

BULLETIN INSERTS
JANUARY-MARCH, 2015

January 4 - For more than forty years we have lived with the silent, and sometimes not so silent, holocaust in our midst as the lives of 56 million innocent and unborn children have been killed, plucked from their journey to enter this world. Who were they? Who would they have become? As we begin a new year, these questions posed by columnist Star Parker should motivate the pro-life movement to even greater efforts.

January 11 - “All life has inestimable value, even the weakest and most vulnerable: the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God’s creation, made in His own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.” (Pope Francis, 7/17/2013)

January 18 - As we mark the sad anniversary of living with abortion on demand for 42 years, we see that what we have done over the last several years has made a difference. Teen abortion rates are down across the country, reaching the lowest levels ever recorded since abortion’s legalization. Education has been the key because the more teens know about the development of the baby, the more they know about abortion and alternatives to abortion, the more they talk to their parents, the more teens choose life. Under the circumstances, it shouldn’t surprise anyone that the generation hit hardest by abortion may be the most pro-life generation since **Roe**. (Randall O’Bannon, Ph.D, **NRL News** 5/6/14)

January 25 - “**Roe v. Wade** has given us four decades of broken babies, broken lives, and broken hearts. It is a legal travesty which has led to a social experiment gone terribly wrong.” (Maria Gallagher, Legislative Director of the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation, **NRL News** 1/09/14)

February 1 - One of the world’s most prestigious medical publications, the **British Medical Journal**, has endorsed a bill that would legalize assisted suicide in England. The reason for the endorsement? “Respect for patient autonomy” which, according to the **Journal**, “has emerged as the cardinal principle of medical ethics.” (**NRL News Today**, 7/7/14)

February 8 - A young woman employed as a sign language interpreter at a Planned Parenthood abortion facility quit her job the very afternoon that she witnessed an abortion. She states, "I tried to remain calm. I interpreted back and forth, but when the murder began, I lost it. As I watched the doctor pull this life out, limb by limb, I couldn't help but let the tears start to fall. What I had thought would be just lumps of blood clots were body parts. Arms, a torso, legs, and a head. I felt as if I was suffocating." (**Life News**, 8/31/14)

February 15 – As we begin the season of Lent, these insightful words can serve as a subject for meditation:

"By abortion, the mother does not learn to love, but kills even her own child to solve her problems" (Mother Teresa)

"But now, O LORD, You are our Father, We are the clay, and You our potter; And all of us are the work of Your hand." (Isaiah 64:8)

February 22 - We want to be part of a society that makes affirmation and protection of human rights its primary objective and its boast. Yet to women faced with an unexpected pregnancy, abortion is often presented as their only "choice." A large percentage of children pre-diagnosed with Down Syndrome are never given the chance to live outside their mothers' wombs. Elderly members of our families fear they will become burdensome and seek physician assisted suicide." (Cardinal Sean O'Malley statement opening Respect Life Month)

March 1 - "Abortion is our nation's worst, most destructive injustice. And as it destroys the lives of the most innocent, it's important to remember that its effects continue on to damage the physical, psychological and spiritual health of women (and men), making our great country weaker on all fronts. What our nation needs is for people to aggressively share the truth about the damage abortion does." (Rebecca Hagelin, Townhall.com 5/8/14)

March 8 - Observing the rationale behind assisted suicide laws, bioethicist Wesley Smith has written, "The most common reasons for committing assisted suicide in Oregon/Washington are: not wanting to be a burden, worrying about losing the ability to engage in enjoyable situations, etc. These existential issues are very important and certainly need attention by caregivers, but they are not "last resort" problems that assisted suicide activists cite, at least as that term is commonly understood."

March 15 - Speaking about her family's decision not to abort their unborn child with cleft palate, Missy Robertson of "Duck Dynasty" asserted:

"Who am I to decide that for her? God already decided that, allowed that to happen. I'm so glad for this opportunity – I wouldn't ask for this, this special challenge in our life, ... but I'm very grateful for it. I'm grateful for the challenge, and I'm grateful for Mia, as a human being. I can't imagine our life without her." (LifeNews, 9/10/14)

March 22 - Abortion of children with disabilities is rampant; however "if we believe that God creates each and every one of us, and that He has a purpose then for each and every one of us, even those who may experience disabilities which others do not, then it is not our place to end that person's life. To do so is to play God". (Rebecca Downs, LifeNews, 9/10/14)

March 29 - Christ, as well as the Old Testament prophets, urge us to free the captives, lift up the oppressed, and open the eyes of the blind. On this holy day, we may ask, "Who are the captives, if not those unborn children who are bound over to death by the "choice" of abortion? Who is more blind than an unborn child in the darkness of a womb that has become a waiting room for their death? And who is more oppressed than those unborn children whose oppression has been legitimized by their government, their church and even their family and loved ones?" (Reflection written for participants in 40 Days for Life)

PRAYER INTENTIONS JANUARY-MARCH, 2015

January 4 – That we may all radiate the truth about the right to life of the unborn, we pray

January 11 – That we may be a light to the nations as we proclaim the sanctity of every human life, we pray

January 18 – That we may hear the Lord calling us to serve as a voice for the unborn, the disabled and the frail elderly, we pray

January 25 – That America may wake up and turn away from destructiveness of abortion, we pray

February 1 – That more people will listen to the words of modern prophets who clearly see the results of destroying the unborn, we pray

February 8 – That doctors performing abortions may remember their role is healing, not destroying, we pray

February 15 – That women who have come to regret their abortions may turn to Christ who can heal all pain, we pray

February 22 – For all women tempted to abort their unborn child, that they may seek life-giving alternatives, we pray

March 1 – That we as a nation may come to realize that sacrificing babies to abortion is a choice we should not make, we pray

March 8 – For those who make a profit from destroying unborn babies, that they may come to realize the error of their ways, we pray

March 15 – For those who willfully disregard the sanctity of human life, that they may remember God is full of justice and mercy, we pray

March 22 – For all those who serve God by providing pregnant women with alternatives to abortion, we pray

March 29 – That our celebration of Holy Week may deepen our appreciation of all human life for which Our Lord gave His life, we pray