



# St. Michael's Pro-Life Times

"Life is everybody's business."



Garland, Texas  
Diocese of Dallas, Texas

May 2013

DEFENDING LIFE  
FROM WOMB TO TOMB

## It's Not Just About Abortion

### *Euthanasia, End-of-Life Issues Deserve Attention Too*

As Catholics, we know that life is not disposable. When a human being grows old, she is not tossed out with the breakfast garbage or put to sleep like the family dog. Each person has an inherent dignity, and must be treated with respect and love.

Euthanasia and assisted suicide are two ways that the Culture of Death uses in a misguided attempt to always avoid suffering at any cost. They argue for a "right to die," so that a person doesn't become a burden to their family or a drain on savings. But, as the U. S. Bishops say in *To Live Each Day with Dignity*, "When we grow old or sick, and we are tempted to lose heart, we should be surrounded by people who ask, 'How can I help?'"

When we grow old or sick, and we are tempted to lose heart, we should be surrounded by people who ask, 'How can I help?'"

Too often, the "right to die" will become the "responsibility to die," and those who live to the natural end of their lives will be viewed as "selfish" or "unproductive." It is not too far a leap to suppose that a new type of "forced retirement" may soon be upon us.

The Church does not oppose easing the pain of the dying. She doesn't seek to prolong life through unnatural and unnecessary means.



*Respect the life of every human being, born or unborn, young or old, sick or well--every human being. The Culture of Death seeks to dispose of those who are not viewed as worthy of life.*

Rather, she holds that dying naturally is a vital part of life's journey, and in some ways, the most meaningful part. To think otherwise is to corrode the general culture, to shame the elderly, sick and infirm, and to invite abuses against them.

Life is a precious gift at any point and always worthy of defense.

We recommend *How to Defend the Faith without Raising your Voice* by Austen Ivereigh for further study.

A GENTLE REMINDER

### *Bring Back Your Full Baby Banks*

Have you filled up your Baby Bank yet? Those little cans make a big difference when it comes to helping support the choice for life! If you've already brought it back, thank you! If not, you still have time to fill it up! And don't worry...

We have more if you need one!

## COMING ACTIVITIES in May

St. Michael's Pro-Life Meeting.....	Thursday, May 2nd
Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat (in English).....	Weekend of May 3rd-5th
Walk for Life.....	Saturday, May 11th
Vigil Prayer Rosary.....	Saturday, May 18th
Pray for Life.....	Every Single Day

## SB 303, the Texas Advance Directives Act, Passes Senate

*Texas Catholic Bishops support end-of-life care reform legislation*

The Texas Advance Directives Act, also known as SB 303, has cleared the first hurdle in its way to becoming law, passing the Texas Senate by a vote of 24 to 6.

The Texas Catholic Conference urges all Texas Catholics to support this bill, as there has been some confusion about what it contains.

In a sharply worded letter, the Bishops have stated that the legislation "prevents unilateral Do Not Resuscitate Orders (DNRs), improves communication between medical providers and families, ensures a clear and balanced process for resolving differences, and gives families the right to challenge DNRs before a medical ethics committee."

Please contact your State Representative and the Governor's office to urge their support for making this bill into law.

*SOME CHANGES TO CURRENT LAW THAT SB 303 WILL MAKE:*

- \* Prevents secret DNAR orders ("Do Not Attempt Resuscitation"). Current law allows doctors to order DNARs without even notifying the patient or family.
- \* Prevents the involuntary denial of food and water, except in extreme circumstances when the treatment would harm the patient or hasten his or her death.
- \* Increases the time of the dispute resolution process from 12 to 28 days when a family and patient disagree about appropriate end of life care.
- \* Significantly limits the class of patients to whom the dispute resolution process can be applied.
- \* Requires doctors and hospitals to treat all patients "equally without regard to permanent physical or mental disabilities, age, gender, religion, ethnic background, or financial or insurance status."

## Gosnell Documentary to Air on FOX News

*First hard look yet from the media*

On Friday night, May 3 at 8 p.m. local time, Fox News will air *See No Evil – The Kermit Gosnell Murders*, a one-hour documentary that will be the most in-depth coverage the "house of horrors" murder trial has received so far. Other major news networks have ignored it for the most part due to an admitted inherent, pro-abortion bias.

Gosnell, an abortionist who had performed abortions since the early 1970s, is charged with murdering four newborn babies by snipping their spinal column with scissors as a form of "abortion." The judge in the case has dropped three other murder charges.

He faces another third-degree murder charge for the death of a 41-year-old immigrant from Bhutan who died after receiving anesthesia from an untrained assistant. Gosnell's trial may be over before the documentary airs,



as his lawyer, Jack Mahon, rested the defense without calling a single witness, not even Gosnell himself. St. Michael's Pro-Life Committee calls on all parishioners to pray for the conversion of this sad man and all others in his profession.

*Please pray for this man's soul. He really, really needs it.*

## PRO-LIFER OF THE MONTH



### Mary Ann Harman

Mary Ann, a long-time parishioner of St. Michael in Garland, is active in pro-life causes and women's political groups, keeping us abreast of bills that concern life. She's been the Secretary of our own Pro-Life Committee for two years, making sure that you get Pro-Life news through announcements and in the Sunday bulletin. God bless you, Mary Ann!

## Prayer Vigil Map

Southwestern late-term abortion facility is located at 8616 Greenville Avenue. The closest major intersection is Royal Lane & Greenville Avenue. The closest major highway is US-75. The best place to park is on *Boundbrook Avenue*, the first side street north of Greenville and Royal, across the street from the office complex or *in the parking lot of the Gaston Oaks Baptist Church*, 8515 Greenville Ave. Join us on the third Saturday of each month to pray and offer faithful witness. The babies will thank you for it!



# LIFE: IF NECESSARY, USE WORDS

*The Holy Spirit will tell you what to say to the Culture of Death*

by Reg Platt

At a recent pro-life event, I actually heard Christians say, "These pro-aborts must be stupid to believe that." I see three issues with that statement.

1. Pro-abortionists are not any more, or less, stupid than we are;
2. They are only, at best, very wrong; and
3. We are called to have a Christian attitude.

When you talk to abortion supporters (and *yes*, you should talk to them and speak the truth), there are things you must remember.

Listen to their arguments. More importantly, make the personal contact of listening to *them*. Unless you know what it is that they are saying, you have no way to counter it. And without the respect you show by really listening, you are just spewing bullet points, and they will spew right back until you're both out of ammunition.

Know that they are sincere in their belief. Many who support abortion think they are coming from a position of compassion. Don't assume malice on their part unless it is directly stated and even then do not take that bait. If they seek to engage you at an emotional level, let the emotion you respond with be love.

Do not accept the framework of competing rights, of "choice" versus "life." Make it about helping women in difficult situations, offering support for both mother and child. Don't try to "win." Like St. Bernadette, we are asked to tell them, not convince them. The Holy Spirit will do that with the seeds that we plant.



*Trust the Holy Spirit at times like this.*

*"Like St. Bernadette, we are asked to tell them, not convince them."*

And let them do all the name calling.

If they tell you that you're "trying to impose your religion" on them, don't let them change the subject like that. Gently and kindly remind them that it's an observable, scientific fact, that life begins in the womb.

They don't even have to believe in God to know that.

If they cite rape or incest, agree that those things are horrible and say nothing that seems

to defend either of these crimes. But remind them that less than 2% of abortions are for those reasons, and that in any case, the child is innocent of them.

Simple human rights demand that the innocent must not be punished for something they did not do.

If they bring up the child abuse scandal, agree that those were terrible crimes, and say that the Church condemns them and the cover-ups, that the guilty should be punished and given a chance to repent, that the Church seeks to protect the innocent from *all* evil, and that this isn't what we were talking about, anyway.

If they are hateful, vicious, spiteful and just will not listen, shake the dust from your sandals and head to the next town.

Tell the truth in love to everyone who will listen. Armed with Truth, plain and simple, we can carry the day.

Reg Platt is a parishioner and President of the St. Michael Pro-Life Committee. He can be reached at 214-392-4095 or [ProLifeCentral@aol.com](mailto:ProLifeCentral@aol.com).

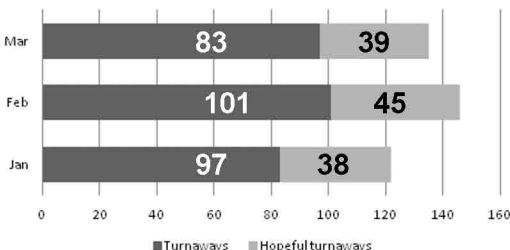
## WHY ARE WE OUT THERE?

They say it's supposed to be about choice, but too many women go into these abortion clinics because they feel that they have *no* choice. CPLC's Sidewalk Counselors reach out to the women who don't really want to be there, who know that it's a bad choice. In 2013 so far, **403** pregnant mothers have turned away from death, **281** deciding definitely to keep their baby.

The Counselors are trained for it, but you can be there praying for them.

Be a Prayer Warrior. They need you.

### Saves at the 5 Local Abortion Centers



Data provided by Convert to Life Ministry of CPLC.

## A Prayer for Life

*O God, pour out Your Grace upon our world.  
Help us to recognize the value of all Life,  
from conception to natural death.  
Guide us to protect the helpless,  
to comfort those who suffer,  
and to calm those who despair.  
Teach us to appreciate the gift of Life.  
This we ask through Jesus' name.  
Amen.*

Abortion hurts.



We can help.

214-544-CARE or

972-679-4760 (en Espanol)

[www.racheldallas.org](http://www.racheldallas.org)

## -FYI-

THE 20TH  
ANNUAL  
BISHOP'S  
CATHOLIC  
PRO-LIFE  
DINNER

had over 2,000  
attendees and  
and  
raised \$635,000

For more details, go to  
the Catholic Pro-Life  
Committee website at  
[www.prolifedallas.org](http://www.prolifedallas.org)

**St. Michael's Pro-Life Committee**

meets on the **first Thursday**  
of every month except July.

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS ON:**

**May 2, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.**  
in Room 140

We pray at the Southwestern late term  
abortion clinic on  
the **third Saturday** of each month.

**OUR NEXT VIGIL IS ON:**

**May 18, 2013 after 8:00 a.m Mass**  
at the corner of  
Greenville Avenue & Royal Lane  
(see inside for map)

## IN MEMORIUM

Moses Alphonsus Kukla  
and

Nathan Pio Kukla

April 23, 2013

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O  
Lord, and let perpetual light shine  
upon them. May their souls and all  
the souls of the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God,  
rest in peace.  
Amen.*

St. Michael's - Garland



**Letting in the Holy  
Spirit since 33 A.D.**

St. Michael's Pro-Life Times

is published monthly by

**ST. MICHAEL'S  
PRO-LIFE COMMITTEE**

Reg Platt  
President

Bill Brandon  
Vice President

Mary Ann Harman  
Secretary

Tom Clark  
Treasurer

Teresa Kleineck  
Volunteer Coordinator

Mary Hennigan  
Pro-Life Bulletin Board