

Trouble for the Unborn at the UN



The Centre for Family and Human Rights is warning us of a recent United Nations appointment that undermines the fate of the unborn child and the health of women.

The September 2018 C-Fam newsletter notes the appointment of two-term Chilean President and abortion promoter Mrs. Michelle Bachelet to head the UN human rights office.

During her second term, in July 2017, Ms. Bachelet introduced legislation to legalize abortion permitting abortions under certain circumstances – rape, fetal disability, and threats to the life of the mother.

Until that time, Chile was one of only four countries in the Americas that had a total ban on abortion; the others being El Salvador, Nicaragua, and the Dominican Republic.

“Before abortion was legalized, mothers and their unborn children were protected equally under Chilean law. The country had the lowest maternal mortality rate in Latin America, even rivaling or achieving a lower rate than that of the much more economically developed United States.” – LifeSiteNews (Dec22, 2017)

Between her two presidential terms, Ms. Bachelet was the founding director of a UN agency which she

encouraged judicial activism on abortion. Under her formative guidance, this agency has gone on to promote abortion at all levels of UN activity.

Also troublesome regarding her recent appointment is the absence of accountability. Unlike other UN agencies which report to member countries via their executive boards, the high commissioner reports only to the Secretary General and operates under cover of independence.

Lack of accountability in the past has resulted in misuse of the office via the promotion of particular political agendas, especially on moral issues.

Much of this activity has remained obscure and unknown, largely because the technical “guidance” that the UN human rights office gives isn’t binding. Even so, it’s influential. The office indirectly guides the implementation of UN resolutions, so it has real implications for UN policy.

Ms. Bachelet’s sudden appointment and confirmation reflect the lack of transparency and accountability of the UN human rights bureaucracy. The only countries that challenged her with a concrete agenda were Iran, which protested U.S. intervention, and the USA, which expressed the hope that she would address human rights abuses in Venezuela. No delegation brought up abortion or homosexual “rights”.

Despite his controversial lack of transparency and accountability, the Trump administration holds veto power over any future candidates for Secretary General and might use it help roll back UN abortion advocacy and other bureaucratic overreaches that occur under Mrs. Bachelet.

Even before this appointment, she was the front runner to be the next Secretary General. She’s a woman, and many expect the next Secretary General to be a woman. Plus, she’s from Latin America, and it’s that region’s turn to have a Secretary General.

Colloquium Announcement : L'Université de la Famille

L'ASSOCIATION
DES PARENTS
CATHOLIQUES DU
QUÉBEC PRÉSENTE
LE COLLOQUE

L'UNIVERSITÉ DE LA FAMILLE UNIR NOS FORCES POUR LA VIE ET LA FAMILLE

Un colloque adressé à
tous, pour renforcer la
famille chrétienne et
promouvoir la culture
de la vie

LE 8 SEPTEMBRE AU
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MONTRÉAL

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PAR FAMILLE)

POUR INFORMATIONS 514-564-8135

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Annie Couture
Présidente, Ex Corda Schola
«Transmettre nos valeurs à nos enfants»

Le Cenacolo
Présentation sur l'œuvre *Le Cenacolo*
par Monique Larochelle

Organismes participants



The second colloquium of the **L'Université de la Famille** is scheduled for Saturday, December 8, 2018, three months after the inaugural gathering.

On September, 8, 2018, various local groups met at Montreal's *Grand Séminaire* for day-long seminars aimed at strengthening the Christian family and promoting the culture of life.

Montreal Archbishop Christian Lépine gave the keynote talk encouraging the audience to read and reread two important documents for families – The “Universal Declaration of Human Rights” (1948) and the 1983 Vatican document “Charter of the Rights of the Family.”

His Grace pointed out inconsistencies between articles in the first of these two documents and current societal practices, notably articles 16 and 26 dealing with parental rights, and article 3 dealing with the primacy of life.

He attributed these inconsistencies to a failure to fully implement article 30 of the document – which declares all articles to be of equal weight and any must not infringe on another. For example, the primacy of freedom is valid as long as it does not undermine the right to life.

Unfortunately, His Grace explained, in practice some articles are weighed more highly than others, resulting in the squashing of certain rights.

Regarding the Charter of Rights of the Family, His Grace read and commented on different paragraphs of Article 5 which covers parental rights in matters relating to the education of their children.

His complete presentation, as well as those of the other presenters, may be viewed on the home page of one of the day's sponsors, Quebec Catholic Parents Association, <http://parentscatholiques.org/>

Other presenters included Mr. Georges Buscemi, Quebec Life Coalition (QLC) President, Living with Dignity President Mr. Aubert Martin, and Ex Corda Schola President Ms. Annie Couture.

In the December colloquium Mgr. Lépine will again give the keynote talk and will be accompanied by representatives from the Quebec Life Coalition, the Quebec Catholic Families Association (QCFA), the Myriam Bethlehem Family, and Totus Tuus.

Agenda

Saturday, December 8, 2018

- 08h30 Registration
- 09h00 Mass (Archbishop Christian Lépine presiding)
- 10h00 Family Prayer: A Family that Prays is a Unified Family (Arch. Lépine)
- 11h30. Lunch
- 12h00 Book Sale (CDs and DVDs included)
- 13h00 OL of Guadalupe (Totus Tuus)
- 14h15 What we do and Why? (Qc Life Coalition)
- 15h30 The University's Graduates (Famille Myriam Bethléem)
- 16h45 Developing a Christian Cultural Centre (QCFA)
- 17h45 Fraternal Time and Departure

Local News

SUPPORTING FAMILIES



The newly elected provincial government is helping families.

Further to its campaign promise, the Coalition d'Avenir du Québec (CAQ), elected to office this past October 1, 2018, loosened its purse strings in a mini-budget to support households with children.

On Monday, December 3, 2018, CAQ Finance Minister Mr. Éric Girard (pictured above) announced measures to increase family allowances for the 2nd and 3rd children of a household.

Effective January 2019, families can receive a \$500 increase for a second child and another \$500 for a third. Hence, the provincial support goes from \$1235 to \$1735 per child, if one opts for more than one child.

Altogether, including the allocation for the first child, a family with three children can receive a maximum of \$5942.

An estimated 423 000 Quebec households will benefit from these measures.

A full budget will be deposited in March 2019.

(Sources: Radio- Canada, Le Journal de Montréal, The Montreal Gazette)

KEEPING HOPE ALIT



This past Sunday, November 4, 2018, we completed our 20th prayer vigil for the end of abortion, but our presence on the streets of Montreal did not end then.

On successive Mondays since, Montrealers have seen four of us faithfully continuing our prayers.

**Offering the light of hope
in a darkened world is important.**

Our steadfast group arrives at the familiar intersection of Berri and St. Catherine streets at around 10 a.m. to continue our prayerful vigil until noon.

If you are in the vicinity of these streets stop by to say Hi and join us, however briefly, for a prayer.

We resume the full day of prayer, the 40 Days for Life prayer vigil, on March 6, 2019, when the Lenten period begins.



National Marches for Life

For the past eight years the QLC has promoted and participated in the annual National March for Life.

Ours is not the only nation having a national march as the United States, France, Italy, and others hold similar events. Notably, next month, both Washington and Paris will host national marches.



The Paris one is set for Sunday, January 20, 2019. The theme is Ensuring Conscience Rights for Physicians. **An estimated 220 000 surgical abortions occur yearly in France** and due to lack of any political will and public indifference this figure will likely remain the same in the years to come.

The consequences of abortion are no different in France than elsewhere. Fortunately medical professionals are refusing in greater numbers to participate in this heinous crime (one contrary to the purpose of medicine) for reasons of conscience.

Yet, as elsewhere conscience rights are being challenged. Revision to the country's bioethics law on matters of assisted reproductive technologies, liberalization of embryonic research, and the commercialization of a woman's reproductive parts are underway. Please pray for our colleagues in France in their battle to have the rights as physicians respected and a strong turnout for their national march.

Prayer Intention

A QLC supporter in Quebec City telephoned asking our prayers for a young woman scheduled to abort her child next week against her wishes, being coerced by family members. Please pray and fast for mother and child.

“We pray that the Blessed Mother visit this mother as she did her cousin Elizabeth and this threatened child, like John the Baptist leaps for joy at the arrival filling her mother too with joy and more importantly strength to endure the hardships and adversities of life.”

Please join your prayers to others doing likewise in Quebec City and in a monastic community in France petitioned for this young mother.

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