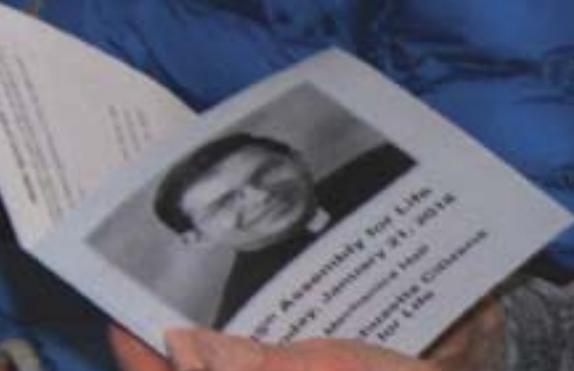


MASSACHUSETTS CITIZENS FOR LIFE



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Cover: 2018 Assembly for Life in Worcester (Photo by Edward Boylan)

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ESTATE
PLANNING

Anne Fox

President, Publisher

Helen Cross

Editor

Edward Boylan, Domenico Bettinelli, Helen Cross
Photographers

The Schrafft Center: 529 Main Street, Suite 1M9,
Boston, MA 02129-1122

(617) 242-4199, fax (617) 242-4965

www.masscitizensforlife.org

Pioneer Valley Office:

P.O. Box 96, Ludlow, MA 01056

(413) 583-5034

Massachusetts Citizens for Life

Published quarterly by Massachusetts Citizens for Life, Inc.

Periodical postage paid at Boston, MA and additional
mailing offices. USPS 25329 (ISSN 2377-2344)

Postmaster: Send address change to:

Massachusetts Citizens for Life, 529 Main St.,
Suite 1M9, Boston, MA 02129-1122

A Message From President Anne Fox

*Success is not final, failure is not fatal:
it is the courage to continue that counts.*

Sir Winston Churchill

We just saw the movie, *Darkest Hour*. Hitler is finishing devouring Europe. England's entire army is trapped in France, which is going to surrender to the Germans at any minute. Churchill, in spite of his clear vision internationally, has a series of blunders in past government service. His party wants peace at any price.

You know [the story of Dunkirk](#). Churchill's position had already reminded me of ours as we fight seemingly endless odds. The shot of the hundreds of little boats crossing back and forth on the rough English Channel, saving 300,000 soldiers reminded me even more forcefully of us.

Looking back, I think one could make the case that Dunkirk was a – or the – deciding factor in the final defeat of evil. If the British army had been destroyed, the US most likely would not have entered the war and Hitler would have ruled Europe.

I am sure we have had or will have our Dunkirk – perhaps the game-changing debate that the partial-birth abortion ban generated, perhaps the defeat of the Doctor-Prescribed Suicide Ballot Question in 2012, or perhaps something right down the road or more distant. Whatever it is, when people look back they will recognize it. We are defeating evil just as Hitler was defeated.

The anti-life people make it hard for themselves.

1) They have taken an unnatural position in claiming to know what is best for others and claiming to solve people's problems by eliminating the people. The more obvious this becomes, the less support they have.

It is natural – indeed a biological necessity – for the adults of a species to ensure the survival of the species. The proportions of babies' faces are created to be most appealing to adults. Yet I have seen pro-abortion activists move away from a smiling baby.

With the exciting California case before the Supreme Court (read about our amicus brief in Dwight Duncan's article on page 12), I am reminded of the similar [McCullen](#)

[v Coakley](#), "Buffer Zone" case. The evening of the testimony before the Supreme Court, all the plaintiffs were in DC, so I went on the *Emily Rooney Show*. My fellow guest was a law professor who was a member of the Board of the Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts. The program showed many of their problems.

2) They believe their own propaganda.

On the way into the studio, the producer gave me a serious lecture on how to behave, not to be violent or interrupt. As the technician was putting on my microphone, he gave me the same lecture. When I thought about it, I realized they actually believed I was a violent person because I was pro-life.

3) They have been allowed to get away with sloppy thinking.

The professor had arrived late, was greeted by the crew by name, and grabbed the center seat on the set. She thought she could simply throw around the usual libelous insults and put downs. I had had the opportunity to listen in on a Federalist Society briefing about the hearings so I was able to say, "Oh, but Justice so and so said ..." and "The witness for the Massachusetts Attorney General admitted that...". I had the facts and was able to use them.

4) It is normal procedure for them not to follow the rules. After the show, I was trying to ask her about the facilities that were unlicensed and uninspected. She said that, of course, they would get away with what they could.

5) They have been treated as the "experts". When we testify at the State House in favor of our [bills which would require licensing and inspection of abortion facilities](#), the lawyers for the facilities tell the legislators that would impinge on a woman's right to an abortion because those facilities would have to close and women would have to travel too far. Well, if those facilities would have to close, then they must not be safe for women. No one questions this "reasoning" and they seem fine with women going to facilities which would not pass inspection, which brings me to their next problem.

6) Abortion is a sacred rite which ensures the woman a dead baby. After *Roe v Wade*, I remember thinking that, if we could develop

enough artificial wombs, the babies would be saved. Recently [lambs have developed successfully in artificial wombs](#). The abortion activists have greeted that news with horror. Apparently not being pregnant isn't enough. The baby must be removed from existence as though she had never been.

7) By denying science, the pro-abortion movement has set itself up for failure. Dr. Bernard Nathanson, who presided over 60,000 abortions, including aborting his own child, recognized, through scientific developments, the humanity of the unborn child, and became a leading pro-life advocate. The first time he spoke in public and showed *The Silent Scream* was at an MCFL Mothers' Day Dinner. He honestly thought that other people were as intellectually honest as he and that once they recognized the humanity of the unborn child, they would oppose abortion.

8) Speaking of science... According to the recent edition of *The Atlantic*, "These advances fundamentally shift the moral intuition around abortion. New technology makes it easier to apprehend the humanity of a growing child and imagine a fetus as a creature with moral status. Over the last several decades, pro-life leaders have increasingly recognized this and rallied the power of scientific evidence to promote their cause." We have always known science was on our side. It is more and more allowing us to prove that "You can't fool Mother Nature"

9) The rules are different where abortion is concerned - in education, media, government, law, or medicine. Standards which would be automatic in those areas are ignored when abortion is involved.

10) The pro-abs are losing the young people. They despair over the fact that they worked so hard for abortion "rights" and now their children are pro-life.

I have realized recently that many of the things we always knew about who has abortions, why, where, and even how, have changed dramatically. Did you know that 2/3 of abortions now take place when the baby is 6 weeks or younger? We need to bring ourselves up to date so we can continue to be effective. Plan to attend the Convention (page 13) to catch up.

MCFL Speakers Bureau Profile

Ariana Gilbert: Born to be Pro-life

How did your childhood affect your pro-life formation?

My parents are both pro-life and they discussed their beliefs with me from a very young age. My mom was young and single when she had me, and everyone around her said the best thing to do would be to have an abortion. Thankfully she reached out to a Pregnancy Resource Center (PRC) called Pregnancy Distress and they placed her with a family that she lived with when she was expecting me. They even helped her in the time right after my arrival when she was learning how to take care of me. I recently checked to see if that particular PRC is still operating, and I was surprised to find out that not only are they open, but they have five locations in the Greater Columbus Ohio area now called [Pregnancy Decisions](#).

When I was two my mom married my dad (not biological), and I also understood that it takes a very pro-life man to treat a child that isn't physically his own, as his own. I've been blessed that both of my parents modeled such strong pro-life values for me.

My family listened to [Focus on the Family](#) radio growing up, and they often had guests on the show who discussed the full range of pro-life issues, from conception till natural death. My church also supported a local PRC, which made me more aware of the resources available for women.

How did you get involved with MCFL?

For a long time I took a very broad pro-women approach, which I still believe is fundamentally correct. The pro-life movement should be supporting teens to develop into confident and independent young men and women. If a young adult is confident and hopeful for her future, she's less likely to look for the temporal affection and attention that can lead to an unplanned pregnancy. As a secondary teacher, I try to foster confidence and self-advocacy in my students.

However, during the past few years I've felt called to be more directly involved with the pro-life movement. The real catalyst was the slew of undercover videos released during the summer of 2015 that showed Planned Parenthood selling aborted children. Once I saw that I knew that if that didn't motivate me to action, nothing would.

I also started to realize that my testimony could be used to help educate others. No one should feel like they need to have a personal testimony about how abortion affected their life to share their pro-life principles, but my testimony does make it easier for me to speak up for the unborn. My mom had essentially no one around her when she had me, and no one supported her decision to give me life. I'm grateful that the pro-life movement and Pregnancy Resource Centers exist, or I might not be here today! I think it would be a shame if I didn't put that to use.

I reached out to MCFL simply because they're the biggest pro-life name I'd heard of in Massachusetts. Anne Fox thought I'd be a good fit for their [educational outreach](#) programs, so I started training with Linda Thayer who has been speaking to teen groups for 35 years. My presentation has three main parts: the beauty of development in the womb, how abortion affects communities, and what local resources are available for women. Linda has been great and I've learned a lot by watching her present and getting her feedback.

I've only presented to a few youth groups so far, but they've been very receptive. Some of the kids' comments show they really get it. They'll say things like, "Wow, we did not learn this in health class," or, "That could have been me!" when looking at abortion rates. Please be in prayer for this educational ministry though. It's so important that we reach young people with the hopeful message that all children are worthy of life.

I've only been part of the MCFL Speaker's Bureau since late October. I'm humbled that MCFL thought of me for this interview, because I'm really a newbie.



Tell us your thoughts on the Summer Academy for high school students

The [Summer Academy](#) was awesome. I felt so privileged to hear each of the speakers. They were all so well prepared, and they treated us like we were an audience of hundreds, even though we were a small group. I especially learned a lot from Dr. Rollo's talk on doctor-prescribed suicide. I didn't know much about the topic beforehand, and his presentation was very thorough and engaging.

The teens were also incredible. On the last day they had to give a presentation, and as a teacher, I was thinking that they didn't have enough time and that teens wouldn't go out of their way to write a pro-life paper during summer vacation. These teens were something else though, they all came with a well prepared paper and were happy to present.

My only regret is that more people weren't there. I think adults as well as teens could learn a lot from these speakers - if you're reading this, make sure you come next year!

How does your educational and work experiences influence what you bring to MCFL?

[Gordon College](#) is a great school. They prepared me for my career as a teacher and they care a lot about students finding a vocation, not just a job. It was also nice to be around Christian believers during my college years, and I know that is a privilege because most

people have the opposite experience. Gordon requires all freshmen to do twelve hours of volunteer service, and I chose to do my hours with the homeless ministry that went to the Boston Common. The school does a good job of steering students towards serving others, but I have to admit, there wasn't an explicitly pro-life movement while I was there. One of my regrets is that I didn't try to change that when I was a student.

I've worked in a few inner city schools, and that has definitely affirmed my pro-life beliefs. Many of my students are minorities, have young mothers, and qualify as low-income. Those three factors put an unborn child at a much higher risk of being aborted. Communities, such as the one I teach in, are being robbed of their children, who are, of course, their future.

What MCFL activities are most important to you?

Educating teens. It is so much easier to reach teens than adults. Reaching teens while they are still forming their world view is extremely important. Adults tend to brush things off and go about their day- even if they are sympathetic to the pro-life movement. It's difficult to get someone who has a job, bills, and possibly a family, to listen to educational material on pro-life values.

Are you finding any time for leisure activities?

Sure! I'm big on running. I also like to read, watch a good show, and explore the Greater Boston Area.



Ariana and her mom

Pro-Life 2018 at a Glance

March–May: [Student Lobby Days](#)
Massachusetts State House, Boston

March 9: Board of Directors meeting, Boston

March 17: MCFL Table, [Worcester Men's Conference](#)

March 24: [MCFL Annual Convention](#)
Cardinal Spellman High School, Brockton

May: Spring Social, Western Mass.

May 11: Board of Directors meeting, Boston

June 8: Annual Meeting and Election

June 17: [Massachusetts March for Life](#), Boston Common

June 28-30: [National Right to Life Convention](#),
Overland Park, Kansas

July–Aug.: [Summer Academy](#) for high school students

Aug. 4: All day Board planning meeting

Sept.–Oct.: MCFL Booth, [The Big E](#), Springfield

Oct. 12: Board of Directors meeting, Boston

Oct. 25: [Annual Fundraising Banquet](#), Norwood

Nov. 9: Board and Chapter Officers meeting

Dec. 7: Board Christmas Party

The MCFL Board of Directors meets at the Boston office, 529 Main Street. All [MCFL](#) members are welcome to attend.

Chapters meet monthly or on other schedules. Please check: www.masscitizensforlife.org for dates and times. Everyone living in the area of a chapter is welcome.

[MCFL Speakers' Bureau](#) reaches more than 10,000 people every year. To arrange a local presentation, call (617) 242-4199 or (413) 583-5034



Assembly for Life, Mechanics Hall in Worcester, Jan. 21

L to R: MCFL Board Chairman Dr. David Franks, Coalitions Director for the [World Congress of Families](#) Don Feder (behind podium), [Priests for Life's](#) Fr. Frank Pavone, Assembly Emcee and Editor of the [Catholic Free Press](#) Marge Russell, song leader and Editor of [Ave Maria Press](#) Jaymie Stuart Wolfe, St. Nicholas Orthodox Church's Rev. John Daly, Executive Director of [Patients Rights Action Fund](#) Matthew Valliere, and MCFL Board member Victor Pap listen to the President's welcome delivered by Anne Fox



45th [Assembly for Life](#) keynote speaker Fr. Frank Pavone shared greetings from Alveda King, [African-American Outreach](#) Director for Priests for Life; Teresa and Kevin Burke of [Rachel's Vineyard](#), and [Rep. Chris Smith](#) and his wife Marie

From Fr. Pavone's keynote address:

"How can a movement draw so many diverse people together? The pro-life movement does not arise because some religious or political leader stands up and calls it into being. This movement springs from the very depths of our humanity and from the simple human instinct that we must protect our children. That explains the movement's diversity and why we will win.

"So many proclaim human rights while neglecting the rights of the unborn. We cannot build a society that protects the guilty from capital punishment if we do not learn how to protect the innocent. We cannot feed the poor if we do not feed our own flesh and blood in the womb. We cannot welcome immigrants cross the border of this nation if we do not help our children cross the border of the womb.

"Abortion strikes at the foundational roots of human rights. The enjoyment of every other right depends on being alive. Without life you cannot have the right to healthcare, to work, to vote, to immigrate, to have any rights at all. A government that fails to understand this essential connection undermines its own credibility."



Former [Boston Herald](#) columnist Don Feder, spoke on the Jewish perspective on abortion and life. He recalled how ancient civilizations had no concept of human rights or individual right to life noting, "Not until Sinai did the concept of human rights appear. Man is created in the image and likeness of God."



As the names of deceased pro-lifers were read, Caitlin Fox tolled a bell to honor their memory



Fr. Pavone's spirited oration received a standing ovation

Photos by Edward Boylan



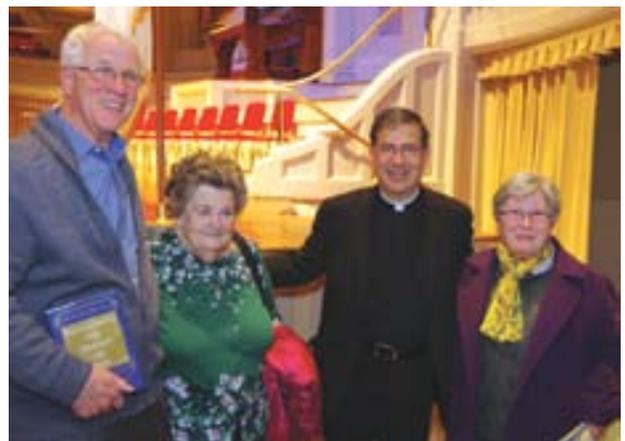
Matthew Valliere, Bishop Robert McManus of Worcester, and Fr. Pavone. Valliere discussed the total failure of proposed legislation to legalize assisted suicide in 2017. Bishop McManus, a dedicated pro-lifer often seen praying outside the Planned Parenthood in Worcester, wrapped up the day with a beautiful and moving closing prayer.



Valliere gave tribute to J.J. Hanson (seen above in the video [Man of Steel](#)) who died of brain cancer in late Dec. Hanson outlived his initial diagnosis of only four months to live by over three years. "When prognoses are so often wrong, assisted-suicide laws can put somebody at risk of deadly harm, because they will give up in hopelessness," Valliere said. "If J.J. had given up, he would have missed what he described as the best three years of his life and his six-month-old son would never have lived at all."



Attendees at a reception for Fr. Pavone after the Assembly



March for Life 2018 Diary

By Rob Hale

January 18. We board two Peter Pan buses at St. Stanislaus' in Chicopee, at 10 p.m.

January 19. Around 1:30 a.m. we make a scheduled stop at a roadside restaurant in Cranberry, NJ. When we get back to our bus, we are told that a lady named Maria on the other bus had passed out and was being taken to the hospital. We wait for about an hour. Before we leave, we all say a prayer.

On the bus, I talk with Mike Butler, a buddy from previous bus rides to the March. His mother Monica helped organize trips like these and other western Mass. pro-life events. Mike is traveling with two of his five kids, who are now teenagers. He says that next year he is hoping on bringing his twelve year old son, who has Down Syndrome. Mike sells transportation services for an international trucking company.

When we disembark in front of the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception at [Catholic University](#), a little ways outside of Washington, D.C., I meet Laura Hicks and her daughter, Rebecca, a high school senior, who are traveling with us. Laura has five children, including Rebecca, all of whom are home schooled. She says this is her fifth March for Life. Laura and her husband own Eddie's Furniture in Holyoke, which was started by her grandfather in an old horse barn, where the business still stands.

When I arrive in the city, it is still very early. I walk along the parade route toward the Capitol and the Supreme Court to attend the [MCFL Caucus](#).

Along the nearly empty parade route, I see a group of people setting up a large display of ten-foot high panels and a public address system. I meet their leader, Kurt Linnemann regional director of the Center for Bio-Ethical Research. Kurt explains that the panels his group is erecting will show images and illustrations depicting the "satanic hand" of abortion. He says that some of the panels compare abortion to other forms of genocide.

I ask Kurt how he had become involved in the pro-life movement. He replies that he had been involved since 1980, when he attended an Evangelical Church while he was

a student at the UNH. Kurt became a board member of the [Seacoast Crisis Pregnancy Center](#) in NH and Birthright of Maryland. When I ask him why he had made the transition to the kind of political work that he is doing with his current organization Kurt compared Birthright to the Underground, during World War II. "You can save a few lives," he says. "But the war is killing millions."

At the MCFL Caucus, I meet my old friend, Dr. John Diggs and his wife Anju from Belchertown, Mass. John has been involved with the Pro-Life movement for years. While John has participated in several Marches for Life, Anju says that this will be her first March. Later we walk together down to the Mall, where thousands of people have already gathered to hear the speakers, including [President Trump](#), who is being televised live from of the White House, via closed circuit television.

Standing amid the crowd on the Mall, I realize that I am among a group of young people who are all wearing red knit caps that say "Titans for Life." I introduce myself to three girls who explain that [Titans for Life is a pro-life club of students from Trinity High](#), a Catholic school in Dickinson, North Dakota, an area noted for farming and oil production.

The students say that pro-life activities are a "big deal" in their school and with their families. They stand along Highway 22 in Dickinson, holding pro-life banners and signs. When I ask what kind of response they receive from people in their community, the girls say they get "positive honks." Katie Schank tells me, "Life is a great [gift]. You should appreciate every day, because some people don't get that chance."

It took the Titans four days by bus to get to the March for Life. They must leave Dickinson on Monday morning in order to arrive in Washington by Friday.

After the speeches on the Mall are over and the marchers start moving along the streets, I walk alongside Philip Sherman of [Missouri Right to Life](#). He is holding one of three tall poles supporting a blue banner that stretches overhead from one side of the street to the other.



Laura Meyer, Katie Schank and Anastasia Tibor, Titans for Life from North Dakota

Philip says he is 37 years old, single, has no kids, and works three part-time jobs, including working for a security company, delivering pizza, and running his own Internet marketing company. He became involved in the pro-life movement in high school and later held a pro-life internship while working on his BA in Political Science at Union Central College. Philip says that he grew up in a Christian home and that his parents were supportive of his pro-life activities. "We need to work together to save the babies," he says.

Further up the road, I am attracted to the spectacle of an all-black, all-male brass band made up of high school students wearing purple uniforms with yellow epaulets, golden capes proclaiming "[Marching 100](#)," and gleaming golden helmets, and playing rousing, up-beat music with exquisite professional timing and musicianship. They are standing in formation, by the side of the parade route, across the green from the Smithsonian Museum.

I speak with Darius Lucien, a ninth grader and member of the color guard for the band, known as the Purple Knights of [St. Augustine's High School in New Orleans](#). He tells me that there are 170 students and band members on this tour, and that they come from New Orleans aboard four buses. The tour will play at concerts, parades and events in Canada, New York, and other states, before returning home. He says that all of the performances are pro-life and that all of the students in the band are committed to the pro-life cause.

The reason they are so good, he says, is because they practice for three hours every day, seven days a week. I ask Darius why he had chosen to attend an all-black, all-male school. He answers that several of his family members had attended St. Augustine's, and that the school offers a superior education.

When I ask Darius if he has anything special to say to our readers, he responds, with obvious pride, “St. Augustine’s is the best band in the nation!”

A little way beyond, I hail a bearded man in a jaunty Indiana Jones style felt hat who appears to be about my age. (That is to say, he had a little gray in his beard.) Frank Vance from Ohio is with a group from St. John Neumann parish. He tells me his wife, Lorraine, organizes the bus trip for the group, which consists of 41 people. Lorraine says this is her 18th March for Life. “Not eighteen in a row,” she says. “I had to take a couple of years off.”

She says she had first organized the bus trips as part of a youth ministry at her church, but it has grown or evolved into more of a family project. “The movement needs to involve family,” she says. “With families involved you get more continuity. It becomes a way of life, a tradition.”

Lorraine tells me that her son, who is 22 years old, works full-time in the pro-life movement. “He is here today,” she says, “with a group called Created Equal.” She says we will see her son up the road at the “turbotron” which is displaying graphic photographs of abortion victims. I express some discomfort at the idea of viewing images of mutilated pre-born babies. Lorraine says she understands. “But,” she says, “last year, there was a woman with a group of [pro-abortion] counter-protestors, who, when she saw the pictures of the victims, said to herself, ‘I couldn’t do this to my child,’ and then laid down her sign and joined the March.”

Lorraine shares openly about her family



The Vance family: Frank, Lorraine, and Marie, from Sunbury, Ohio

and personal life. She says her oldest daughter, Marie, who is now 41 years old, had been conceived and born out of wedlock. After marrying, Lorraine and Frank went on to have four other children, and Frank adopted Marie as his own. Lorraine introduces me to Marie, who is marching alongside us, pushing a baby stroller.

The marchers slow down as we turn a corner and the broad streets seem to become narrower and the crowd becomes more closely packed. We must detour around a police cruiser which is parked across the middle of the road between two large yellow snow removal trucks. Being careful not to use the word “terrorist,” Steven E. Kinzer, of the Metropolitan Police, says it is to prevent or deter someone from intentionally driving a vehicle into the crowd, as had happened in Nice, France and other places in the US recently. I thank him for his service, and for keeping us safe. “This is the Nation’s capital,” he says. Our attitude is to protect everyone’s First Amendment rights.”

Officer Kinzer points out that there is no yellow police tape anywhere along the route, and no police barriers, except for this one obstruction, which is on a cross street. He says this is the seventh year he has worked at the March for Life.

After I say goodbye to Officer Kinzer, I walk up alongside Kim Benz of St. Louis and Amanda Bridegroom, of Florissant, Missouri. Amanda is walking with Kim, who is propelling herself in a wheelchair. They explain that they are two adults traveling with the youth group from St. Rose Church. When I ask how she had become involved, Amanda replies that she has a sister with Down Syndrome. She says, “If anyone ever gets a chance to come here, they really ought to experience it. You see all of the young people and it’s really inspiring.” When I ask whether the youth involvement was really the kids’ idea or the idea of the adult organizers, Amanda responds, “No, they’re into it.”

As we start to climb Capitol Hill and turn toward the Supreme Court building, I notice a particularly animated and frolicsome group of students. Among them is a girl riding on a boy’s shoulders with her arms raised high in a jubilant expression. Their yellow knit caps bear the inscription,



Philip Sherman (on right holding sign) with Missouri Right to Life

“MN4LIFE.” One of their members tells me the group numbers 200 in all.

I soon catch up with Sandra Herrin and Madonna Barbatto, from Epiphany Church in Coon Rapids, Minnesota. Madonna is 18 years old and attending college in a program that provides a bridge after high school to help students with special needs prepare for life. I ask Madonna about the nature of her specific disability. She tells me that she was born without a corpus callosum, which is the part of the brain that connects the right and left hemispheres.

“I was a little scared to come on the trip because of my disability,” she admits. “I was afraid I’d be teased or bullied.” When I ask her whether she had actually been teased or bullied, Madonna replies, “Not yet.” She later confides that she has, in fact, made friends on the trip.

We reach the Supreme Court building and I speak briefly with Father Frank Pavone of Priests for Life, who gives me a smile and a thumbs up. I rejoin our MCFL group a few blocks away at St. Peter’s Church. From there, we board our buses and ride home to Chicopee, stopping briefly in New Jersey, so the other bus can pick up Maria and her husband. We arrive back at St. Stanislaus at 2 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 20.

MARCHING FOR LIFE in Washington, D.C.



Marchers from Lynn, Massachusetts



Trivium School students pose in front of the Natural History Museum



Marchers from Massachusetts included Parroquia Santisimo Redentor in Boston and students from Cardinal Spellman High in Brockton



Young people from St. Mary's in Lynn pass by the Museum



Witness for Life group from the Archdiocese of Boston



Top Row: Marchers from the Cape Cod Bus for Life

(Photos by Andrea St. Germain)



The "Marching 100" from St. Augustine High School in New Orleans kept spirits high by playing for the crowd passing by the Smithsonian Museum for the entire March

Students from Ohio enjoying the music



President Trump addresses the March for Life via big screen



Silent No More marcher acknowledging support

Washington Caucus: Pro-life Success, Challenges Continue

The MCFL Caucus has always served as a prelude to pro-life activism. Participants in the March for Life on Jan. 19 are encouraged to lobby their representatives in Congress. This year's venue was the Caucus Room in the Dirksen Senate Building. Speakers covered a number of topics including: an amicus brief supporting the rights of pregnancy resource centers in California, the abortion/contraception link, doctor-prescribed suicide, the 2018 elections, and how pro-life laws affect abortion numbers.

[Dwight Duncan: Amicus Brief Supporting the Rights of Pregnancy Resource Centers](#)
Article appears on page 14.

[Michael Pakaluk: The Link Between Abortion and Contraception](#)



Michael Pakaluk

Prof. Michael Pakaluk of Catholic University of America began the MCFL Caucus by tracing the continuum from contraception and abortion using as proof a number of Supreme Court decisions. “As regards jurisprudence, the fruit of contraception is abortion,” Pakaluk said. The *Griswold* decision in 1965 overturned laws prohibiting the sale of contraceptives to married couples. In only eight years the Court in *Roe v. Wade* inferred from the right to contraception a right to abortion.

An essential thread in this development was opening contraception to unmarried

persons. *Griswold's* right to privacy gave married couples the choice of procreation. The Court decision in 1971's *Eisenstadt v. Baird* maintained that rights are held by individuals, and those individuals have a right to privacy that includes the choice of procreation. Pakaluk continued, “But they cannot really control their couplings if the woman does not have control. But she cannot have this control except by having the option to abort the results of intercourse before they come to light. Indeed, the framework of rights would make little sense if a marvelous right to privacy gave us freedom to couple as we pleased, then failed to shield us when only one such coupling could compel us to care for a child for twenty years.

“Couples who have sexual relations as they wish, not from a rational decision to have relations only in the context of a marriage, will most often have relations where the conception of a child is positively not wanted. There must be a solution. If you absolutely do not want to be tempted to ‘take care of the problem,’ and you would not want to give the child up, and you are not prepared to raise it, if you are not ‘open to procreation’ then neither does sex with contraception make much sense.

“In theoretical terms, the essence of contraception is the idea that man is autonomous and a law unto himself, and he can define the meaning of the marriage act as he wills. He does not need to subordinate his decisions to nature or to God. There is no objective meaning, which he must try to construe and abide by. Thus, there cannot be a right or wrong in the technology of controlling births, right because respecting nature, wrong because exploiting nature.

“It took the Supreme Court a mere twenty-five years to make this premise explicit, in the famous ‘Mystery Passage’ of the 1992 *Casey* decision: ‘At the heart of liberty is the right to define one’s own concept of existence, of meaning, of the universe, and of the mystery of human life.’

“The fruit of contraception is abortion. What does that imply for us? Should we hold a March for [Natural Family Planning](#) as well as a March for Life? No, but neither should we pat ourselves on the back for



Richard Doerflinger

addressing only the most egregious consequences of the so-called sexual revolution. The causes need to be addressed as well which we will not be doing if we continue to insist on the separability of abortion and contraception.”

[Richard Doerflinger: Doctor-Prescribed Suicide is No Free Choice](#)

Richard Doerflinger, former Associate Director of [Pro-Life Activities of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops](#), explained that pro-assisted suicide groups such as Compassion and Choices (C&C) claim suicide as a free choice while studies repeatedly show it is not. “Assisted suicide for those with serious illnesses is chosen for the same reasons as the able-bodied: [depression or other mental health problems](#), financial concerns, loss of autonomy, etc.” This leads to having one class of people who will be given suicide prevention treatment, while another class of people will be dependent on a value judgment of someone who may think their life isn't valuable enough to save.

In laws based on the Oregon model, [assisted suicide most empowers the doctor, not the patient](#). “The doctor gets to choose to call a patient terminally ill, to call a patient competent and able to make a free choice,” Doerflinger said. “He also gets to choose whether to order a psychological evaluation to look for stressors such as depression. He gets to choose the doctor

required to give a second opinion, who he is pretty confident will share his opinion.

“The most powerful person of all is the person left alone with the patient when the decision to take the drugs is made. This is the most important time to check for coercion or other problems. But the laws do not require anyone to make this assessment.

“Additionally, the doctor who prescribes the drugs is required to falsify the cause of death. The law makes it illegal to declare PAS as the cause of demise on a death certificate. Instead, the doctor must attribute death to the underlying illness.

“Suicide rates in Oregon, not counting those from PAS are 42% higher than the national average. We are teaching people that society and the law have decreed that suicide is a solution for some people’s problems.

“Guidelines for reporting on suicides state that the report must not encourage people to mimic suicidal behavior or glorify suicide as a solution to a problem. But, that is exactly what C&C does all the time. Their toxic ideas are being promoted through society. We are as committed to fighting against PAS as we are to fighting against abortion.”

Karen Cross: 2018 Elections

Karen Cross, Chair of the [National Right to Life Political Action Committee](#), noted the life-saving power of laws restricting and regulating abortion, reminding the audience that “when we don’t vote, babies die.”

“With 34 US Senate seats, 435 US House seats, and 36 gubernatorial seats coming up for elections in 2018, voting for pro-life candidates is essential. Every vote counts. The Virginia House of Delegates continues pro-life leadership because of one vote. One race was tied 11,607-11,607. The vote was decided by a draw. If even one more pro-abortion person had voted, or if one pro-life person hadn’t voted the entire House would have flipped to a pro-abortion leadership. So, are you ready to vote? Will you do what’s right?”

Cross said the debate engendered when proposed laws are being discussed has enormous educational value in changing hearts and minds. “Help by contributing your time, treasure, and talents. Educate yourself and your friends. Register to vote. Make sure you ask candidates for office their

opinions on life issues.”

Michael New: [Attributing Drop in Abortion Rates to Pro-Life Laws](#)

Professor Michael New of Ave Maria University said that President Trump has proved to be a good ally for pro-life forces. On the agenda for 2018 is defunding Planned Parenthood. New said, “[Big abortion needs big government](#). PP cannot stand on its own. Research shows that when abortion funding is removed, the number of abortions go down. All scholars, whether pro-life or pro-choice, agree on this.

“Between 1973 and 1980 the abortion rate in the United States doubled. One important reason was that abortion was covered by Medicaid and that many abortions were subsidized by the taxpayer. After the Hyde Amendment was upheld by the Supreme Court in 1980 abortion rates went down. They’ve stayed down regardless of who held the presidency or the state of the economy. Abortion rates are now half of what they were in 1980.

“There are a number of factors but a big reason is that the Hyde Amendment partly defunded big abortion. A study I did with the Charlotte Lozier Institute shows that the [Hyde Amendment has saved over two million lives](#). Two million people are walking around today because of this law. Don’t let anyone tell you that pro-life laws

don’t work. We have two million reasons to celebrate.

“Don’t let Planned Parenthood scare you that a vote to defund the organization is taking away women’s health care. The money taken from PP will be redirected to federally qualified health care centers. [Texas excluded PP funding in 2011 and there’s no public health crisis](#). Teen pregnancies have fallen 33% since 2011. Teen births and teen abortion rates have fallen about 50%.

“Planned Parenthood provides no prenatal care and makes almost no adoption referrals. They receive \$500 million of state and federal money. They do 300,000 abortions a year. We need to put a stop to this.

“Twenty-five years ago the pro-life movement didn’t have grounds for optimism. Pro-abortion president Bill Clinton was in office, only eight states had pro-life legislatures, and polls showed 35% of people identified as pro-life. Senior citizens were pro-life but young people weren’t.

“Those trends have changed. Well over half of the legislatures are pro-life. Every year we set records for the number of state level pro-life laws. Public opinion has shifted. Polls now show 50% of people identify as pro-life. Young people are very sympathetic to the pro-life message. Surveys show the current generation is the most pro-life generation of young people ever. The cavalry is coming up behind us.”



Why Crisis Pregnancy Centers Should Not Have to Advertise for Abortions

By Dwight G. Duncan

One of the biggest cases in this year's Supreme Court term is *National Institute of Family and Life Advocates v. Xavier Becerra*, Attorney General of California. Petitioners, a group of pro-life Crisis Pregnancy Centers in California, are challenging on [First Amendment free speech grounds](#) the California law which requires them to provide information on whom to contact in order to obtain an abortion.

The lower federal courts in California, including the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, which has the distinction of being the Court overturned most often by the U.S. Supreme Court, held that the unprecedented California law was constitutionally consistent with the First Amendment.

Petitioners' brief was filed on January 8, and amicus briefs supporting petitioners' First Amendment argument were filed by January 15. The government's brief is due February 8, with amicus briefs in support thereof due a week later. Oral argument is set for March 20. Along with the [Masterpiece Cake case out of Colorado](#), which challenges on First Amendment grounds Colorado's fining a bakery for refusing to bake a cake for a gay wedding, these cases both raise the issue of freedom not to speak—one in the abortion context, the other in the same-sex marriage context. Decisions are expected by the end of the Supreme Court term around June 30.

On January 12, I filed an amicus brief supporting the Crisis Pregnancy Centers in their freedom from compelled speech argument. The brief was on behalf of Massachusetts Citizens for Life, the leading pro-life group in Massachusetts; Eleanor McCullen, the local pro-life counselor who was the lead plaintiff in *McCullen v. Coakley*, the 2014 U.S. Supreme Court case unanimously declaring the Massachusetts buffer zone law applicable to abortion clinics unconstitutional under the First Amendment; Expectant Mother Care, a non-profit network of pro-life centers that offer alternatives to

abortion in New York; and the [Pro-Life Legal Defense Fund](#), another Massachusetts not-for-profit which offers pro bono legal services for the protection of human life. All these clients share an opposition to government mandates to provide information on how to obtain abortions, since they work on a volunteer basis to encourage alternatives to abortion because of their deep-seated pro-life convictions and their conscientious objection to abortion.

Professor [Mary Ann Glendon](#) of Harvard Law School was co-counsel on the brief, and most of the legal research and writing was done by a talented group of Harvard Law School students working pro bono over Christmas break. Recruited by third-year law student Steven Obiajulu, and ably coordinated by second-year student Grant Newman, they included fellow second-years Ryan Proctor and Asher Perez and a diverse group of others, including One Ls, who prefer to remain anonymous. While law professors like myself are usually good at taking credit for other people's work, justice demands that their substantial work on the amicus brief be properly recognized and acknowledged.

What's the basic argument? The same that the Supreme Court first recognized in 1943 in *West Virginia Board of Education v. Barnette*, when it held that forcing Jehovah's Witnesses to salute the flag and pledge allegiance violated freedom of speech: "If there is one fixed star in our constitutional constellation, it is that no official, high or petty, can prescribe what shall be orthodox in politics, nationalism, religion, or other matters of opinion or force citizens to confess by word or act their faith therein."

Abortion is obviously one of the most controversial issues of the day, and people disagree strongly about it, even if it is legal (and state-funded, in the case of Massachusetts). The government should not be able to override people's conscientious objection to abortion and force them to make referrals, particularly when they are volunteers working pro-bono.

There is no reason to consider their advice "commercial speech" subject to greater government regulation. In the words of the brief, "To hold that the pregnancy centers are engaging in commercial speech would transform a broad array of expressive action unconnected to economic self-interest into regulable commercial speech."

Even if the crisis pregnancy centers' speech is considered "professional speech," the Supreme Court has held in a couple of cases involving the NAACP and the ACLU that the regulation of professional speech is subject to [strict scrutiny](#) and presumably unconstitutional when the professional speech is not motivated by pecuniary interest.

Of course, freedom of speech requires the liberty to determine not only what to say, but also what not to say. In this case, the pregnancy centers have an interest in not providing the information at issue, because directing clients to the location of abortion providers violates the moral purposes these pregnancy centers are established to uphold. Requiring the pregnancy centers to advertise for abortion providers—or to do anything that promotes abortion—forces them to promote a practice with which they fundamentally disagree.

My hope is that the U.S. Supreme Court will reverse the lower federal courts and hold that the First Amendment freedom of speech prohibits California from requiring pregnancy centers to advertise for abortion. I suspect that there are at least five votes to so rule, and it could even be unanimous. The price of unanimity, however, would likely be a very narrow ruling. Because this type of illiberal regulation forcing people to pledge allegiance to government-favored policies is becoming more frequent, notwithstanding significant religious and conscientious objection, a broader holding for freedom of speech is constitutionally imperative.

MCFL Convention 2018

Cardinal Spellman High School, Brockton, March 24

Featured Speakers



Kathy Hill



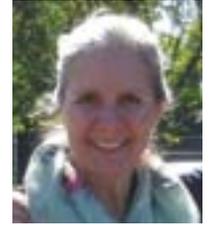
Dr. Helen Jackson



David C. Reardon, Ph.D.,
Director, **Elliot Institute**.
Leader in research on the
after-effects of abortion



Marianne Luthin



Joan Bailey



Dr. Mark Rollo



Kate French, Gib Gailius,
Catherine Morrissey

Abortion – the New Paradigm

Registration/Coffee 8:30 am, Convention 9:00 am-4:00 pm

It is true, and will always be true, that every abortion leaves a dead baby, a damaged woman, and a coarsened society. You have worked hard to educate people to these evils. Your work has saved many, many lives: abortions in Massachusetts are down by almost 2/3 since the highs in the early '90's. If we are to continue to save lives by educating people effectively, we must realize that many of our notions about who is having abortions and why, what kind of abortions and where they are taking place are completely outdated. "Abortion - the New Paradigm" will get you back on board with what is really happening so that you can continue your life-saving efforts.

MCFL's 2018 Convention will present the latest on the life issues from Massachusetts and national experts:

- David Reardon, Director, **Elliot Institute**
- Joan Bailey, Executive Director, **Friends of the Unborn**
- Kathy Hill, Mass. Regional Coordinator for **Silent No More**
- Marianne Luthin, Director **Pro-Life Office**, Archdiocese of Boston
- Helen Jackson, M.D., specialist in **Obstetrics & Gynecology**
- Mark Rollo, M.D., board-certified **family physician**
- Gib Gailius, Catherine Morrissey, and Kate French: **Adoption is a Loving Choice**. Three perspectives on adoption by a biological and adoptive father, a birth mother who placed her child for adoption, and an adopted daughter

Convention Registration Form

Name: _____

Address : _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Registration Price (Includes lunch, coffee, snacks and drink)

General Public \$35

*** Voting Member \$20**

College Students \$20

High Schoolers and younger Free

I would like to make a special donation to:

___ Help the Convention succeed ___ Other

Register online:

Make your check out to **MCFL Charitable Trust**, and mail to
MCFL, 529 Main Street, Suite 1M9, Boston, MA 02129-1122
Questions call: 617-242-4199 ext. 230

** MCFL Members are those who have donated \$30 within the last year.*

Book Review

A Young Doctor Faces Death From Lung Cancer

When Breath Becomes Air

By Paul Kalanithi

Random House, 228 Pages

By Anne Fox

Paul Kalanithi's memoir, *When Breath Becomes Air*, written as he faced a terminal cancer diagnosis, is the story of a young doctor, and his family, who lives well until he dies. He is a very different person, but he faces terminal cancer as J. J. Hanson did, with courage and conviction. (See *Editor's Note* at end of the review.)

In 2013, Kalanithi, a 36-year-old neurosurgeon, realized he had lung cancer, which involved serious pain. As he looked at the scan he thought, "The future I had imagined, the one just about to be realized, the culmination of decades of striving, evaporated. Who would I be, going forward, and for how long?" he wondered.

Kalanithi's fatal diagnosis leads to the kind of introspection that never seems possible unless forced by tragedy.

He was an extremely well-read, thoughtful, contemplative, kind, and gifted person. He earned two B.A.s and an M.A. in literature at Stanford, then a Master of Philosophy at Cambridge, before graduating cum laude from the Yale School of Medicine. His decision to go to medical school, he writes, was an effort "to forge relationships with the suffering, and to keep following the question of what makes human life meaningful, even in the face of death and decay."

He returned to Stanford for a residency in neurological surgery and a postdoctoral fellowship in neuroscience. He excelled at every level. His training was almost complete when he fell ill.

In the first half of the book, Dr. Kalanithi provides a good set of anecdotes about how he goes from medical resident to seasoned doctor: first cadaver, first births and deaths on the same day. From the start, workaholic though he is, he understands patients' needs better than most young doctors do.

His words are bracing for their honesty. He also writes beautifully about the philosophical aspect of medicine, neurosurgery in particular: "Every operation on the brain is, by necessity, a manipulation of the substance of our selves, and every conversation with a patient undergoing brain surgery cannot help but confront this fact."

On telling patients how much time they have left, Kalanithi says, "I came to believe that it is irresponsible to be more precise than you can be accurate." Also, "Science may provide the most useful way to organize empirical reproducible data, but its power to do so is predicated on its inability to grasp the most central aspects of human life: hope, fear, love, hate, beauty, envy, honor, weakness, striving, suffering, virtue."

Kalanithi's health improved for a while, allowing him to go back to work and to write more. He persevered through chemotherapy treatments. In 2015 though, things took a turn for the worse, and Kalanithi died before he completed this work. His wife, Lucy, with the book's editor, finished the manuscript.

When a friend heard I was reading the book, she exclaimed, "How could someone have a child when he knows he is going to die?" Let him answer for himself.

"What are you most afraid of or sad about she [*his wife, Lucy*] asked me one night as we were lying in bed. 'Leaving you', I told her. I knew a child would bring joy to the whole family and I couldn't picture Lucy husbandless and childless after I died.

"Will having a newborn distract from the time we have together?" she asked. 'Don't you think saying goodbye to your child will make your death more painful?' 'Wouldn't it be great if it did', I said. Lucy and I both felt that life wasn't about avoid-

ing suffering. After many years of living with death, I'd come to understand that the easiest death wasn't necessarily the best."

In one of the book's most poignant moments, Kalanithi lies on a cot in the same hospital room where his wife is giving birth to their daughter, Cady. Holding his child for the first time, he writes, "The possibilities of life emanated before us." A few pages later, however, he is confronting yet again the certainty of death. "Everyone succumbs to finitude," he writes. "I suspect I am not the only one who reaches this pluperfect state." Only memory and words — in his case, those in this very book — "have a longevity I do not."

Editor's Note

Marine Corps veteran [J.J. Hanson](#) was president of the Patient's Rights Action Fund (PRAF). Hanson was married and a father when he was diagnosed with stage 4 glioblastoma, the deadliest form of brain cancer. This was at the same time that glioblastoma patient Brittany Maynard was being lionized in the mainstream press for traveling to Oregon in order to take lethal drugs to end her life.

Despite being given a prognosis of only four months to live, Hanson chose to fight. He not only endured grueling cancer treatments but worked tirelessly with PRAF, traveling to states to help defeat laws promoting doctor-prescribed suicide. Hanson outlived his prognosis by three years and he and his wife became parents again to a second son, Lucas, who was six months old at his father's passing.

J.J. was the [keynote speaker at the MCFL Mother's Day Dinner in 2016](#). We respect his courage and honor his memory with gratitude.

"After many years of living with death, I'd come to understand that the easiest death wasn't necessarily the best." – Paul Kalanithi

Rollo Leads Doctors' Day at the State House



Mark Rollo, with the help of [Mass. Alliance Against Doctor Prescribed Suicide](#), organized Doctors' Day at the State House on Feb. 1. Mark; Dr. Thomas Sullivan, Past President of the Mass. Medical Society; and Dr. Laura Petrillo, a palliative care doctor and teacher at Mass General, addressed legislators and aides and then held a press conference.

Statement of Dr. Mark Rollo in Opposition to H 1194

My name is Mark Rollo and I am a family physician of 30 years and for most of that time I have practiced medicine in Fitchburg, MA. I am strongly opposed to physician assisted suicide (PAS). With me today are many likeminded physicians and advanced practitioners who all share in this opposition to assist patients to kill themselves.

Regrettably, with its decision to withdraw opposition to PAS, the Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS) is turning back the clock to a time when physicians weren't trusted. Hippocrates, who practiced medicine 2500 years ago when physicians could choose to heal their patients or to kill them, realized that situation caused physicians to be mistrusted and so he penned the [Hippocratic Oath](#). That oath states in part, "I will neither give a deadly drug to anybody who asks for it, nor will I make a suggestion to this effect." This past December, the MMS decided that this time honored patient-protecting oath was obsolete when delegates [voted to abandon their long held opposition to physician assisted suicide](#). It was only six years ago that the MMS voted strongly to

reaffirm its long standing opposition to PAS.

The MMS House of Delegates adopted a position of "neutral engagement" regarding "medical-aid-in-dying," which is the current euphemism for physician assisted suicide. But true assistance to people who are dying already exists. The Commonwealth's wonderful hospice and palliative care programs help alleviate pain and suffering so as to enable patients to die a natural painless death in nearly every single case.

Sanctioning the currently illegal practice of a physician writing a prescription for suicide pills is a mistake. In this scenario, a patient can bring home a bottle of 100 sleeping pills and take them without medical supervision or supervision of any kind. There have been cases, in states where this is legal, where patients don't actually die after taking suicide pills but are severely harmed and more suffering ensues. Family can walk in and find their loved one dead because there is no requirement for family notification. Malevolent individuals could potentially coerce family members to request and then take the suicide pills in order to obtain an inheritance. Elder abuse is already a significant problem in Massachusetts, and PAS will only exacerbate the problem. Em-

powering doctors to be the means of suicide disempowers patients and will lead to even more abuse.

Legalizing PAS is not about giving a patients aid in dying, it is about giving doctors the right to kill. It also gives doctors the right to lie on the death certificate by mandating that the underlying illness be indicated as the cause of death rather than the true manner of death; suicide.

Perhaps the most hideous outcome of the legalization of physician assisted suicide would be the fact that once legalized, the practice becomes a "medical" procedure and a cheap one at that. Cash strapped governments and profit minded insurance companies will increasingly rely upon PAS to save money. Physicians and patients alike are keenly aware of the tendency of insurance companies to refuse to cover expensive treatments. As is too often the case, the well-heeled get another option, but it is the poor, people of color, and people with disabilities who will subtly, or not so subtly, be steered toward suicide. This has already occurred in states where PAS is legal and is well documented. [Barbara Wagner of Oregon received a letter from Medicaid of Oregon indicating that her expensive chemotherapy for lung cancer would not be covered but her suicide pills would be covered](#). Randy Stroup of Oregon received a [similar letter regarding his metastatic prostate cancer](#). There are many more examples.

Moreover, due to suicide contagion, there is a correlation between states that allow PAS and higher overall suicide rates. In Oregon, for example, the general suicide rate is 40% above the national average. Do we really want to invite the tragedy of an even higher suicide rate than we have already in Massachusetts?

People come from all over the world to Massachusetts to receive lifesaving care from world renowned, trusted physicians and medical institutions. Massachusetts also has a proud tradition of protecting the vulnerable. We must not allow this so called "engaged neutrality" from the MMS to lead to the legalization of physician assisted suicide and thereby sully Massachusetts's great tradition of providing quality and compassionate care.

ENTER NOW!

THE MASSACHUSETTS MARCH STEPS OFF ON JUNE 17

March for Life Baby Contest



2017 March Baby Benjamin

MCFL is accepting digital entries for 2018's "March Baby."

The contest winner and his or her parents will lead the [Massachusetts March for Life](#) through the streets of Boston on June 17. Voting will be conducted online.

To be eligible for the contest, babies must be between 6 and 24 months of age when the photo is submitted. Your photo submission is non-returnable, becomes the property of MCFL, and gives permission to MCFL to use the photo. Photos may be submitted from April 1 (Easter) - April 15. Voting will be held from April 16-30.

Babies entered in the contest will be identified on the Web site by first name only. Parents can contact their families and friends through telephone, email, Twitter or Facebook and ask them to check out our Web site and vote!

Send digital photos to dbettinelli@masscitizensforlife.org

PS FORM 3526: STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

1. Publication Title: Massachusetts Citizens for Life; 2. Publication Number: 25-329; 3. Filing Date: November 2017; 4. Issue Frequency: Quarterly; 5. Number of Issues Published Annually: 4; 6. Annual Subscription Price: \$30-Individual, \$50-Couple; 7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication: The Schrafft Center, 529 Main St., Suite 1M9, Boston, MA 02129-1122; Contact Person: Anne Fox, Telephone (617) 242-4199; 8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher: The Schrafft Center, 529 Main St., Suite 1M9, Boston, MA 02129-1122; 9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor: Publisher: Anne Fox, 529 Main St., Suite 1M9, Boston, MA 02129-1122; Editor: Helen Cross, 529 Main St., Suite 1M9, Boston, MA 02129-1122; Managing Editor: NA; 10. Owner: Massachusetts Citizens for Life, 529 Main St., Suite 1M9, Boston, MA 02129-1122; 11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages or Other Securities: None; 12. Tax Status: The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes: Has Not Changed During the Preceding 12 Months; 13. Publication Title: Massachusetts Citizens for Life; 14. Issue Date for Circulation Below: Winter 2017; 15. Extent and Nature of Circulation – (a) Total Number of Copies: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 3,796, No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 2,785; (b) Paid Circulation – (1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541- Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 2,197, No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 2,585; (2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 - Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 0, No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0; (3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS – Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 0, No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0; (4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS – Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 0, No. Copies Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0; (c) Total Paid Distribution: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 2,197, No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 2,585; (d) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution – (1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541 – Average No. copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies of Single Issue Published nearest to Filing Date: 0; (2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 0, No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0; (3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail) : 10, Average No. Copies Each Issue Published During Preceding 12 Months: 10, No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0; (4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail – Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 1,515, No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 115; (e) Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 1,525, No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 125; (f) Total Distribution: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 3,722, No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 2,710; (g) Copies Not Distributed: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 75, No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 75; (h) Total: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 3,797, No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 2,785; (i) Percent Paid: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 57.80%, No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 92.80%; 16. Electronic Copy Circulation: N/A; 17. Publication of Statement of Ownership: Publication of this statement will be printed in the Spring 2018 Issue of the Publication; 18. Signature and Title of Publisher: Anne C. Fox, Date: December 26, 2017.



Dr. Mildred Fay Jefferson, the first African-American woman to graduate from Harvard Medical School, and National Right to Life Committee President from 1975-1978

Dr. Mildred Fay Jefferson Oratory Contest

Win a trip to compete nationally in Kansas City

The 2018 Dr. Mildred Fay Jefferson Oratory Contest is open to all high school juniors and seniors. The winner of the state competition on March 24 and a parent/guardian will win a trip to the National Competition at the National Right to Life Convention.

Entrants must research and write a 5-7 minute, original pro-life speech on abortion, infanticide, euthanasia or stem cell research. Speeches will be presented at the MCFL Convention on March 24 at Cardinal Spellman High School in Brockton. Those who present on that day will attend the Convention and receive lunch for free.

If you cannot attend the Convention, you may submit a video of your speech by March 22. Register by emailing Domenico Bettinelli, MCFL Director of Community Engagement, at action@masscitizensforlife.org by March 19. Let him know that you wish to submit a video and he'll send you details on how to submit.

The winner of the state contest will take part in the national competition held at the National Right to Life Convention in Kansas City, June 28-30. The winner will get to meet the other finalists from around the country who will also be competing.

More information and further guidelines are on the MCFL web site at: <http://www.masscitizensforlife.org/oratorycontest>

“I am at once a physician, a citizen, and a woman, and I am not willing to stand aside and allow this concept of expendable human lives to turn this great land of ours into just another exclusive reservation where only the perfect, the privileged, and the planned have the right to live.” – Dr. Mildred Fay Jefferson

Memorials

Ron Ciecuch

Ken and Anne Fox

Joyce Flansburg

Anne Fox

Joan Hamel

Barbara Roche

Venita Lavoie

Dorothy G. Clesas

Paul and Lynne Harrison

Joseph and Charlene Vincent

Richard N. Vecchiarelli

James Jyz

Congratulations

Happy Birthday to **Ariana Gilbert**
MCFL Board of Directors

Happy 80th Birthday to **Joseph Hamel**
Samuel and Barbara Peoples



Hats worn by the “Marching 100” of St. Augustine High School at the March for Life in Washington, D.C.

A donation made in memory of a loved one or in honor of a loved one's birthday, wedding, anniversary, or new baby, will help us continue our life-saving work. Mail to: MCFL, 529 Main St., Suite 1M9, Boston, MA 02129-1122

The Schrafft Center
529 Main Street, Suite 1M9
Boston, MA 02129-1122

Coming Events

Student Lobby Days

Winter through May

MCFL Convention 2018

March 24

Cardinal Spellman High School, Brockton

Mass. March Baby Contest

Entries: April 1 (Easter) -15, Voting: April 16-30

Regional Town Halls

April

Spring Social

May

Chez Josef, Agawam

Massachusetts March for Life

June 17

Boston Common

MCFL Annual Fundraising Banquet

October 25

Four Points Sheraton, Norwood

Mission

In recognition of the fact that each human life is a continuum from conception to natural death, the mission of Massachusetts Citizens for Life is to restore respect for human life and to defend the right to life of all human beings, born and preborn. We will influence public policy at the local, state, and national levels through comprehensive educational, legislative, political, and charitable activities.

MCFL Convention 2018

Abortion - the New Paradigm

Featuring:

David C. Reardon, Ph.D., director of the Elliot Institute, is widely recognized as one of the leading experts on the aftereffects of abortion on women, a field in which he has specialized since 1983. He has been a noted advocate of healing programs for women, men, and families who have lost children to abortion, miscarriage, or neonatal death.

His studies have been published in such prestigious medical journals as the *British Medical Journal* and the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*, and have proven that abortion compared to childbirth is associated with higher rates of maternal death, psychiatric hospitalization, subsequent substance abuse, clinical depression, and numerous other complications.

The emphasis of his work has been on promoting a “pro-woman / pro-life” approach to the abortion issue which emphasizes efforts to prevent coerced and unsafe abortions and efforts to create a more healing environment for women, men and families hurting because of a past abortion.



Dr. David Reardon