



CULTURE OF LIFE

April 2018
Quebec
Life
Coalition

Building a Christian society that defends faith, family, and the human person, from conception to natural death



The **National March for Life**, the yearly pilgrimage to Parliament Hill to speak up for the unborn child, is set for **Thursday, May 10, 2018**.

Pilgrims travel by chartered coach partaking in day-long activities consolidating their faith and learning about the pro-life movement.

An early start (7 a.m.) allows us to reach Ottawa in time to join one of several religious services.

Baptist, Anglican, and the Catholic communities have scheduled services, the latter offering four different ones in a variety of languages: French, English, Bilingual, and Latin.

Aboard the charter, aside from quiet time and organized prayers, a video will be shown.

2018 theme: PRO-LIFE – ALL IN. This theme encourages all persons to commit themselves to the movement by being ALL IN.

- **All in** to defend human life at all its stages.
- **All in** to speak the truth in the face of adversary.
- **All in** without exceptions, without excuses, without compromises.

Pregnant ? Need Help ? Call Toll-Free 1-855-871-4442

The logo (see below) depicts a smiling unborn child in a heart shaped womb, cradled by our loving hands.

At that state of their life, there is only love.

The hands symbolize the pro-life movement whose goal is to keep that child safe and surrounded by love from the time of conception until natural death.



Consider joining us for this day-long event. A low fee permits all to affordably ride with us. Several charters will make the day trip most enjoyable.

Call (514) 344-2686 for details.

“40 Days for Life” Prayer Vigil – A Review



This past Sunday, March 25, 2018, marked Day 40, the last day of the spring prayer vigil for the end of abortion.

The vigil location, the corner of St-Catherine and Berri Streets, is a high pedestrian traffic area with commuters, students, tourists, and the marginalized, all seen during our daily vigil.

The following summarizes the general themes of the 40-day public witness.

The Marginalized – Here I am referring to the poor, the homeless, and the drug-addicted. Over the course of the vigil, many of these, as in previous vigils, came to speak with us, many of whom we got to know on a first name basis. Some visited only once while others came more regularly, even staying to recite a rosary - Kenny. Also, our procession cross did not go unnoticed among these, as well as other persons, and a few even revering it. Others came seeking comfort or direct aid. Such times were apt moments to practice the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

The Tourists – Tourists frequently crossed the vigil site as the airport bus has drop off and pick up stops in this area and many hotels dot the area. A couple visiting from France expressed their awe as similar public expression of faith is illegal in their homeland.

The Students – The vigil is magnet attracting university students particularly as it is directly across the street from one of the four Montreal universities. The students we met were diverse – some wishing to engage in discussion or debate, others wishing to air their beliefs, and finally others simply wanting to vent their ire with our presence. **Another** student group was more organised, with weekly visits and bearing signs belying their knowledge of our beliefs and goals. For example, in reference to us one sign reads “Anti-Choice,” while a flyer distributed labelled us as “misogynists.”

The Commuters – Those passing us on a daily basis expressed a variety of views - encouragement, antagonism, or indifference. Among the first two groups, hasty comments were made as they hurried off. Now and then some would linger and an exchange would follow. A gentleman regularly brought me a cup of coffee on the more frigid days.

The Vigil’ers – **Finally**, we were blessed to have groups, in addition to individuals, visit and pray at our vigil location. Fr. Huang from the **Saint Irenaeus mission** came a Friday afternoon to lead the recitation of the Stations of the Cross and the ten or so who had accompanied him stayed a couple of hours reciting more prayers before moving to partaking in a shared meal and then going out to watch a movie.

A familiar group to our vigil is the **Eucharist for Life** prayer group. Between fifteen and twenty members came out a sunny Sunday afternoon for a couple of hours.

Commitment to Life – Two Stories

Former Abortionist Dr. Kathi Aultman Shares Her Story

When I entered medical school, I believed that the availability of abortion on demand was solely an issue of women's rights. I felt no more compassion for the fetus than I did for the chick embryos that I dissected in college.

I continued to do abortions without reservations even while pregnant. But after my delivery I made the connection between fetus and baby. The fact that the baby was unwanted was no longer enough justification for me to kill it and I could no longer do abortions.

My views also changed in my practice as I saw young women who did amazingly well after deciding to keep their unplanned pregnancies in contrast to those who were struggling with the emotional and physical aftermath of abortion. That is not what I was expecting and consistent with my feminist ideology. I don't believe that a woman can remain unscathed after killing her child. At some point, usually after childbirth or the inability to get pregnant, the realization of what she did hits her. It was not until after I had my first child that I regretted my own abortion.

We have convinced our young women that an unplanned pregnancy is the worst thing that can happen to them and that their right to reproductive freedom is more important than their baby's right to life.

Because we can't see who they will become, we feel justified in sacrificing babies in the womb for the convenience of the people we can see.

Baby Thea, 17 weeks early

On the day Thea was born, her mother, Amal, was terrified.

"I was so scared the morning I went into labor," she remembers. "Two years ago, I lost a child because I went into early labor. At 23 weeks my local hospital said my pregnancy was nonviable."

The memory is painful for Amal; she feared losing this child too. Baby Thea, however, had her own plans.

"I could feel Thea kicking me strongly," Amal says. "It was as if she was saying, 'Come on, mom! Let's go to Holy Family Hospital! (HFH)'"

Amal followed her instincts. Upon her arrival at HFH, she was rushed into surgery. Baby Thea emerged minutes later – alive, moving, but barely breathing. Doctors quickly connected her to a ventilator and placed her in an incubator.

Amal and her husband were overcome with relief to see their daughter alive. Still, they worried about how could they afford her long-term care.

Thanks to a special Baby Fund, HFH's social workers were able to secure financial assistance for Thea and her family.

After four months of NICU support, Thea was finally cleared to go home. Her parents, who have taken to calling Thea their "Little miracle," are overjoyed to have their family together at last.

Taken from "Journey to Bethlehem" newsletter, HFH.

Brave Mothers

We continue our **Brave Mothers** feature by profiling a few of the children of the mothers that we have come to meet and support in their decision not to abort their child. This month we introduce you to Jayson, the son of Céléna.

Jayson is the son of Céléna who gave birth to him a little over a year ago. QLC met her in September 2016. At the time she was adamant about aborting her child. A full course load, a long commute to and from the school daily, and weekend waitressing job to defray her expenses all conspired to pressure her with the decision. At this point we offer to help her financially and so she was able to stop working and focus better on relaxing, becoming a mother while continuing her studies. Her own mom also pitched in, both throughout the pregnancy and in the intervening time. Today, see below, we see the fruit of the efforts of all those involved. Praise God!



Next month we will introduce you to Nathan , an early arrival... by some four weeks, and whose mom was a resident at our pregnancy centre.

Prayer Intention – God is watching over **Yazmin** and her unborn child. One morning, I arrived at our offices to find her and her husband on our doorsteps, note in hand. As she only speaks Spanish, scribbled on a small sheet was word that she had come for an abortion. God thought otherwise. I invited them into the office and not knowing any Spanish, I called a Spanish speaking friend who gladly spoke with Yazmin. Some ten minutes later they exchanged phone nos. and agreed to meet over coffee to learn about her circumstances and how we can be help to mother and child. Your prayers are needed as a first attempt to meet with Yazmin was unsuccessful.

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