

OPPORTUNITIES TO WITNESS 4 LIFE

** Tuesdays, 8 to 12 N at **PLANNED PARENTHOOD**(PP), 4th and Franklin Sts., Reading. Killing day. Be a witness! We pray as a group at 9:30 AM. If you can't be at PP, then pray where you are.

* Wednesdays, 9 AM to 10:00 AM, prayer at **Planned Parenthood** and help give out NFP literature, etc.

* 1st Sunday of the month, Reading Hospital, 2 - 3 P

* Other abortion mills in the area (Allentown Diocese) where you can witness: **Allentown Women's Center**, 1409 Union Blvd. Rear, Abortions on Tues., Thurs, Fri., Sat. **Allentown Planned Parenthood**, 29 N. 9th St., abortions: Fri. AM. **Allentown Medical Services**, 2200 Hamilton Blvd., Abortions: Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat.

* Mon., Jan. 23, 2012. **March for Life** in Washington, DC. Plan to go.

* Tues., Dec. 6th . Nativity Scene set up at 5th & Penn Sts., Reading, by Matt Lloyd and his crew.

* Fri., Dec. 16th, 9:30 AM, **Empty Manger Christmas Caroling** at the Allentown Women's Center. Come and sing!

* Tues., Dec. 20th, **Christmas Caroling** at Reading PP after 9:30 AM Rosary. Join us!

* Dec. 25th. Joy to the World. Merry Christmas!

* **PRO-LIFE BERKS ON BCTV**

Dec. 13, 2011, 8:30 PM. Please tune in. You can watch the program streaming from the BCTV website if you can't get it locally. The topic is The Poverty of Abortion. Learn more about the high cost of abortion to our nation, in addition to the human loss.

- ✓ Researcher: "Abortions Cost Economy \$34 Trillion Since 1970 in Lost Productivity."
- ✓ "The Economic Cost of Abortion: \$202 Billion in Lost Taxes."
- ✓ "Abortion Hitting Social Security Hard."
- ✓ "The High Costs of Marriage Absence."
- ✓ "A Nation that kills its own children is a nation without hope". Pope John Paul II
- ✓ "It is a poverty to decide that a child must die so that you may live as you wish." Blessed Mother Teresa.

These are a few of the quotes and articles we'll be using to discuss the topic of "The Poverty of Abortion" on our Pro Life Berks BCTV program on December 16th at 8:30 PM. A list of the resource material will be available after the program.

We're sure this topic will generate much interest, especially in light of the ongoing discussions of the poverty in Reading and in America. Clearly, the greatest loss, the greatest poverty, is the innocent child killed by abortion. However, there are many other ways to measure poverty and we have chosen to discuss them in the context of abortion, the family, societal losses, and moral decay. The issue of poverty goes well beyond the subject of jobs, although we know this is a large part of the current problems in America. Like jobs, some of the other issues we can fix, and abortion is a choice where there surely are other choices.

Co-hosts Ed Bender and Kathy Kuhns invite you to call into the program with your brief comment or question. Join the conversation. After all, we're all affected by this poverty in one way or another. We'd also appreciate any interesting articles to add to our bibliography, so please send them to us at: prolifeberks@aol.com, or mail them. This is a discussion for everyone.

THE POVERTY OF ABORTION

THANKS!! A big thanks, once again, to all of you who participated in the 40 Days for Life Campaign and Prayer Vigil at Reading PP. It's obvious by PP staff turnover that our prayers are being heard. We'll keep praying until the place is closed.

Also, thanks again to those who support us financially. Your strong commitment to the pro-life cause is a blessing and a witness in itself. As always, we use the gifts given to us wisely and with much appreciation. Please know that you are prayed for as well. May we continue to uplift each other. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas!

KEEP THE PRESSURE ON FOR THE PASSAGE OF S.B. 732

We still have not seen the final passage of S.B. 732, The Health Care Facilities Act, which would regulate abortion clinics on the same level as other ambulatory care facilities in our state. The state house and senate have yet to rectify their differences, and we need to be sure that the bill is not weakened by waiver provisions, or other means that would allow for a lesser standard of care. For far too long, the abortion clinics in our state have been under-inspected and under regulated. For example, Brigham's mill in Allentown is still open, even after serious, even disgusting, deficiencies were found on inspection in May of this year.

Please continue to contact your state reps. and let them know that we need this bill passed.

2012 ELECTION WILL HAVE MASSIVE

ABORTION IMPLICATIONS - The economy is bad and a big issue, but abortion and related issues will define the future of America. Can a nation survive when it is in fact committing demographic suicide and killing our posterity? The results of the upcoming election may well answer this question.- Tom Glessner, *LifeNews.com*. Note: We'll be re-starting our PAC.

SURPRISES

One loves surprises, and so it was on a recent trip

24 hr. hotline numbers for abortion-minded women: National: 1-800-395-help, PA: 1-800-345-5009, New Jersey: 1-800-662-2678, Regional:610-626-4006. LIFELINE of Berks County:610-374-8545, Mercy CPC: 610-376-3949, Life Choices, Kutztown: 610-683-8000, Care Net Lehigh Valley:610-821-0943, Catholic Charities, Reading: 610-376-7144

Pro-Life Berks started in 1998 when Reading Planned Parenthood (PP) began killing babies. We distribute a monthly newsletter; pay for anti-killing billboards; host a bi-monthly TV program on BCTV; do sidewalk counseling, pray and witness at PP. Still, babies are being killed at PP now on Tuesdays from 8 to 12 N. Pro-Life Berks is a peaceful, prayerful organization dedicated to the defense of human life from fertilization to natural death. We oppose the use of force against both person and property, and condemn abortion-related violence in all forms. Send \$12 to receive this monthly newsletter. PLB BOARD: Fabio Gabrielli, Carolyn Bonkoski, John Boncoddio; Lance Thomas., Joe Koren - Treas. ; Mary Alice Kuhns; Kathy Kuhns - Sec. and Editor. PLB Advisory Board: Troy Newman, Peter Cianci, John and Michele Woellner, Margaret Tully and Mary Harris. Need assistance? Contact Pro-Life Berks, P.O. Box 6086, Wyomissing, PA, 19610, www.prolifeberks.org, or prolifeberks@aol.com

to Walmart to buy a gift certificate. It was a thrill to scan the selection of gift cards and to find one with a Nativity Scene on it. Imagine! At Walmart!

The second surprise was to recently pick up a copy of *Women's World* magazine and to see an article which actually promoted a natural method of family planning. A woman wrote in and asked for help since she was over 40 and had irregular periods. She said she had always used the rhythm method and wanted to know what else she could use.

She was told the rhythm method wasn't advisable during menopause, especially if she was irregular. Then she was told: "A new option called the TwoDay Method may be better for you. It relies on cervical secretions to determine fertile days and has been found to be more than 97% effective when used correctly. You can use it even if you have an out-of-whack cycle. If you'd like to try the TwoDay method, you can get more information at **IRH.org**. And it's important that you ask your gynecologist for training...."

It was actually exciting to read a discussion of natural family planning (NFP) in such a matter-of-fact way in a typical women's mainstream magazine. It was wonderful to see how easily an NFP recourse was offered. Obviously, the article didn't include Catholic teaching on the need for marriage and openness to children, but the it was striking to see how easily it is to get the message out on NFP. Why aren't we doing more of that??

Another surprise was the IRH.org website. IRH stands for Institute of Reproductive Health at Georgetown University! Their focus: to empower women, yada yada. Not much Catholic teaching mentioned. No surprise. Or marriage. Just imagine what could be accomplished if they were a real Catholic institution.

KK

MORE ON ABBY JOHNSON

Hopefully, you have read Unplanned by Abby Johnson, the Planned Parenthood (PP) office manager who left the abortion industry and is now actively pro-life. Her story is a blessing to read for pro-lifers, to see how God has led her from darkness to light. Her story is even stronger for those still in the clutches of the baby, killing centers. In an article, sent in by Mary Harris, "No One is a Lost Cause" by Carolee McGrath, *Faith and Family* magazine, we get an update of what is going on in Abby's life since she left Planned Parenthood (PP).

For one, she relates how she had to deal with the abortions of 2 of her children and also the thousands of babies killed by abortion during her years with PP in Texas. Praise God, she has another conversion story which is that she and her husband are converting to the Catholic faith.

In addition to writing *Unplanned*, she has quickly become a pro-life leader and spokesperson. Her lesson to pro-lifers is to keep praying and reaching out to the abortion workers. "I think a lot of people think the workers are a lost cause. There were a lot of people who thought I was a lost cause, but look at me," Abby says. "We serve a God that's in the business of miracles. Don't you expect this from our God?" This is God. This is what he does."

Source: Article from Faith and Family sent in by Mary Harris. Note: Please pray for the workers, and volunteers, at our local abortion mills in Reading and Allentown. Also, pray for the pro-lifers who witness to them, and for all those who come to abortion mills that their presence will always be a mature, Christian witness. As for Abby, she has just announced that she is starting her own ministry to help abortion workers quit. She understands how difficult this can be and wants to be there for them when they leave. Thanks be to God for her witness and much-needed ministry.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE ANNOUNCES MORE ABORTION MILL CLOSINGS

According to Dave Bereit, National Director of 40 Days for Life, the 19th abortion facility has closed following a following a 40 Days Campaign outside their doors. Praise God! The latest one is Regions Hospital in St. Paul, Minnesota. Seven 40 Days Campaigns were held there prior to the closing. How encouraging is that!

TROY NEWMAN ALSO ANNOUNCES CLOSINGS

Troy Newman, Director of Operation Rescue gives thanks for the following closings this year:

Eve Surgical Center, Los Angeles, the clinic where partial birth abortion method was invented has permanently closed.

Geron, Menlo Park, Calif., a biotech lab which was the first to engage in human-embryonic experimentation, has abandoned its human embryo program for good.

The only abortion clinic in Sante Fe has announced its closing by the end of the year.

Two more abortion clinics in Michigan have been ordered to close for the illegal dumping of aborted baby remains and for operating illegally, bringing the number of abortion clinics closed this year to three.

ANYTHING GOES

"With regulation of the IVF [in vitro fertilization] industry virtually nonexistent in the US, it is estimated that a stockpile of some 500,000 human embryos - labeled as "spares" - are now in a cryopreserved (frozen) state. Moving toward 'designer babies,' IVF specialists are marketing and promoting the use of prenatal genetic diagnosis to scan and test chromosomes of IVF embryos, allowing for the elimination of those nascent human beings with less-than-desirable genetic traits." "Anything Goes", an article written by Sister Renee Mirkes and Chuck Weber, explains how reproductive health care grows ever more disturbing. The authors contrast an upcoming meeting [November] of prestigious US research universities and reproductive institutions and their radical agenda to Dr. Thomas Hilgers' Pope Paul VI Institute for the Study of Human Reproduction, which developed the NaproTechnology (natural procreative, or NPT) for infertility "touting success rates that are one-and-a-half times higher than various methods of IVF... If society's moral infrastructure rests squarely on the foundation of the family, then appraising the moral character of the means by which couples build those families takes on individual and social importance. *Source: The Catholic World Report, 11/11.*

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you in the womb,
I knew you."**

- God -

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KAY'S KORNER --

I recently ran across an old pro-life poster we used to use. It was a drawing of a Nutcracker with tears in its eyes. It said something like, "Toys will have fewer children to play with this year." Imagine all the joy these children could have brought. They could have been "up and coming" 20 and 30 year olds with their children around the dinner table.

We had all 15 members of our family in for Thanksgiving. It required a lot of work and my body showed the evidence of it. However, the joy of the weekend brought new happy memories and the old memories we shared made every sacrifice we made through the years worth it. May God bless all our sacrificial parents and may He also comfort those mothers and fathers who made the most tragic decision of abortion.

May all "about-to-be" grandparents think of the joy grandchildren can bring, before they drop off their daughter at the abortion clinic door and rush off to breakfast (as we saw on one Saturday morning). Even children, born with a birth defect, bring immeasurable joy - as I happily discovered in my own family.

There is no child, created by God, whose birth is untimely or burdensome. There were times in my life when we had to sacrifice, but the joy and happiness we received eclipses all of that. Now we await the birth of our first great-grandchild. Thanks be to God.

May God bless you abundantly with all you NEED in the Christmas season and through the New Year.

- Kay Mulligan

**TWAS THE MONTH BEFORE CHRISTMAS**

Twass the month before Christmas
 When all through the land,
 Not a Christian was praying
 Nor taking a stand.
 See the PC Police had taken away
 The reason for Christmas - no one could say.
 The children were told by their schools not to sing
 About Shepherds and Wise Men and Angels and things.
 It might hurt people's feelings, the teachers would say
 December 25th is just a 'Holiday'.
 Yet shoppers were ready with cash, checks and credit
 Pushing folks down to the floor just to get it!
 CDs from Madonna, an X BOX, an I-POD
 Something was changing, something quite odd.
 Retailers promoted Ramadan and Kwanzaa
 In hopes to sell books by Franken & Fonda.
 As Targets were hanging their trees upside down
 At Lowe's the word Christmas - was no where to be found.
 At K-Mart and Staples and Penny's and Sears
 You won't hear the word Christmas; it won't touch
 your ears.
 Now Daschle, Now Darden, Now Sharpton, Wolf
 Blitzen
 On Boxer, on Rather, on Kerry, on Clinton!
 At the top of the Senate, there arose such a clatter
 To eliminate Jesus, in all public matter.
 And we spoke not a word, as they took away our faith
 Forbidden to speak of salvation and grace
 The true Gift of Christmas was exchanged and
 discarded
 The reason for the season, stopped before it started.
 So as you celebrate 'Winter Break' under you 'Dream
 Tree'
 Sipping your Starbucks, listen to me.
 Choose your words carefully, choose what you say
 Shout MERRY CHRISTMAS, NOT HAPPY
 HOLIDAY!
 Please, all Christians join together and wish everyone
 you meet MERRY CHRISTMAS
 Christ is The Reason' for the Christ-mas Season!
*Slightly dated, but cleverly written. Source: Unknown. Sent
 in by Kevin and Donna Wright*





Signs matter. Some signs matter more than others. A big thanks to Mark Schenk, from the St. Ignatius Church group, The King's Men, who designed and donated this sign for us to use at the abortion mills while we are there trying to counsel the girls going in for an abortion. Yes, graphic signs of abortion shock some people and in the process may save some babies' lives, but for a girl at the door, feeling desperate in most cases, she needs to know she is loved and that people care about her and her baby. Thanks Mark and thanks to all those, filled with love, who stand at the door.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

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