | OMNI DALLAS HOTEL
 WITH **ERIC METAXAS**
 National Prayer Breakfast keynote speaker
 National March for Life featured speaker
 Best-selling author and radio host


Make reservations today at www.prolifedallas.org/dinner

Catholic Faith in Action Advocacy Day
 April 4, 2017 Texas State Capitol



Advocacy Training Session
 February 11 at 12:30 p.m.
 St. Michael in Garland

www.cathdal.org/advocacyday




**Do No Harm
 Conference Series**
*for healthcare and
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Examination of End-of-Life Issues
 September 23, 2017 | University of Dallas
 with
Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D.

www.donoharmconference.org

**Pro-Life
 Stations of the Cross**
 April 14 · 12 noon
 Southwestern
 abortion facility *in English*
 Planned Parenthood
 abortion facility *in Spanish*



www.prolifedallas.org/calendar



**2017 Youth For Life
 Pro-Life Boot Camp**
July 28 – August 1
 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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