



Helpers of God's Precious Infants

Msgr. Philip Reilly
% Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Moore
5720 63rd Street
Maspeth, NY 11378

<http://wwwhelpersny.org>
Email: hogpi303@gmail.com



Easter 2023

Greetings to all Helpers of God's Precious Infants throughout the world,

We would like to open this newsletter by reporting on the condition of Msgr. Reilly. Things have not changed much since our last newsletter; he is still resting comfortably at his place of residence. He continues his prayers for all Helpers and in particular for those who have requested his prayers, he watches the Mass on EWTN, receives Holy Communion every day, and prays his daily office. He is routinely visited by his family. Susan had a very nice visit with him right around St. Patrick's Day. His spirits are very good, and he wishes to thank all who have sent him cards and letters. He appreciates them very much. If anyone wishes to send him a card or a letter, please address it to: Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Moore, 57-20 63rd Street, Maspeth, New York 11378. We will be sure that Msgr. receives any correspondence sent to us.

Helpers Mourn Two Great Defenders of Life

On December 31, 2022, the Church and the world lost one of the outstanding voices for life when Pope Benedict XVI died. Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, before he became Pope Benedict XVI, had spoken out forcefully for the unborn since he was appointed Prefect of the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith in 1982 by Pope St. John Paul II. He made it clear that any Catholic who advocated publicly their support of abortion should not receive Holy Communion. He was keenly aware that all human rights begin in the womb, and if such was not the case, all other rights become meaningless. As Pope he continued to issue the call to protect all human life from conception to natural death, particularly his special Prayer Vigil for Nascent Life at the beginning of Advent in 2010. His support for life was very much appreciated by all pro-lifers and by Msgr. Reilly especially. Also in 2010, Pope Benedict convened The World Congress for Life at which Msgr. was invited to speak. Msgr. delivered three talks on this occasion, one exploring the roots of the culture of death and restoring a culture of life, the second on the Helpers approach to prayer and sidewalk counseling, and the third entitled "The Light Shrines in the Darkness and Must Continue to Do So." These talks along with others Msgr. had given over the years were later published in a volume called "The Compendium". There are still copies of "The Compendium" available, please contact us at hogpi303@gmail.com if you are interested in a copy. His talks were very well received, with Pope Benedict in attendance. In fact, at the conclusion of one of his talks Pope Benedict personally blessed a rosary and asked that it be given to Msgr. to use whenever he was praying in front of an abortion business. Msgr. has always treasured this rosary and still uses it to this day. We will greatly miss Pope Benedict and commend his soul to God most merciful. Not long after Pope Benedict's death came the news of the death of George Cardinal Pell of Australia on January 10, 2023. Cardinal Pell was also a very strong advocate for the unborn, many believing his conviction of sex abuse on false charges was linked to his unflinching support for life. Cardinal Pell was never afraid to point out and correct the "conventional wisdom" of his

day which ruffled many feathers especially in Australia. Msgr. Reilly had a history with Cardinal Pell as well, having met with the then Bishop Pell while travelling in Australia in the 1990s. Bishop Pell was very enthusiastic about the Helpers and helped establish a Helpers prayer group in Melbourne when he was Bishop there. The Melbourne group exists to this day and publishes their own newsletter. He had personally led many Helpers prayer vigils in Melbourne and later Sydney before he was called to Rome in 2014. He will be missed very much in his native Australia and by the universal Church. May he rest in peace.

Update on Disturbing Events

In our last newsletter we reported to you on Mark Houck, a dedicated sidewalk counselor and prayer who was arrested by the FBI for supposedly violating the FACE Act. His case was heard and a verdict of not guilty was returned in a matter of two days. Mr. Houck has now decided to sue the FBI for harassment. How was this preposterous case even brought before the bench? We cannot judge other's motivations, but it seems that the powers that be are wanting to send a chilling message to pro-lifers in this country. The case against the pro-lifers in Tennessee has not yet been adjudicated, but they are facing the same fines and jail time as Mr. Houck for the same type of actions. Considering that to date there have been only two arrests at the over 80 acts of vandalism at pro-life pregnancy centers and churches, it is hard to think otherwise. When questioned about this at a recent hearing Attorney General of the United States Merrick Garland stated that since most of the incidents of the arrest of pro-lifers happened during the day, it is much easier to identify and subsequently arrest. The vandalizations are done mostly at night, making it harder for the FBI to investigate. We find it hard to believe that Mr. Garland is unaware that cities in our time have streetlights and surveillance cameras are posted everywhere. His answer is not convincing to us. We urge all Helpers to use caution and be aware of their surroundings. Recently at the Personhood March for Life in Lower Manhattan, garbage was strewn in the streets in an attempt to prevent the marchers from reaching their destination. Fortunately, with the help of a strong police presence the marchers were able to accomplish their mission. A woman in England was recently prosecuted for praying by herself in private near an abortion facility. Britain has always prided itself on its protection of freedom of speech, but perhaps that protection may not apply to pro-lifers there. Freedom of Speech is specifically protected in the US Bill of Rights, but we do not want to see anyone arrested. Again, we ask that you use your judgement as some areas may be quite hostile to your presence.

Your Witness is Vital

If you knew that young children were being killed at this very moment, hundreds of children killed in schools, would not there be a huge outcry and the police and others rush in to help them? Would we not take every possible action to help them? Of course, we would. We have already seen laws changed and officials held accountable for the horrific school shootings that have happened far too often in our land. However, there is no such outcry over children killed

in the womb. In fact, in some quarters, it is seen as a positive good, “freeing” women to pursue their careers, continue their schooling, or any other pursuit they may want to undertake. We know otherwise. Abortion is the direct killing of a human person in the womb and should be treated as such. We know that there are a very small number of circumstances where the mother’s life is truly in danger and an abortion can be justified, but those circumstances are exceedingly rare. This is an evil act which can only be fought with spiritual weapons. This was Msgr. Reilly’s key insight which he brought to fruition in the 1980s. After travelling the country in the 1970s participating in many pro-life events including Operation Rescue and getting arrested more than once, Msgr. came to realize that these tactics were not having their intended effect. Instead, he saw that this is a spiritual battle of good vs. evil. We are not called to confrontation but to bring Jesus to those most in need of hearing His message. We recall seeing a crucifix Msgr. once had that had Jesus on the cross without arms or legs, with the caption “He needs your arms and your legs”. This sums up nicely what it means to be a Helper. By going to the modern-day Calvary, you are being Jesus’ arms and legs and bringing Him to where He most wants to be: to those who are being pressured to do something they know is wrong, those who feel hopeless, to those who are indifferent and think it no big deal, even to those performing or facilitating these evil acts. Even if you almost never see any positive results from your efforts, have the knowledge God is pleased with what you are doing, and that those killed did not die without love and prayer.

Schedule of Vigil Masses from May 2023 to December 2023

May 27, 2023 8:00 AM Mass	Our Lady of Sorrows 104-11 37 th Avenue, Queens	Women’s Health Care 8922 Roosevelt Ave, Queens
June 24, 2023 7:30 AM Mass	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary 88-19 Parsons Boulevard, Queens	Choices 147-32 Jamaica Avenue
July 2022	No Vigil	
August 26, 2023 8:00 AM Mass	Our Lady of Sorrows 104-11 37 th Avenue, Queens	Women’s Health Care 8922 Roosevelt Ave, Queens
September 16, 2023 7:30 AM Mass	St. Joan of Arc Jackson Heights, Queens	Women’s Care
October 28, 2023 7:30 AM Mass	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary 88-19 Parsons Boulevard, Queens	Choices 147-32 Jamaica Avenue
November 18, 2023 7:30 AM Mass	St. Mary’s LIC, 10-08 49 th Avenue, Queens	Planned Parenthood 21-41 45 th Road, Queens
December 23, 2023 8:00 AM Mass	Our Lady of Sorrows 104-11 37 th Avenue, Queens	Women’s Health Care 8922 Roosevelt Ave, Queens

News and Notes

We are very pleased to report that Fr. Peter Hesse, the priest from Ghana who is quickly becoming a very strong force for life there, has now over 30 women under his care and is expanding his operation day by day. Recently, a young woman from Ghana who was studying here in New York became pregnant and was considering abortion. Her parents were pressuring her to do so, but she came in contact with the Sisters of Life. She asked the Sisters if they knew anyone in Ghana that could help her keep her baby. The Sisters contacted Don Magnotta, a long time Helper and friend of Fr. Peter. Don arranged her flight to Ghana where she was met at the airport by Fr. Peter. She recently gave birth to a boy, and is very, very happy she did so. Her parents are now very happy to have a new grandson. We have never, ever heard of anyone being disappointed that they have chosen life. We very often hear of those who have regretted their abortion. The current 40 Days for Life campaign has concluded and over 300 babies have been saved that they know of. With more and more cities going to 365 Days for Life, this initiative is turning into something that Msgr. Reilly is very proud of. The organizers of 40 Days for Life visited Msgr. at the Monastery many years ago before they started this campaign and his advice and knowledge greatly helped get 40 Days for Life started. He did tell them that they needed to be for life for 365 days. There is a new lawsuit in the Texas courts asking that the abortion pill be banned due to the FDA not taking its usual procedures and trials before approving the drug misoprostol in 2000. Approval was rushed through by the FDA due to pressure by the Clinton Administration in the hopes that having an abortion pill available would end the protests and sidewalk counselling over abortion, as women would be able to dispose of their children in the privacy of their own home. This drug has proved harmful not only to the children it is intended to kill, but to many, many women as well. Please pray for a favorable outcome to this case. It is estimated that over half of all abortions are now conducted in this manner. We would greatly appreciate your prayers for Margaret Driscoll, a long-time sidewalk counselor at Choices when it was located in Long Island City. She was diagnosed with six cancerous tumors in her body, which are so large that the doctors are unwillingly to operate at this time. We recently saw Margaret and her husband Ben, as she flew to New York to venerate a relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis which is housed at Sacred Heart parish in Bayside, Queens. She is praying for a miracle. Her doctors are trying to shrink the tumors with chemotherapy and immunotherapy and do think that they can extend her life. We thank you in advance for your prayers. We are also asking for prayers for Dr. Melindja Thompson, a Helper from Albania, who is expecting a child soon and is in a high-risk pregnancy. We recently heard from Fred Tabulsi that the Life Center of New York, of which he is Executive Director has helped 4 women in Brooklyn to keep and raise their children. These 4 turnarounds were referred to the Life Center by Rose Diaz, who has been a faithful Helper in Brooklyn for over 25 years. In closing Msgr. Reilly and we would like to wish you many blessings in this Easter season and please know that you all remain in Msgr.'s prayers.

Yours for Life,

Susan and Kevin Moore