

# Right to Life Association of Mississauga and Area (Mississauga-Brampton)



All human beings, from the moment of conception, have the right to life, the basic right on which all others depend

# President's Message

Dear Pro-life friends:

I am humbled and honoured to have accepted the position of President of Right to Life – Mississauga/Brampton this past spring. On behalf of your new Board of Directors, I want to express my profound gratitude to those dedicated warriors for life that have served this organization since its inception back in 1978.

Their tireless commitment to be a voice for the voiceless and to keep the torch burning in our community will continue to inspire us as we move forward. To that end, we begin a very exciting year of Pro-life activity, kicking off as usual with Life Chain. Simultaneously, the 40 Days For Life campaign is underway. Our goal is to increase participation in these direct prayer initiatives and, to do this, we need your help.

Other goals have been set by the Board of Directors which include:

- increasing our membership (please join or renew and consider organizing a drive in your Church)
- working with the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board and our parish youth ministers to engage our students
- reaching out and educating our community about the life issues using social media

So say some prayers asking God to help us in our pro-life endeavours. Please ask yourself if you are being called to increase your involvement in building up the Culture of Life.

Respectfully, Genevieve Carson

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# **Dates to Remember**

Event	Date	Location
Euthanasia 101 Alex Schadenberg	November 27, 2014	St. Joseph's Church
Euthanasia Prevention Coalition		Mississauga
March for Life	May 7, 2015	Ottawa
March for Life Candlelight Vigil	May 7, 2015	Ottawa
Launch of Mississauga and Area RighttoLife Web-Site	November 1, 2014  RIGHT TO LIFE MISSISSAUGA BRAMPTON  Breating & Separating to Digital of All Harmen Life  Mark Mood Coulter Mark Market Marketon M	

Mississauga and Area Right to Life seeks to re-invigorate and grow its membership across a broad body of age groups and backgrounds and in doing so seek to educate members and the public at large, expose injustices and reveal the truth surrounding the victims of abortion

# **Your RTL Leadership Team**

#### **PRESIDENT**

Genevieve Carson

#### **VICE-PRESIDENT**

Rhonda Wood

#### **SECRETARY**

Ann Cavallin

#### **TREASURER**

Barry Braun

#### **NEWSLETTER**

Anne Braun/Clare Hansford

#### PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Genevieve Carson (Acting)

#### **COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR**

Ria Manansala

#### MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Marlene Lobo

#### **YOUTH ADVOCATE & LIAISON**

**Emily Nail** 

#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LIAISON

Mike Hessing

#### **CWL LIAISON**

(Open)

#### **ADVISOR**

Clare Hansford

#### **BRAMPTON LIAISON**

Liz Rybka

It is with a renewed sense of purpose that the Right To Life Association of Mississauga and Area sets out its goals and objectives for the coming year.

#### Goals

- Increase membership across all age groups and backgrounds
- Educate public at large on the issues, injustices and truths regarding abortion
- Build and strengthen advocates in area Parishes and schools
- Build knowledge and awareness on key issues
- Leverage technology to reach a larger and broader audience

## **Objectives**

- Increase membership across all age groups by the end of fiscal year 2015 to 500 members
- Double funding revenue by fiscal year 2015
- Fill all key positions on the Executive
- Establish contacts with all area youth groups
- Implement web-site and social media sites
- Establish relationships with all area KofC/CWL groups
- Establish contacts with all Parishes
- Establish Pro-Life Groups within all Parishes
- Establish contacts with Campus Life Network in Universities
- Participate in and sponsor key events and activities

# **Membership Update**



2014 Membership renewals have reached 70%. If you have not done so already, please send your 2014 renewal as soon as possible, or send it along with your 2015 renewal.

We would like to have everyone renew their membership for 2015 in order for the Association to continue to do the work of educating the public on Pro-life issues. Membership is \$25 per family, \$15 per individual, and free for all youth plus College and University students. Contact the RTL Association of Mississauga and Area at righttolifemb@gmail.com or 416-888-0251.

## **Pastor's Corner**



In each Newsletter, our Parish Priests are invited to share their thoughts on Right to Life Issues. In this Issue, Fr. Liborio Amaral (St. Mary's Parish in Brampton) offers his insights as he invites others to join him in the Life Chain.

# From the Desk of Fr. Liborio Amaral 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

"There are people in this parish who may have had an abortion, or know a family member who had an abortion. They may find this reflection difficult to read. It is not my intention to condemn anyone. God is merciful, forgiving and embraces all repentant sinners no matter what they have done, as He showed us in the story of the Prodigal Son.

As Mother Teresa stated: "The greatest destroyer of love and peace is abortion, which is war against the child... Any country that accepts abortion is not teaching its people to love, but to use any violence to get what they want." This *truth* was spoken by a saint. And in the world we live in, this *truth* is often denied and suppressed. It is a *truth* that many people push to have silenced. As Canadians we often identify Canada as, "this great country of ours". But is it really "great" when the most vulnerable in our society are unprotected? Amidst the many good things that we can say about Canada – it is sad that we also live in the same country where human life in the womb is not protected by our laws – as it now stands, a life is not considered human until it is fully outside the womb of the mother. This means that a life is not "human" and can be aborted a few minutes before the actual birth.

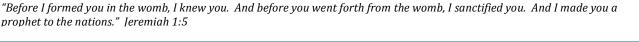
As Christians, we know that the bible supports the sacredness of all life, even in the protective womb of the mother. To be a supporter of abortion (or a supporter of the mistaken belief in a woman's right to do as she pleases with the life in her) is to deny Sacred Scriptures, which is God's Word. This is difficult for some people to hear. But we must proclaim the *truth* even when persons in society attempt to blur or deflect this *truth*.

How sad it is that we live in a country like Canada, where our democratic system is not fully allowed to exist – we have a Prime Minister who refuses to allow the issue of abortion to be debated in parliament (this is very dictatorial and not democratic) and an opposing party that does not allow its members to even hold a contrary view to its leader's and policy makers (as our Archbishop Thomas Cardinal Collins wrote in an open letter to this party's leader - "It is worth noting that if Pope Francis, as a young man, instead of seeking to serve in the priesthood in Argentina, had moved to Canada and sought to serve in the noble vocation of politics, he would have been ineligible to be a candidate for your party, if your policy were in effect.")

Life is sacred from the very moment of conception. This means that all conception of life is sacred even in the extreme case of rape. This is why Fr. Augustine, Fr. Josue, Fr. Liborio Tavares and I, will be standing on Main Street this Sunday afternoon from 2:00-3:00p.m. with placards in hand, silently witnessing to the one's who are not able to defend themselves.

Let us pray that our country can be "great" and respect all life. Remember to thank your birth mother for saying "yes" to your life. And remember to ask God to help you proclaim this truth.

Blessings, Fr. Liborio Amaral (Thankful son of Maria de Gloria Cunha Tevares)"





### **Pro-Life Events for 2014**



# National American Outreach Director for 40 Days for Life Visits St. Joseph's Church

On October 17, 2014, Steve Karlen, North American Outreach Director for 40 Days for Life, dropped in at St. Joseph's Church in Streetsville to connect with 40 Days for Life supporters and to update the local team on the efforts and impact of the movement around the world. Steve reminded us that 269 lives have been saved through campaigns this year alone, that we know of, and more than 9000 since the start of the program. Steve's passionate and moving accounts of efforts of both individuals and

groups reminded us that we all can save lives and change hearts by merely showing up to pray for all victims of abortion including would-be mothers.

Steve pointed out that two-thirds of all women are coerced into an abortion by family members and boyfriends. Amazingly, abortion visit "no-shows" spike to upwards of 75% during pro-life vigils, demonstrating the power of participation and the simple act of prayer. Steve encouraged the group to simply start asking like minded friends, relatives and neighbours to take the simple "plunge". As stated by one local Right to Life member in attendance, "if you can walk and pray at the same time, you're automatically an impact player capable of saving lives and initiating healing".



If you think you can't change hearts and save lives, only look to Abby Johnson, one of the staunchest supporters of the pro-choice abortion movement at the onset. Since that time Ms. Johnson's heart has been changed and she now is a vehement supporter of the pro-life movement.

To find out more about 40 Days for Life, go to <u>40daysforlife.com</u> and Right to Life Mississauga and Area at www.righttolifemb.com. Follow us on Twitter @righttolifemb.

#### Maria Campbell, Organizer for the Mississauga Life Chain



On Sunday, October 5th, Life Chain was attended by over 1,100 people who were witness to the truth about abortion. They stood along busy intersections in Mississauga and Brampton, silently praying and holding signs saying "Abortion Kills Children", "Abortion Hurts Women", and "Jesus Heals and Forgives". We would like to sincerely thank all those who devoted an hour to such a great cause. Tell your friends and neighbours about the great experience and have them join you next year.

# **Campaign for Life - Ottawa**



A group of pro-lifers received permission to place 100,000 blue and pink flags (representing the number of children lost every year to abortion) in front of Parliament Hill outside the fence.

They hoped the visual would be a powerful testament. The date was chosen to co-ordinate with Life Chain.



# From Our Youth Ministry



# **UTM Students for Life**

UTM (University of Toronto Mississauga) Students for Life is a brand new club on the University of Toronto Mississauga campus. Realizing that there was little to no Pro-life presence on campus we created a group of students who are interested in promoting a culture of life. We believe that university is a crucial stage in a young person's life to engage in conversations about abortion.

We are interested in educating members of the UTM community about Pro-life issues through a non-judgmental way. It is our aim to support students with Pro-life values and empower them in order to share the Pro-life message throughout our community. We also want to support members of our community who are in crisis pregnancies or who have suffered from abortion, as best as we can. We are excited to bring the Pro-life message to our UTM campus and hope to have a successful year!



## **Schedule of Pro-Life Masses**

Church	Date	Time
Sts. Martha & Mary	November 8 <sup>th</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> (2014)	All Masses
Merciful Redeemer	Sunday, December 14 <sup>th</sup> (2014)	11:30am
St. Francis Xavier Parish	Sunday, January 18 <sup>th</sup> (2015)	10:30am
St. John of the Cross Parish	Tuesday, February 17 <sup>th</sup> (2015)	9:00am
St. Patrick Parish	Sunday, March 8 <sup>th</sup> (2015)	10:00am
St. Christopher Parish	Wednesday, April 29 <sup>th</sup> (2015)	9:00am
St. Francis of Assisi Parish	Sunday, May 10 <sup>th</sup> (2015)	12:30pm
St. Joseph Parish	Saturday, June 20 <sup>th</sup> (2015)	5:30pm
St. Joseph Parish	Sunday, June 21 <sup>st</sup> (2015)	8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am, 12:30pm, 6:00pm



## **Christmas Cards**

Christmas cards will be available for sale for \$5.00 per package at the back of Mississauga and Area Parishes. Purchase these beautiful and tasteful cards and continue to support Prolife efforts. We are very grateful to all the buyers and sellers of our Christmas cards in all the past years.



# IN THE NEWS

# "Justice for the unborn – delayed and denied" By Mike Schouten and Andre Schutten

A tragic accident that claimed the lives of two children in London, Ont., this past summer has now been thrust into the national spotlight. On July 25, a vehicle driven by Ruth Burger crashed into a Costco, striking a young family. Addison Hall, six, died as a result of her injuries. Danah McKinnon-Bozek, who was eight months pregnant at the time, and her three-year old daughter Miah Bozek, were also injured. Danah was rushed to hospital for an emergency C-section, but her infant daughter died about a week following the accident.



Ms. Burger was initially charged with two counts of criminal negligence causing bodily harm, but only one count of criminal negligence causing death. Late last week, London police laid an additional charge of criminal negligence causing death, relating to the death of Ms. McKinnon-Bozek's infant Rhiannon.

The law is clear: Section 223(2) of the Criminal Code states that "a person commits homicide when he causes injury to a child before or during its birth as a result of which the child dies after becoming a human being:' This applies to the death of any child who could live outside the mother, even for a brief time.

Some are asking why the police didn't lay the charges earlier. Perhaps they were unaware the baby had been born alive. If baby Rhiannon had died moments before birth, no charges could have been laid. Maybe the police delayed because they felt the accused was already charged with enough. Or maybe politics played a role. None of that matters. What matters is that the police corrected their error.

The significance of this case will be felt nationwide. Canadians see that our current criminal law defies common sense and scientific fact. They know that it is absurd that had Rhiannon died mere moments before birth, the law

Andre Schutten is a lawyer with ARPA Canada. Mike Schouten is director for WeNeedaLAW.ca a public awareness campaign building support for abortion legislation

# Alliance for Life Ontario 2014 Reaching Minds Through Media Campaign By Jakki Jeffs

Three commercials will be used for the 2014 Reaching Minds Through Media Campaign.



The Campaign will begin on Monday, December 29<sup>th</sup> and go until Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>.

# Script for the commercial titled 'Vanished'

"Since 1969 over 3.5 million children have been aborted in Canada. More than the official populations of our provincial and national capital cities of Toronto and Ottawa combined.

While we know how these children disappeared we will never know what they had to offer. "

Jakki Jeffs is the Executive Director of Alliance for Life Ontario

# **Stories That Inspire Us**



## An anonymous letter left at the Church to the 40 Days for Life Mississauga participants

# "To: The Sign People

My friend had left me the use of her apartment as she was away..perfect because it was right there where the clinic was!

The next day I saw you people lining up with signs..I watched from the window every day and all day you were there! Different folks each time

I had this idea that abortion picketers were extremists..no "normal" person would do that sort of thing . Yet you did not look extreme ...more ordinary

Tuesday was my pre-procedure appointment Used the wrong entrance and had to walk past you...SO what i Thought..who cares..they don't know me or where I am going As I walked past(hurriedly) my legs felt like they weighed a ton ..what was going on? Are these people intimidating me ..do I need to feel ashamed as I walk past? The receptionist told me "to ignore them" when I asked about you

Every day I watched you. One day I thought for sure no one would be there ..weather forecast was calling for severe winds and rain. There in the afternoon amid strong winds which were blowing the signs over the head and onto the grass..you stood! Three or four together. All day

The next day I took a walk and followed you in the direction where everyone seemed to do. It was a church.. After everyone left, I went inside and saw all the signs, flyers. Impressive set up I thought.. they seem organized in their purpose.

On Friday was my scheduled appointment for the procedure. I was suddenly terrified of what was to be . My heart was almost beating out of my chest.

My boyfriend who had promised to come the day before did not show up to take me said he was tied up and ultimately it was my choice to have it that day or wait till next week. My choice but he's not there to hold my hand!! Lots of weighing pros and cons

Anyhow I want to let you know that I decided to keep my baby. The boyfriend is still a distance away but maybe he needs time to come around and see the big picture.

The reason I decided to leave this note is to tell you that what you did was good. I felt I owed it to you for all the days you stood in hope that others would take notice. I noticed and in turn it gave me hope that others I know would also care to stand for me

It's a crazy world we live in .. but some seem to know how to see the good in it

Thanks"

"Yes We Can..." change hearts and save lives!

# **EDUCATION**

### **Euthanasia 101**

What is Euthanasia exactly? Do you understand the rhetoric? What is before our Supreme Court? What do you need to know to make morally sound end-of-life directives? To answer these questions and more, join Guest Speaker Alex Schadenberg from the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition. This event is sponsored by St. Joseph's Church and Mississauga Right To Life.

Thursday, November 27<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm St. Joseph's Church 5440 Durie Rd., Streetsville



### **Additional Educational Web-Sites**







The Interim www.theinterim.com



RighttoLifeMB www.righttolifemb.com

## **Farewell**



We wish to thank our faithful members for their loyal support over the years and for giving us the opportunity to help educate the public on Pro-life issues. We are now moving forward!

At our last Annual General Meeting we were pleased to welcome a new executive for the Right to Life Association of Mississauga and Area which will now also include Brampton. This new executive is passionate, committed and energetic. We wish them well with both our prayers and support.

Past President,

Dr. Michael Barry on behalf of the former Board members







**CONTACT US**