

January 1, 2009 Helpers Newsletter

Dear Friends of God's Precious Infants,

Where Do We Go From Here?

After the recent election, many Helpers have asked: "Where do we go from here?" My answer is, "We stay on the same path we have been walking for the past twenty years." The path of converting one heart at a time; saving one baby at a time; by bringing Christ through His Mystical Body the Church, to where it is midnight, at midday, the modern day Calvary, where once again a people in darkness are shedding innocent blood. Being pro-life means being victims with Christ until the Culture of Death of Good Friday gives way to the Culture of Life established by the Risen Christ. Our challenge, our responsibility is to make present at today's Calvary, the everlasting, unconditional love of God, to a people broken, blinded and helplessly entrapped in the darkness of our modern day culture of death. If we don't do it, who will? But to bring Christ, we must put on Christ. To bring Christ means to be present in a Christian manner, namely, with the love, peace and gentleness of Christ. Not to be overcome in the presence of poor spirit, requires extraordinary strength that alone comes from the Holy Spirit. At Calvary, it is clear we must imitate the prayerful presence of Mary and John at the foot of the Cross. Where then do we go from here? Go to Calvary and establish or participate in a prayerful presence at the local abortion mill or be part of a peaceful, prayerful Rosary Procession at the next Helpers Prayer Vigil.

2009 HELPERS PRAYER VIGILS IN BROOKLYN AND QUEENS NEW YORK

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 Caggiano
Sat Oct 17, 2009	St Michael's 352 42nd Street Brooklyn, NY 11232 718-768-6065	Bishop Sansaricq
Sat Nov 21, 2009	Saint Patrick's 39-38 29th Street Long Island City, NY 11101 718-729-6060	Bishop
Sat Dec 12, 2009	Not Yet Scheduled	Bishop DiMarzio

A Rule of Law or a Rule of Tyranny

On Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2008 there was a Public Hearing, at City Hall in Manhattan, on Int. No.826, a legislative bill concerning the prohibition of activities to prevent access to reproductive health care facilities. Detective Steven McDonald, myself and about forty other pro-lifers gave testimony at the Hearing, After our testimony, the Council Representatives said they were aware of and respected the Helpers Apostolate and approach. They insisted that the Amendment was not meant to limit the good work of the Helpers. The difficulty of course, is the abortion Administrators would love to limit the good work of the Helpers, and the Amendment language, as it is now written, would tempt them to try. This Amendment would remove from the City Law, the requirement of “intent”, that is, to prove that the person being accused intended to violate the Law. The requirement of “ intent “ is now found in the Federal, State and City Access to Clinic Laws. Moreover, the new Amendment to the City Law would allow abortion clinic owners to make the complaint, without the complainant appearing, and to make the action no longer a violation, but a criminal offense punishable by fine or imprisonment or both. This would change the rule of Law for pro-lifers in New York City into a rule of Tyranny. The Public Hearing, however, did provide me with a Forum to express publicly, to the Members of the City Council and others, some sad and tragic realities and statistics about New York City Abortion ‘clinics’. The following is some brief excerpts and statistics from my Statement:

Oh My God, My Womb Is Empty

"It has been my constant experience, that no woman comes to these places because she wants to kill her unborn child. She comes because she has problems, and they are real. There are right and wrong answers to human problems. Obviously, I do not believe that having an abortion is the right answer, for it will not bring back yesterday for the woman in difficulty and allow her to get on with her life. Indeed, I witness on a daily basis that abortion not only results in the unjust shedding of the innocent blood of our youngest brothers and sisters, but also causes painful mental and spiritual problems for the women. Although the first reaction for many women after an abortion is relief, because she says: " Oh thanks be to God, my womb is empty", yet later the same woman will say, "Oh my God, my womb is empty." Then begins the pain in her head and her heart that remains with her beyond tomorrow. I have witnessed, on a daily basis, that there are two victims when an abortion is performed. Women deserve better, and so I try to offer them the better way, one that will result in life for the unborn child and peace for the mother."

Shocking Abortion Statistics

Since no Helper has been charged with violating the present Law, I questioned why would you increase the penalty except to create fear and intimidate citizens from exercising their First Amendment Rights. Then I stated the following shocking, outrageous, abortion statistics for the City of New York which render any claim about the difficulties of the people in the City of New York having access to the so called abortion procedure, ludicrous. According to the 1970 U.S. Census Bureau, the population of the City of New York in 1970, was eight million people. With the influx of immigrants and the natural increase in births, one would project that 30 years later the population would be at least 12 million in the City. Yet according to the U.S. Census in the year 2000, the population of New York City was the same as in 1970, namely 8 million people. How could this be? The answer is clear according to the Vital Statistics of the New York State Dept. of Health which indicates, since the passing of the New York State Abortion Law in June of 1970 to the present time, 3.8 million abortions have taken place in the City of New York, which number is equivalent to half of the people in the City. I further indicated, according to the 2005 New York State Vital Statistics, although the number of abortions in New York City, thanks be to God, has continued to drop, (now 30 to 35 thousand less each year than in 1990) yet the ratio of abortions remains tragically high. For example, in the County of Kings (also known as Brooklyn), in the year 2005, for every 1000 white babies that were born, 371 white babies were aborted; for every 1000 Spanish babies born, 623 Spanish babies were aborted; for every 1000 Black babies born, 1298 Black babies were aborted, namely, 65 out of every one hundred black babies were aborted.

On Some Future Tomorrow, Each of Us Will Stand Alone

I indicated that the numbers above, shouted out that there is little or nothing of true counseling being done, in the so called abortion clinics. The women are not shown the prenatal ultrasound image of their unborn child, nor are they informed of free help available to them such as the New York State PCAP program. Some even have guards in the entrance, whose job is to take or encourage the women entering the clinic to throw into the garbage, the material, given to them by the sidewalk counselor. The material provides information of where they can get help to keep their unborn child. I concluded by saying that today, more and more, the group most discriminated against around the world is the voiceless, helpless unborn infants and that they need your help that their very lives be respected and protected by the law. I reminded them what Martin Luther King so eloquently said: "The Law may not make you love me, but by God it should make you respect me." I concluded my remarks by saying that on some future tomorrow, each of us will stand alone before the Lawmaker and Judge to give an account on how we treated God's precious infants and their mothers. ([View Full Document Here - Click!](#))

Watch the City of God vs. the City of Man

On Nov.15th, three days before the Public Hearing on Int. 826, the Helpers held a Prayer Vigil outside the Ambulatory Surgery Center of Brooklyn.. Watch the video The City of God vs. The City of Man, which shows how the Helpers, at the Nov. 15th Vigil, young and old, sick and healthy, responded in a truly Christian manner, to a truly poor spirit. Then you decide, who truly respects the patients coming to the abortion clinic. You can watch the full video here: [City of God vs. City of Man Video - Click!](#)

Claire Fu From Taiwan

Although for the last few months, due to some recent necessary surgical operations, I have had to limit myself to the Helpers' Prayer Vigils and Apostolate here in the New York City Area, nevertheless, I have had visitors from near and far here at the Monastery. For example, on Sept. 15th 2008, Claire Fu, a research assistant on the Faculty of Fu-Jen Catholic University in Taiwan, arrived here at Precious Blood Monastery to start a two month research on effective pro-life programs here in the United States, especially centering on the Helpers Apostolate. Claire spent her first ten days here at the Monastery absorbing all information either into her notebooks, or on her tape recorder and even onto her video Camera. When alone she would be either reading all types of pro-life books or watching a DVD or listening to a pro-life CD. Fred Trabulsi, the Director of the Life Center graciously explained to Claire the workings of the Center. Florence Maloney, the Director of Rachel's Helpers, came to the Monastery to share with Claire the Helpers post abortion healing program; Drs. David and Monica Aachen and Wenqi Dwyer, who, for Claire, translated all the Helpers materials into Chinese, were also incredibly generous in sharing their time and insights. Besides learning new ideas, Claire actively participated in the Helpers Prayerful Presence and Sidewalk Counseling outside of different abortion mills. On September 20th together with many other Helpers, Claire took part in the large Helpers Vigil that started with the 7:30 A.M. at St. Joan of Arc's Church in Jackson Heights. After Mass, Bishop Daily led us in a prayerful Rosary Procession to two abortion mills. Claire Fu, having wasted no time here during her two months stay, returned to Taiwan on Nov. 15th. I am sure that God will use this young, attractive, intelligent, zealous convert to Catholicism, to establish the Helpers approach in Taiwan, where abortion, like in the United States, is a major problem.

New Zealand Australia Mexico

Shortly after Claire left, two wonderful women arrived, Pauline Loudon from the City of Auckland on the North Island and Maria Schmetzer, who ten years ago, with the approval of Bishop John Cunneen, helped me to start the Helpers in the City of Christchurch on the South Island of New Zealand.. Maria informed me that the Helpers' Vigils are still taking place. Although their stay was limited, hopefully we still shared with them words of wisdom and encouragement. They left grateful for the time spent at the Monastery.. They assured me, they would bring my best wishes to my friend, Colleen Bayer of Auckland who first asked me to come to New Zealand. I am grateful to Craig Robinson and Dennis MacDonald who direct the Helpers in Brisbane, Australia, for sending me a CD of my talks and a DVD of my visit to Brisbane this past August. On Friday October 10th here at the Monastery, I met with Neydy Casillas Padron from Mexico. Neydy is a woman that works for a pro-life and pro Family non profit organization from Mexico, the World Development Coalition that monitors and tries to influence in a positive way United Nations Family Initiatives. She invited me to come in 2009 to Mexico City to share information on the Helpers Apostolate at a Bishops sponsored Conference in 2009. Unfortunately, abortion has become legal in Mexico City.

International Prayer Conference for Life at Lourdes

I am grateful to Father Fidelis Moscinski, CFR, who took time off from his studies, for a Master Degree in Moral Theology in Rome, and gave, in my place, at the Third International Prayer Conference for Life at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine in France, a fine presentation on the Helpers as Sidewalk Contemplatives and Evangelizers. Celia Blum Guerra was so kind, as to bring back and hand delivered at the Monastery, so many well wishes and promised prayers for my recovery, from the people who attended the Lourdes' Conference.

Students from CUA Participate in a Retreat Training Program

Wolfgang Hering, the President of the Helpers in Germany, and his friends attended the Helpers November 15th City of God vs. the City of Man Prayer Vigil. Wolfgang is the distinguished man standing next to Detective Steven McDonald who alternated with myself, in leading the people in the twenty mysteries of the Rosary at the Vigil. At this same Vigil, we were also blessed to have 29 wonderful, faith filled, student members of the Pro-Life Club at the Catholic University of America in Washington D.C. Thanks to the efforts of their fellow students Caroline Savoie and Eric Dunne, the group spent the weekend at the Precious Blood Monastery, participating in an intensive pro-life retreat training program. What a credit these young people are to their families. On Saturday Dec. 6th the Leaders of Rachel's Helpers gathered here at the Monastery for a Workshop from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. We tried to provide some insights into understanding the psychological and spiritual needs of a person after an abortion. Florence Maloney, the Rachel Helpers Director, asked me to cover this topic. Practically, all the leaders stayed beyond 2 P.M. God will bless them for their generosity and sincere concern for the women suffering from past abortions.

Starting the Helpers in Canada

Late on Thursday evening Dec. 11th a wonderful group of people arrived from Canada, after driving for 15 hours because of poor weather conditions. When they left on Sunday afternoon, after a weekend filled with information on how to start the Helpers in Canada, they all said it was well worth the 15 hours drive. Nicole Campbell, from Toronto, Canada organized the trip and hopes to start the Helpers Apostolate in Toronto. Mrs. Wanda Hartlin, who is from Ottawa, Canada, hopes to start the Helpers in that City and also to translate the Helpers materials, into French. This would be helpful, because there are Countries in Africa, who have asked for our materials in French They all prayed outside of an abortion clinic while here. Later they were anxious to learn about the art of sidewalk counseling. On Saturday Dec 13th they joined Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio, at the Vigil Mass in St. Paul-St Agnes Church, and then joined all the Helpers in the Rosary Procession to Planned Parenthood on Court Street, where the Bishop and Detective Steven McDonald led us in prayer. They were such a wonderful group of people, that I weakened, and broke the schedule, and brought them on Saturday Evening to Ground Zero, in Manhattan. On leaving they insisted that I should come soon to Canada to lead a Helpers' Prayer Vigil.

During This New Year May God Bless Us, One and All

My annual struggle with facial cancer skin surgery, being more complicated this year, required a longer recovery time. Thanks be to God, I had incredibly skilled and dedicated doctors who treated me, thanks in large part to Kathleen and Pat Murphy. I told my doctors, that I have been telling the Helpers, that I was getting a new nose for Christmas. The doctors smiled, and said: "How about in the New Year, you will have your new nose." I am grateful for all the prayers and good wishes not only from my family, the good Sisters and relatives but from so many people here in the City of New York and far from this City. I am sure, God will bless abundantly the local Helpers, for their extraordinary generosity during my recovery time. I know I cannot adequately thank people, like Mike Marino and Rose Diaz for all their extra hours of sidewalk counseling outside the abortion mill; for the prayers at the 43rd St. abortion site, who never stopped coming, like Jim Keegan, Joe Schuck, Humphrey Mazza, John Foley, Muriel and others; for people like Mike Reddy, Dorothy Doyle and Mary Murray who behind the scenes, in a hundred different ways, constantly helped the Helpers Apostolate from missing a beat. I pray that during this New Year, God will bless us abundantly, one and all, especially, all those who during the past year so generously supported the Helpers' Apostolate either by their time, talent or finances. May God grant healing to all those who are sick, and Eternal Rest to all those, called home this past year, like Sue Lopez, an extraordinary wife, mother and woman of Faith, who started the Helpers in San Diego, California; Kathy Carrigan, a tremendous woman of Faith and prayer, who together with her daughter, Cathy, ran the Helpers in Boston, Massachusetts.

Until We Meet in Prayer at Calvary,

Msgr. Philip J. Reilly