

August 10, 2009 Helpers Newsletter

Dear Friends of God's Precious Infants,

“It Was A Good Deal”

Recently a woman, whom I have been helping, was present in my office with her autistic son. I noticed that her son kept looking at my nose. There is no guile in autistic children. They will tell you exactly what they are thinking. Pointing to my nose, the boy said to his mother: “He has a short nose.” Well, as many of you know, in the past year and a half, I have had more than one serious operation due to the effects of facial skin cancer. During this time, I am grateful for the prayers of so many good people and the excellent dedicated doctors that God sent me. For example, Dr. Dominick Gollio of SUNY Downstate Hospital, in October 2007, skillfully removed the cancer from around my left eye and by reconstructive surgery so repaired the area, that it is noticeable only to a trained eye. Dr. Desiree Ratner, an expert in Mohs Surgery, and the Head of the Dermatology Department of Columbia Presbyterian Hospital, in October 2008, did a masterful job in removing hopefully all the cancer from my nose area. But after the removal of the cancer from my nose and the surrounding area, it was still necessary to take quite a large skin graft from my leg to replace the cancerous skin. And so, God again provided me with an exceptionally intelligent, skilled physician, Dr. Mark Smith, the Chief of Plastic Surgery at Beth Israel Medical Center. Dr. Smith also did an excellent job of reconstructing the nose with the skin graft, in October 2008. Finally Dr. Smith did further surgery on my ears and neck on January 22nd 2009.

Still One Major Difficulty

There was still one major difficulty. Due to thirty-two prior radiation treatments, to treat a past cancerous condition in the nasal area, Doctor Smith was afraid the skin graft would not take because of the negative effect of the radiation on the remaining cells. To revitalize the cells to help the skin graft to take, Dr. Smith recommended that I undergo forty hours of hyperbaric oxygen therapy in Maimonides Hospital. I followed his advice. The treatment not only helped the skin graft to take but when I recently had to renew my driver’s license, I discovered that I no longer needed eyeglasses, since my vision is now 20/20 in both eyes. And so I said to the young lad: “Your description of my nose is one of the best I’ve heard but I have to tell you it was a good deal, since, I got one short nose for two good eyes.”

The Secret of Success

The challenging written words in March 1995, of the late Pope John Paul II in section 100 of his Encyclical the Gospel of Life still inspires and guides the Helpers' Apostolate. The Pope said: "Jesus himself has shown us by His own example that prayer and fasting are the first and most effective weapons against the forces of evil. As he taught His disciples, some demons cannot be driven out except in this way. Let us therefore discover anew the humility and the courage to pray and fast so that the power from on high will break down the walls of lies and deceit; the walls which conceal from the sight of so many of our brothers and sisters the evil of practices and laws which are hostile to life." Moreover at the end of His life, by His own example, Our Lord revealed the total secret of how the Helpers Apostolate can successfully overcome the Culture of Death, and establish a Culture of Life, indeed it is Prayer, Fasting but also Suffering.

Much Ado about Nothing

Here in New York City, the City Council passed Amendment 826 to the NYC 1994 Access to the Abortion Clinic Law 33A. It was later signed by Mayor Bloomberg and went into effect on July 19th 2009. It unfairly raised the penalty for breaking the Access Law from a violation to a misdemeanor. The Amendment does not add any new restriction on what the Helpers now do or where Helpers can stand outside of an abortion clinic. Considering that no Helper has been found guilty of breaking the 1994 Access Law, since it was passed, it would seem increasing the penalty, as the bard Shakespeare said is much ado about nothing except maybe a legal attempt to put a chilling effect on pro-life citizens from exercising their First Amendment rights to offer help to pregnant mothers approaching the abortion clinics. In this new challenge to exercising our Constitutional rights, the Helpers were once again blessed to have the guidance and wise counsel of Kathleen O'Connell Esq., an expert in Constitutional Law. The Helpers are also grateful to the 8 NYC Council Members, the Honorables Tony Avella, Simcha Felder, Vincent Ignizio, Kenneth Mitchell, Eric Ulrich, James Vacca, Peter Vallone Jr., and James Oddo for voting against the unfair Amendment 826. Furthermore, the Helpers appreciated the letter of public support of the Helpers Apostolate by the courageous pro-life Senator, Reverend Ruben Diaz, of the 32nd Senatorial District.

2009 HELPERS PRAYER VIGILS IN BROOKLYN, QUEENS and MANHATTAN

DATE	LOCATION	CELEBRANT
Sat Jan 17, 2009	St James Cathedral - Basilica 250 Cathedral Place Brooklyn NY 11201 718-855-6390	Bishop Daily
Sat Feb 21, 2009	St Charles Borromeo 21 Sidney Place Brooklyn 11201 718-625-1177	Bishop Cisneros

Sat Mar 28, 2009	Blessed Sacrament 34-43 93rd Street Jackson Heights 11372 718-639-3888	Bishop Daily
Sat Apr 18, 2009	St Paul - St Agnes Congress and Court Streets Brooklyn 11201 718-624-3425	Bishop Daily
Sat May 16, 2009	Queen of Martyrs 110-06 Queens Blvd. 11375 718-268-6251	Bishop Daily
Sat Jun 20, 2009	St John Vianney 140-10 34th Avenue Flushing, NY 11354 718-762-7920	Bishop DiMarzio
Sat Aug 29, 2009	Our Lady of the Cenacle 136-06 87th Av Richmond Hill NY 11418 718-291-2540	Bishop Daily
Sat Sept 19, 2009	Saint Joan of Arc 82-00 35th Avenue Jackson Hts., NY 11372 718-429-2333	Bishop DiMarzio
Sat Oct 17, 2009	St Michael's 352 42nd Street Brooklyn, NY 11232 718-768-6065	Bishop Sansaricq
Sat Oct 31, 2009	Our Savior Church Park Avenue and 38th Street, NY, NY	
Sat Nov 21, 2009	Saint Patrick's 39-38 29th Street Long Island City, NY 11101 718-729-6060	Bishop
Sat Dec 12, 2009	St Catherine of Genoa 520 Linden Blvd Brooklyn, NY 11203	Bishop DiMarzio
Mon Dec 28, 2009	Church of the Holy Innocents 37th Street and Broadway NY, NY	

In Spite of the Extrme Cold Everyone Stayed

On Sat. Jan.17th 2009 Msgr. John Stynkowski, the Rector of St. James Cathedral Basilica, welcomed Bishop Daily and all the Helpers at the Vigil Mass. A few years ago the Helpers stopped the Vigil Masses at St. James Cathedral after the closing of Brooklyn Women's Care abortion mill at Willoughby St. and Flatbush Ave.. Unfortunately another abortion mill, Professional Medical Services on 81 Willoughby Street in downtown Brooklyn is now open and being heavily advertised in the classified ads in Verizon Yellow Pages. And so on that bitter cold January morning, Bishop Daily together with Detective Steven McDonald led the Helpers in twenty decades of the rosary outside of this place of death, praying for the unborn children and their mothers. In spite of the extreme cold, everyone stayed for the whole Vigil.

After a Beautiful Reflective Homily

"On Saturday February 21st Bishop Octavio Cisneros, after a beautiful reflective homily at the 7:30 A.M. Vigil Mass, led the Helpers Rosary Procession from St. Charles Borromeo Church on Sydney St. in the Brooklyn Heights area, to pray outside the 4th Floor abortion mill, Brooklyn Gyn Place, at 142 Joralemon St. After the twenty decades of the Rosary led by Detective McDonald and the Bishop were completed, all returned to St. Charles where Bishop Cisneros closed the Vigil with Benediction. Although over the years, in the Brooklyn Heights area, three abortion mills at which the Helpers have prayed, are now closed, there is still work to be done, since in that area there are four abortion mills still open.

A Helpers' Refresher Training Program

Here at Precious Blood Monastery from 2-6 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, March 8th about 70 metropolitan Helpers, who weekly, some even daily, pray and do sidewalk counseling outside of the abortion mills here in New York City, participated in a refresher training program, which included time for Eucharistic adoration and Benediction in Chapel, before an hour of socializing at a shared meal. I stressed that the most important thing to happen outside of an abortion clinic is for people to be there in prayer. When a pregnant woman in difficulty approaches the abortion clinic and she sees people praying outside the mill, whether as part of the large prayer Vigil or in a follow up prayerful presence or as individual counselors praying, the pregnant woman immediately, consciously or subconsciously thinks of God. God is made present through your prayerful presence. And the existence of her hidden unborn baby, the potential victim, whose existence our society forgets or denies, is also made present through your prayerful presence. Moreover your prayers are obtaining from God for the frightened mothers the trust and courage to choose life for their unborn children. To be effective the prayers and the counselors also need each other and should act as one. We all agreed that it is difficult to maintain silence and prayer over a long period of time. Yet every woman is equally important whether she comes early or late. She must not be deprived of your prayerful presence. If a Helper volunteer or volunteers need to talk or relax, we agreed the person or persons should take a brief walk away from the group, rather than turning the prayerful presence into a coffee break All agreed this is difficult but they would try. Everyone seemed grateful and reenergized by the afternoon experience. I am grateful and stand in awe, at all these good people who year after year without any fanfare, sacrifice their time, energy, indeed a good portion of their lives for God's precious infants and their mothers. In traveling across the Country and around the World, constantly I am humbled as I witness such similar extraordinary dedication by so many ordinary people involved in the Helpers Apostolate.

Are There Reasons for Hope?

After a five-year hiatus, on Sunday March 15th at Holy Family School Hall at the request of Florence Maloney, I returned to deliver the first talk for this Year's Catholic Speakers Series. The Topic was: Are There Reasons for Hope in this Epic Struggle for Life? I stressed that works written in the Epic Genre, which for me includes the Bible, provides the reader with wisdom and insight to see one's own daily struggles in life, including our apparent defeats, in the light of the eternal plan of God being worked out. Namely, we are called to be faithful, especially for the sake of others, during the hour of darkness, knowing that in this epic struggle a new day will dawn, because the work of reestablishing a Culture of Life is ultimately in the hands of a loving, merciful, all powerful God. The talk was well received. Thanks to the great work of Wenqi and her husband, Craig, you can listen to this talk and many other talks and videos on the helperslibrary.info

No One's Prayer in Manchester Was More Pleasing to God Than...

Theo Purington from Manchester, New Hampshire visited me briefly here at the Monastery and felt it was so beneficial for himself that he insisted I go to Manchester and share with the people there the Helpers approach. And so on Friday March 20th I took the shuttle from New York to Boston, where Theo met me at the airport, and drove me to Manchester where that evening, after a prayer service which included the Rosary and Benediction, I spoke to those present about the spirituality and modus operandi of the Helpers. Some of the people had been involved in the Forty Days for Life and were now open to the Helpers 365 days approach. During the recitation of the Rosary in Church that evening I heard a young boy's voice enunciate loud and clear every Hail Mary. I wondered who he was. The next morning after the Vigil Mass while we were praying the Rosary across from the Planned Parenthood abortion mill suddenly I heard a young boy's voice on my left that I immediately recognized as the boy praying the night before at the Holy Hour. Near the end of the Vigil, as is the Helpers' custom all over the world, I asked the people to kneel down in silence while facing Planned Parenthood asking God for mercy, mercy, mercy. The young boy knelt down next to me with bowed head and prayerful hands but he was facing the wrong way. Then I noticed lying before him was his walking stick and piously kneeling behind him was his good mother. His mom later told me he was born blind and could not speak and obviously a prime target for abortion. His mom said her son's first words were his prayers and hymns of praise. She now is finding out that he is musically gifted, since he can play on the piano any melody he hears, even recalling the same melody days and weeks later. I am sure no one's prayer that morning in Manchester was more pleasing to God than that little blind boy with his walking stick.. I understand that Mike who carried the Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe in the procession and his friend Christine have now taking over the stewardship the Manchester's Helpers. Finally before heading back to Boston, I visited the Sister Adorers of the Precious Blood Monastery in Manchester and asked for their prayerful support of the Helpers' Apostolate. Theo later wrote that the lives of all those who attended the Helpers Weekend in Manchester were truly touched by the experience. In Vermont, the neighboring State to New Hampshire, Laela Warnecke has started the Helpers. Susan Clifton in another area of New Hampshire has invited me to come. We have been in contact and sent materials to both of them.

Generation Life Students Grateful for the Gift

On Thursday March 26th Laura Bowman a Helper who counsels and runs a home for pregnant moms in Albuquerque, New Mexico returned to the Monastery to renew her energy and enthusiasm for life. Laura picked the right weekend to come because on the next day, Friday March 27th a wonderful group of young people from the Pennsylvania area called Generation for Life arrived from the Pennsylvania area under the Leadership of Christina and Christine Frederich. The young people and Laura that weekend not only studied but also counseled and prayed outside a busy abortion mill and participated in a large Helpers Prayer Vigil on Saturday morning March 28th that was led by Bishop Daily from Blessed Sacrament Church in Jackson Heights area of Queens. Laura Bowman left a note thanking me for sharing my knowledge, skill and experience with them. The note from Christine and Christina and all the Generation Life students simply said the Weekend was a complete and total blessing. Thank you for the gift.

Canada Embraces the Helpers Apostolate

After a group of Canadians under the leadership of Nicole Campbell and Jenna Murphy from Toronto and Wanda Hartlin from Ottawa had completed a Weekend Training program here at the Monastery, they insisted that I come to Canada. And so at noon on Friday April 3RD I boarded an American Airlines plane at JFK Airport for Toronto Canada. Nicole Campbell met me at the Airport and after a brief stop to eat she brought me to a Residence run by the Sisters of the Good Shepherd which included a large Chapel Hall Complex. That evening in the same Complex, after opening prayers we spoke about the Helpers Spirituality and invited the people to come to the Prayer Vigil the next morning, starting with Mass at Good Shepherd followed by a peaceful procession in song and prayer to Women's Care abortion Clinic at 960 Lawrence Ave West. The next morning all the seats were occupied for the Vigil Mass and practically all prayed outside of the mill and came back for the Workshop. The Sisters of the Good Shepherd volunteered to include the Helpers Apostolate in their prayers. Nicole and Jenna did a great job in organizing the weekend. A young man, David Messina, who a few years ago as student took part in a Helpers training program held here at the Monastery, is now working at Aid to Women life Center in Toronto and also does sidewalk counseling. He is trying to implement the Helpers approach. Edgar Barreto recently came down from Canada to perfect his counseling skills. Brian Jenkins, a counselor here in New York is returning to Canada to be with his 87 year-old mom and still wishes to be involved with the Helpers in Canada. Hopefully he can join David and Edgar. And hopefully Adelaine Nohara a young college student from Ontario will work with Wanda Hartlin who is translating the Helpers material into French. Charbel Elchaar did a wonderful job of video taping everything. You can watch a short version of it on You Tube. I am waiting to receive from him the full DVD of the weekend event.

The Closure of the Sixth and Last Abortion Site

I returned to the Monastery on Saturday night to prepare for the morning's Palm Sunday Liturgy. On Good Friday we maintain the Prayerful Presence outside the largest mills in the City from 12 Noon to 12 Midnight. The Helpers in Rockland County however did their usual 24-hour Vigil. It was fitting that Peggy Beirne and Francis Samoylo who were among those instrumental in starting the Helpers in Rockland County be the organizers of the Mass of Thanksgiving on April 25th for the closure of the sixth and last surgical abortion site Rockland County. Of course Francis Samoylo was at the Mass but this time as the Main Celebrant being now Father Francis Samoylo. Here in New York City we too have reason to be thankful since an abortionist in one of the largest abortion mills has walked away and is now trying to put his life back together. Keep him in your prayers for he too needs post abortion healing. Once again we find ordinary people called the Helpers doing ordinary things with extraordinary effects.

Wedded at the Hour of Divine Mercy

The Saturday before Mercy Sunday, April 18th was a busy but blessed day. It started early in the morning with a Helpers' Vigil Mass from St. Paul-St. Agnes Church on Congress and Court Street. Bishop Daily and Detective Steven McDonald led us in prayer in front of the abortion mills of Planned Parenthood and Emily's. After twenty decades of the Rosary we returned to the Church for the closing Benediction. Then John Foley and I got into my car and drove to Philadelphia to the Church of St. Mary of the Assumption, where I was to officiate at the marriage of two wonderful Helpers, both outstanding converts to Catholicism, Wenqi Dwyer and Craig Glantz. They exchanged their vows at 3 o'clock, the hour of Divine Mercy, a beautiful divine touch. On their honeymoon to Italy they actually were greeted and spoke to Pope Benedict XVI. From Friday the 24th until Tuesday the 28th I retreated into silence and prayer. I welcomed the solitude while it lasted.

Some Local Happenings

On Friday evening May 1st, I attended the Fund Raising Dinner of the Sisters of Life at which they gave the Cardinal O'Connor award to Mr. Carl Anderson the Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus. He very generously gave a complimentary copy of his wonderful book A Civilization of Love to all that attended the event. After receiving the award, he gave an exceptional acceptance talk. At the Dinner, I also briefly met Archbishop Timothy Dolan. Hopefully the Archbishop will soon be leading a Helpers Prayer Vigil. When he does, Mr. Anderson agreed to come and pray with him. Mother Agnes Donovan, S.V., as usual did a magnificent job. On Saturday May 2nd my long time friend, Barbara McGuigan of California interviewed me about the Helpers Apostolate for two hours on EWTN Radio. God will bless Barbara for her many faithful years in educating and witnessing God's plan for human life.

Some National and International Happenings

Sandee and Shelby Fredrickson of the Helpers of God's Precious Infants-Salinas Chapter in California recently informed me that, thanks be to God, after many years of Helpers praying outside of the 15 years old abortion mill, Choice Medical Group in Salinas, it suddenly closed and is not relocating. They will now pray outside of Planned Parenthood on N. Main Street. Caroline Savoie and Erin Dunne of CUA, organized a Helpers Prayer Vigil in D.C., at which 75 CUA students participated. After the young peoples' Vigil, Phil, an escort for 20 years outside the clinics, decided to leave and not come back. Michael Paris has requested Helpers materials for the Seminarians, at St. Mary's Seminary in Maryland as Justin Nelson has for the seminarians at the Archdiocese of Kansas Seminary. Bishop Frank Drzmkowski OSB of Orange County California, has studied the Helpers material and is now involved in the Prayerful Presence and Counseling outside the abortion clinics. Father Kevin Yibis of Zarmaganda, India; Sister Rose Peralta a Comboni Sister in Nairobi, Kenya and Steve Koroma of Sierra Leone of West Africa have requested and are receiving Helpers materials. Maria del Rocio Galvez of the Comite Nacional Pro-Vida in Mexico has requested material and my presence in Mexico to share the Helpers approach. Deyanira Aponte of Puerto Rico has bravely started the Helpers in Puerto Rico and recently has request some further information. Claire Fu, Wen-Ling, of the Faculty of Theology of Fujen Catholic University in Taiwan constantly makes known the Helpers approach in Taiwan. Claire Fu should contact Olivia Harper who came as a student to the Monastery and is now a Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matara. She is now being trained at the Servants House of Formation in Taiwan. Olivia indicated that the Servants of the Lord want to become actively involved in saving unborn babies and helping their mothers in Taiwan.

Religious Media Covers Helpers Vigil

On Saturday May 16th after Bishop Daily and Detective McDonald led us in Prayer from Queen of Martyrs Church to the Austin Street Mill, people from the New Diocesan TV station interviewed me about the Helpers. Also present at the Vigil was a young man who had driven down that morning from Worcester, Massachusetts, Ben Wetmore. Ben is one of a number of graduate students belonging to the American Students for Life whose goal is to establish Pro Life Clubs in every College and University across the Country. They have already achieved this goal on 600 College Campuses in this Country. Ben came back to the Monastery and taped and videoed me until evening. He insisted that I have a knowledge and experience in this struggle for life that few have. Having been actively involved in the life struggle since 1967, I do take for granted many things which for many people is past unknown history.

Response to Notre Dame Commencement Talk

On Saturday May 23rd I was the Main Celebrant at the Helpers Mass at Holy Family Church in Manhattan. We later prayed outside of Parkmed abortion mill on 42nd St. and 2nd. Ave. Father Juniper CFR organized the Vigil. I used the occasion at the homily to strongly respond to President Obama's comments on abortion, made in the Commencement Talk, delivered the previous Sunday at Notre Dame University. You can listen to the talk on, helperslibrary.info My talk is entitled a Fifty Years Perspective on the Pro Life Struggle.

Tenth Anniversary of Michigan Helpers

Dan Goodnow, the President of the Helpers of Michigan invited me to lead the Helpers Vigil on their tenth Anniversary. It was a joy to accept. Thus on Friday June 12th I found myself on a Northwest Flight to Detroit, Michigan. Under the leadership of Dan, the Helpers group in Detroit are second to none. They not only average about a thousand confirmed saves each year but practically all the bishops and many of the priests have led their Prayer Vigils. In September one of the auxiliary bishops is leading the Helpers Vigil and in November the New Archbishop of Detroit, Allen Vigneron will lead the Michigan Helpers Vigil.

Father Ho and Myself Lead the Prayers at Liberty

On Saturday June 20th Bishop Daily replaced Bishop DiMarzio, who was scheduled as the main celebrant at the Helpers Vigil Mass at St. John Vianney Church in Flushing, Queens. Bishop DiMarzio had to undergo sudden serious bypass heart surgery. At the end of the Mass Bishop Daily, due to another commitment, had to leave. Father Antonius Ho, of the Congregation of St. John the Baptist, the Administrator of St. John Vianney and myself, led the people in prayer outside of Liberty abortion mill. Some other Religious Brothers and Sisters, from the same Order, which I believe is from Main Land China, also prayed with us. Between the Helpers coming from the other parishes, and the parishioners from St. John Vianney, the Church was full. The Vigil was a prayerful success.

Missionaries of the Eucharist

On Friday and Saturday June 26th and 27th here at the Monastery, we were once again blessed by the annual visit of the Missionaries of the Eucharist. These young people begin each day by receiving the Eucharist and then in their blue Missionary shirts, like Mary going to assist Elizabeth, they too put aside their personal comfort and summer leisure, to bring Jesus to the World. Thus each Summer, young adults from the Missionaries spend more than a month, walking hundreds of miles from Maine to D.C., spreading, from the sidewalks, devotion to the Eucharist, reverence for life and human sexuality and trust in God's Mercy. Besides being outstanding young lay men and women, ten of the young people who came here in the past two years alone, are now seminarians studying for the priesthood or have entered the Religious life. The quality of the young people was once again exceptional, who spend their time at the Monastery, before beginning their walk this year from Maine to New York City. All were college or postgraduate students from States outside of New York, like Texas and Louisiana, Maryland and Rhode Island, Illinois, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. The reaction of people all along their journey was nothing but positive, like Nate Harrison, a Physics Major and recent graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, and Dan O'Connor who is in his final semester at R.P.I., both of whom were so impressed by the group's behavior and approach, that they came down to the Monastery of the Precious Blood to learn more about the Helpers approach.

Did Bias Against Pro-lifers and the Church Motivate the Behavior

This years journey ended in New York City on Friday Aug.7th. The young Missionaries decided that they would conclude their journey by praying across the street from Planned Parenthood in Manhattan, while a few of them counseled on the sidewalk, on the same side as Planned Parenthood. Before they did so, their leaders, David Sao and Scott Wilkins, a PhD candidate in English Literature, called me Friday morning to ask if they would be allowed to pray and council outside the clinic, with the passage of the new amendment to the 1994 Clinic Access Law. I said, "Yes, you may. If anyone tells you otherwise, the person does not know the law." The first officers at the site that morning were polite and respectful. Unfortunately, there then arrived, with other police cars, a misinformed police officer, who was a public relations disaster for the New York City Police Department, whose members, based upon my extensive experience traveling throughout the US and the world, exemplify conduct as peace officers that is professional, neutral, polite and quite frankly, second to none. The officer did not know the law and restricted the Missionaries Constitutional rights by removing the Missionary's counselors from the sidewalk outside of Planned Parenthood, taking out handcuffs and threatening them with arrest. These young men and women, peacefully praying and wearing their blue identifying shirts with the words Missionaries of the Eucharist, were treated like common criminals and made to line up to pray in a single line along the wall, across the street from Planned Parenthood. Upon learning from David and Scott what happened to the young people that morning, I apologized to them and assured them, that I would request that those in authority insure that the officer in question would never again act that way toward any citizen of this City or any visitor to New York City from outside the state. One has to wonder in this case, beyond ignorance, what role bias against pro-lifers and the Church might have played in motivating such unprofessional behavior.

Some Upcoming Pro-life Trips and Invitations in America

On Friday Sept. 11th and Saturday the 12th, at the request of Michelle Carper, the Program Coordinator of the Dept. of Life Issues and Laura Fersti of Department For Evangelization and Family Life of the Archdiocese of Washington, I will be leading a Helpers Prayer Vigil and conducting Workshop on Sidewalk Counseling in D.C. On the evening of Friday Sept. 25th and the morning of Sat. Sept. 26th, I will be conducting a similar program for the Diocese of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, which Bob O'Neill is organizing. However, I will be back at the Monastery late Saturday afternoon to celebrate Sister Mary Berchmans 100th Birthday. Sister is one of the great hidden spiritual prayer supporters of the Helpers. Sister Lucy Marie, the Respect Life Coordinator for the Archdiocese of New York has requested a training workshop for the young adults in Manhattan. Hopefully that will be on Saturday Sept. 19th from 1-4 p.m. I am still deciding on requests from Theresa Krankowski and Gin Ryan in Hartford, Ct; Yolanda Castro in Albuquerque, New Mexico; Steve Graff, of Toledo, Ohio; Elizabeth Pierini Sacramento, California; Matt Ulrich, Seattle, Washington, Timothy O'Hagan, Holy Apostles Seminary; etc. All of these people are doing such wonderful work for life, I would love to assist all of them.

Upcoming European Mission Trip for Life

Hopefully on Friday evening Nov. 27th 2009 I will leave for Munich, for the Tenth Anniversary of the Helpers in Germany. Under the leadership of Wolfgang Hering, the President of the German Helpers, the Helpers now give witness for life in more than twenty Cities in Germany.. On Monday Nov. 30th I will meet the Bishop and priests in the City of Prague in Czech Republic. On Tuesday Dec. 1st I hope to meet once again with Eva Cerovska, Dasa Csomo, Elena Lehocka and the other wonderful Helpers in Bratislava, Slovakia. On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday morning I am planning to be with Mag. Dietmar Fischer and the Helpers in Vienna, Austria. And finally on Friday evening and Saturday morning I hope to be in London with Father Emmanuel CFR, Mike and Rose O'Doherty and many other dedicated Helpers in the UK.

Helpers Twentieth Year Anniversary Celebration Sat. Oct. 17th 11-3 PM

Although on Wed. Oct. 7th 2009, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, the Helpers of God's Precious Infants will be Twenty-years old, we will have the official celebration on Saturday Oct. 17th at St. Michael's Parish. The day will begin with Bishop Sansaricq offering the Helpers monthly Vigil Mass at 7:30 A.M. at St. Michael's Church After the Mass a celebration will be held in St. Michael's Parish Hall at 43rd St. and 4th Ave. Sunset Park from 11 A.M to 3:00 P.M. All Helpers and Friends of the Helpers are welcome. Just bring yourself and enjoy the food and fellowship of other pro-lifers. The Helpers from the Archdiocese of Jos in Nigeria will be joining us. October will be a busy month here in the City. On Saturday Oct 3rd. I will be concelebrating the Helpers Vigil Mass in the Bronx with Bishop Josu Iriondo, the Vicar for Hispanic Affairs. On Sat. Oct. 31st I will be the Main Celebrant at the Vigil Mass at Our Saviour Church in Manhattan. At that Vigil Mass the students from the Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio will be with us since they will be attending a Life training retreat at the Monastery.

May I encourage all, to say each day, from Wed. Oct. 7th to Sat. Oct. 17th, a special Rosary of Thanksgiving for the many blessings God has granted to the Helpers and their Apostolate for the past twenty years. Thanksgiving must be given to God for the countless thousands of unborn babies that have been born; for the mothers who have chosen life; for the abortionists and staff members who have left the abortion business because of the Helpers prayerful presence; for the hundreds of abortion clinics that have closed because of your public witness, at these modern day Calvaries; for a new generation of young people, who are overwhelmingly pro-life, and are actively, fearlessly involved in the public square and outside of abortion chambers of death for their youngest brothers and sisters. Thanks must be given for the peaceful prayerful movement from the streets, of God's People for Life across America and indeed around the World. Yes, the plea of the late great Pope John Paul II, in Section 100 of the Encyclical the Gospel of life is becoming a reality. "A great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world. Through special initiatives and in daily prayer, may an impassionate plea rise to God, the Creator and lover of life, from every Christian community, from every group and association, from every family and from the heart of every believer." Yes there is reason to hope and believe that a new Culture of Life is being reestablished, and no politician, no bias media or misled intellectuals or population control fanatics can stop it, because the pleas of God's People and the intercession of the Mother of God to our Father and her Divine Son is being heard as they are sending and will continue to send the Holy Spirit to renew the face of the Earth. Paradoxically tremendous goodness and holiness is rising up out of this culture of evil and death. We know in faith that otherwise God would not permit such an evil.

These Difficult Economic Times

God bless all of you, who in spite of these difficult economic times, still gave donations to the Helpers of God's Precious Infants. I am sure you realize most of the moms we try to help, in these same difficult economic times, are either out of work or while looking for a job, have no reserve monies to draw from. Since the demands this year were so great we had to use 80 % of your donations directly to help the pregnant moms and their children, for rent monies, food, etc. Keep these moms and their children in your prayers.

Please Pray for the Sick and the Deceased

Pray for the Helpers who recently experienced sudden sickness, like our own Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio, who needed emergency heart surgery and Mike Reddy, who normally at the large Prayer Vigils, holds the walkie-talkie for the Bishops. Mike also needed unexpected immediate surgery to save the vision in both of his eyes. Both are doing better now. Please keep John Paduano and all the sick in your prayers. God is constantly enlarging the Helpers Prayer Choir in Eternity, by adding to it, many of the Helpers' Prayer Warriors, like Anna Dundon and Alice O'Brien, who for two decades have prayed outside of the abortion mills in Queens. Also keep in your prayers, our deceased spiritual support prayers, Dorothy Flanagan, the mother of Sister Dorothy Rothar and the deceased mother of Jean Bilgera. Jean counsels with Sister Dorothy during the week at Choices. Here in Brooklyn, we lost Mary McAlpin, a long time spiritual support prayer and Theresa Gandolfo, who for the past twenty years, almost on a daily basis, has prayed and at times counseled outside the abortion mill, Ambulatory Surgery Center of Brooklyn. Our loss is Heaven's gain. Keep in your prayers the souls of Angela's late husband, Eugene McNair, whom God suddenly took home. Working in Precious Blood Confraternity Book Store, Eugene was for years a great assistance in sending out Helpers materials around the world. Pray also for the recently deceased Mom, of Susan Pergolizz. Susan, who runs the Confraternity Office, like Angela and Eugene McNair, has been a blessing to the Helpers Apostolate.

Until We Meet in Prayer at Calvary,

Msgr. Philip J. Reilly