



# QUEBEC LIFE COALITION

*Defending the human person,  
from conception until natural death*

QLC  
January  
2016

## PRAYER VIGIL IMMINENT

February 10 - March 20

Dear Friends of Life,

*Get Ready for the 15<sup>th</sup> Biannual  
Prayer Vigil for the end of abortion.*

Our twice annual **40 Days for Life** prayer vigil for the end of abortion is set to begin Ash Wednesday, February 10, 2016, an event to draw attention to grave injustice in our land permitting **unlimited** access to abortion **throughout the full period** of gestation.

All are encouraged to participate so as to right this wrong in any of varying ways. On the one hand one can come to the vigil location, Lahaie Park, across the street from the former Morgentaler abortion facility – 30 St-Joseph Blvd. East., to pray and be a witness for life.

Else, persons can organize or participate in pro-life events happening in their region and/or parish. For example those of you on the west island may attend the holy hour for life in the chapel at Saint John Fisher church held twice weekly – Monday and Friday evenings beginning at 7 p.m. The back page of this bulletin lists many other pro-life events.

At Saint Mary's in Greenfield Park, the custom of having the sanctuary lamp burns brightly for the unborn during these 40 days for prayer has carried on over several vigils.

You may wish come up with your own creative way!



**Help Wanted** - Persons interested in being part of our organizing team are welcomed. We are looking for help to set up the vigil schedule, by making phone calls to both individuals and faith communities. Also, another person is sought to plan key events, held typically at the beginning and the end of the vigil. Call our office (514-344-2686) or me directly (438-930-8643).

The vigil runs daily for 40 consecutive days, between Wednesday, February 10 to Sunday, March 20, 2016, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Lahaie Park is a fitting place to hold a prayer vigil for the end of abortion for two reasons. Over a thirty year period, the Morgentaler facility killed in the order of 9000 lives, maimed an unnecessarily number of women, and wreak havoc on many families.

The vigil location is also an apt site as its message will be available to residents of an area infamously known for interrupting the lives of their unborn. A 2001 CLSC study showed that for every 1000 births, 889 were aborted.

40 Days for Life is fittingly subtitled “The Beginning of the end of Abortion” and it is through prayer that we will achieve this end.

*For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy. – St. Thérèse of the Infant Jesus*

## Ohio Sends \$1 Million to Pro-Life Pregnancy Centers Helping Women Find Abortion Alternatives

(Micaiah Bilger, Life News, 24Dec2015)

Ohio moms and babies are getting a wonderful Christmas present from the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services.



The state announced Tuesday that it will provide \$1 million to 13 pro-life pregnancy centers in the 2016-2017 state budget, according to Ohio Right to Life. Ohio Gov. John Kasich signed the budget, which included the funding, in July; but the recipients of the Pregnancy and Parenting Support Program funding were just announced this week.

“Ohio is blessed to be home to more than 140 pregnancy centers that are actively assisting new mothers during and after pregnancy,” said Stephanie Ranade Krider, executive director of Ohio Right to Life. “Centers like this year’s awardees continue to show us what it means to truly care for Ohio’s most vulnerable across the span of life. They are true community leaders who will turn every dollar they’ve earned into saved lives.”

These organizations provide free material assistance to pregnant women in need, as well as parenting classes

for mothers and fathers alike, a service that many centers consider a core element in empowering families. Many also offer free pregnancy tests, diapers, maternity clothes, baby supplies, counseling and assistance referrals.

The 13 life-affirming organizations under the Ohio Pregnancy and Parenting Support Program are located throughout the state, according to a press release from Ohio Right to Life. Elizabeth’s New Life Center, for example, operates seven women’s centers in southwest Ohio, three in Montgomery County and others in Warren, Hamilton, and Shelby Counties; and they run a mobile center at college campuses, the release states. Another recipient, Heartbeat of Toledo, also is working to expand its two centers by purchasing a mobile unit, according to the press release.

“Ohio’s pregnancy centers continue to represent the heart of the pro-life movement through active compassion,” said Krider. “We are grateful to our pro-life legislators and our pro-life governor for prioritizing funding for those who serve the pre-born and their mothers. Our team looks forward to the many ways in which this new funding will facilitate these organizations’ outreach to their communities.”

Several other states also provide funding for alternatives to abortion programs. Indiana recently expanded its program, awarding \$3.5 million to life-affirming organizations across the state. Michigan and Pennsylvania also distribute money to programs that provide pregnancy and parenting support to families. These states’ right to life groups credit the programs with helping to reduce abortion rates by giving women hope and help for themselves and their babies.

## **Poland Paying Families to Have More Babies**

(Christine Niles, churchmilitant.com, 01dec2015)

The new pro-family government is starting a program of monthly bonuses to encourage having more children.

Only weeks after the election of the Law and Justice Party, the conservative, pro-Catholic Prime Minister, Beata Szydlo, made good on her campaign promise and approved a measure Tuesday that will start paying families monthly bonuses for every child beyond the first. Poor families will receive bonuses for all children. The monthly stipend will consist of 500 zlotys (about \$124).

The measure will next go to the public forum for comment and debate, and must be passed by parliament before taking effect in spring 2016. Funding will come from proposed bank and supermarket taxes, among other things.

With an average of only 1.3 children per family — beneath the replacement fertility rate of 2.1 children per woman — Poland has one of the lowest birth rates in the world, raising concerns over the country's ability to keep its economy and pension system going.

The declining birth rate means an aging population; whereas in 1950 the median age was 25.8, today it's closer to 40. If the trend continues, it will be 51 by 2050. The population is also decreasing, from 38.6 million in 1995 to 38 million in 2010, to a predicted 32 million in 2050. Without sufficient youth to replace the elderly and contribute to the work force, pay taxes and support the pension system, economic collapse could result — an event the Polish government is trying to forestall by encouraging families to procreate.

Although Poland is having trouble increasing its birthrate on its own continent, Polish women living

abroad don't seem to have the same troubles. For instance, Polish women living in the United Kingdom have children at twice the rate they do at home, with an average of 2.13 children per woman. One demographer, Professor Irena E. Kotowska from the Institute of Statistics and Demography, claims there are specific reasons for the increased fertility there.

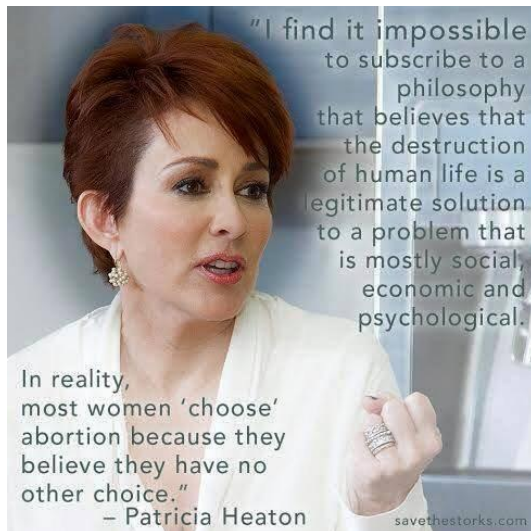
"The instability of employment [in Poland], the difficulty in placing your child in a nursery or kindergarten and with little parental support from the state is discouraging couples having children," says Prof. Kotowska.

At least 80 countries around the world are facing the same demographic decline and resultant socioeconomic concerns, with some calling it a "population disaster". A number of countries have within the past two decades started implementing measures to avert this decline by promoting more children. Italy, Greece, Germany, France and other nations have offered tax breaks and financial incentives to couples to procreate; Russia has a national "Stay home and have babies" day; and Singapore has a special government administrative body devoted specifically to fostering romance and marriage.

The falling birthrate globally is not helped by high abortion numbers and contraception use, responsible for either ending or preventing the lives of hundreds of millions of children over the past century. Poland, a traditionally Catholic country, was forced to accept abortion and contraception under the former Communist regime. In post-Communist Poland, abortion has been outlawed outside of limited circumstances, but contraception remains legal.

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

Financial worries have been on the mind of several pregnant moms who have recently contacted us. The second week of December, a 17 year-old, twelve weeks pregnant, wrote us asking whether we can help her financially. Then came to our offices an early twenty young lady with the same plight; particularly troublesome was that the father of the child was advocating an abortion. Finally a young student has elected to stop her studies, thereby forfeiting her bursary, in order to better prepare during her pregnancy. As the father of the child makes a meager wage, she is looking our support. Please keep these young moms in your prayers as they struggle to support the gift of life within them.



Another prayer intention: In addition to our efforts here in Montreal, two other Quebec localities are working to set up crisis pregnancy centers that will lodge pregnant women in difficulty.

## PRO-LIFE PRAYER EVENTS

### English Groups

- **Saint John Fisher** (Pointe-Claire) parish hosts a "Rosary for the Unborn," Mondays and Fridays, at 7 p.m., lasting an hour in the adoration chapel, entry via the parking lot.
- **Saint Kevin Parish** (Côte-des-Neiges). A pro-life rosary is recited along with other prayers at the

conclusion of the Saturday evening mass on the first Saturday of the month.

- **Mary Queen of Peace** church. Pro-life rosary, the first Sunday of the month, prior to the 5 p.m. mass.
- **Saint John Brébeuf** church (LaSalle). A rosary for life every Wednesday at 6:30 pm, mass at 7:30 pm.
- **Eucharist for Life**. Gathering of families on the first Sunday of each month to pray for priests and the unborn and share some recreational time. Info: (514) 481-6502. Next meeting is Sunday, Feb. 7, 2016, from 2 to 4 pm at Loyola HS.

### French Groups

- **Saint-Joseph's Oratory**, a rosary for life is recited on the second Monday of each month at 2:00 p.m. At the left transept, near the altar, in the basilica.
- **Saint-Enfant Jésus church**, 5035 St Dominique Street, An afternoon of prayer. Every Saturday, beginning at 1 p.m. adoration, rosary, and mass.
- **Saint Cyril and Saint Methodius** church, (3 blocks east of Iberville metro station, at 2<sup>nd</sup> avenue) the first Friday of each month rosary for life beginning at 6:45 pm. Tridentine mass follows afterwards at 7:30 pm.
- **Saint Sylvain church** in Laval hosts a pro-life evening of prayer every first Friday of the month - adoration, rosary, and mass. The evening ends with fellowship. It all begins at 7 pm
- **Mary's Trisomic Children** prayer group meets once per month at Mary Queen of the World cathedral. Rosary, mass, and lunch/picnic. Begins at 11 a.m. Information Myriam (514) 748-5123.
- **Saint-Georges, Beauce**. A monthly prayer group meets to recite a decade of the rosary in different locations. Info: Rosemary at (418) 230-3259.

Yours for Life,

Brian Jenkins, Outreach Coordinator

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