

Welland-Port Colborne Pro-Life

LIFE BEGINS AT CONCEPTION!



Life Lines

Summer 2014



Powerful and Emotional message from Linda Gibbons at the May 10th A.G.M.

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On a beautiful mother's day eve the Annual General Meeting with dinner and a dance was once again well attended, not to mention well received. The evening began with social gatherings and refreshments, followed by dinner and the key note speaker Linda Gibbons. The food was delicious and we are grateful to the caterer for delivering this meal for us each and every year.

Linda Gibbons' emotional address was one of two stories, her own and that of a fellow social activist Mary Wagner.



Both Mary and Linda have been in jail repeatedly for what is called "Interference with lawful enjoyment/operation of a business." How sad we are that abortion is called a business.

Mary writes to us from her Vanier, Ontario jail where she has been incarcerated for over 14 months: "Several people from Canada and abroad have asked if I would write something to help convey why I am here. I hope the following will be of help to my Christian brothers and sisters in particular, as well as to anyone of good will, especially those who care about the littlest and most defenceless of God's children, our brothers and sisters in the womb."

"Through prayer and discernment, He showed me more deeply the painful reality of abortion, and I realized that He was leading me to go to these places where His little ones are killed, to pray, to speak to the mothers and for their little ones; to be present and not to walk away, but to remain with them, regardless of the outcome."

As Linda progressed through her speech with a focus on Mary's current incarceration, she reflected on her own time in jail and how the two had met. She shares details of a saga of arrests, court and jail time spanning 2 decades accumulating in 22 convictions as well as a handful of acquittals.

So what was their crime you ask? (Continued on page 3)

WWW.WPCPROLIFE.COM

Welland-Port Colborne Pro-Life Association

is an educational group. Our primary purpose is to educate our local

Community about pro-life issues from conception to natural death.

We also provide a pro-life presence in the community, and, when required, provide support to women in crisis pregnancies.

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Bowl-A-Thon

Our Annual Bowl-A-thon will once again take place early November. Final date and location to be announced in the Fall edition of the LifeLines newsletter.



President's Address



Dear Fellow Pro-Lifers,

Ours are the hands and feet Jesus uses to serve our brothers and sisters in need. What could be more needful in this secular world of ours than giving witness to the Sanctity of human life? According to the world view of today, life is disposable – especially if you are elderly, disabled or not yet born.

We can see the fruits of this flawed outlook everywhere: No laws protecting the unborn exist in 3 countries: North Korea, China and CANADA. Quebec's Bill 52 legalized Euthanasia, by defining it as a form of "healthcare". Mary Wagner's case before the court, trying to use scientific evidence of the humanity of the unborn child as her defense, failed. It seems it is the State that decides who is or is not a human being. Then we have Justin Trudeau who has announced "all new members and candidates running for the liberal party must be pro-choice."

Many identify themselves as Christian, but are completely silent or distance themselves from their faith when confronted with a conflict between Gospel values and fear of consequences to one's public witness. So we must ask ourselves: "Am I ashamed of the Gospel? Am I unwilling to stand with Christ by proclaiming His truths?" One day we will have to account for all we have done and failed to do.

More than 23,000 individuals gave witness on Parliament Hill in the annual March for Life. Among them were 20 MPs, 3 Senators, 2 Cardinals, as well as bishops and the thousands of the faithful. In our recent Walkathon, a small group gave faithful witness in Welland. We need more people willing to identify as Christians faithful to the Gospel. If you feel the call, please join our Board. Fresh ideas and fellowship are most welcome.

God bless you all.

Annette Loeffen

Québec's "poor" Bill 52 decision: Canada's next steps on the slippery slope!

A few weeks ago, Euthanasia Prevention Coalition reported: "This morning the Québec government re-introduced its euthanasia bill in the identical form as Bill 52 before the Québec election. The Québec Premier forced the Liberal members to support the introduction of the euthanasia bill. Since there was no opposition to the re-introduction of the bill, it has returned to the stage it was at before the election (second reading stage)."

Only days later - Quebec legislature votes 94-22 to enshrine euthanasia as 'medical aid in dying'. "This is a dark day in the history of this country," said Jim Hughes, national president of Campaign Life Coalition to LifeSiteNews. The phrase 'medical aid in dying,' he said, is a "fancy way of dressing up someone killing another person."

Bill 52 will redefine euthanasia as healthcare, legalizing it, no longer making it what it is -- a form of homicide

Please write to your member of parliament and ask them to have the federal government appeal this Québec Bill 52 decision.

23,000 join National March for Life in Canadian capital

Lifesitenews.com - By PATRICK B. CRAINE

On a beautiful sunny day in Canada's capital, thousands of pro-life citizens joined the National March for Life to urge Canada's parliamentarians to promote the right to life. The march this year focused especially on urging Stephen Harper's Conservative government to reject the RU-486 abortion drug, which is currently being considered for approval by Health Canada.



Marchers were surprised to receive a personal message from Pope Francis supporting the event, read during the rally by Cardinal Gerald Lacroix of Quebec City.

The Holy Father "assures [March for Life participants] of his spiritual closeness as they give witness to the God-given dignity, beauty, and value of human life," read the message by Secretary of State Cardinal Pietro Parolin. "He prays that this event foster greater respect for the inviolable right to life of each person from conception to natural death and support the efforts of all who labor to ensure that this fundamental human right receives adequate legal protection."

As Lacroix read the message, he was interrupted by a topless woman protester who shouted "f*** your morals!" The woman was taken away and the cardinal continued reading.

The event was again broadcast live by EWTN. It also saw an unprecedented presence from Canadian media, with cameras from CBC, Global, CTV, and Sun News. The march came one day after Liberal leader Justin Trudeau controversially stated that his party would bar pro-life candidates, except sitting MPs, from running in the 2015 federal election. In his remarks at the rally, Cardinal Thomas Collins of Toronto prayed that all MPs would be free to promote life in accord with their conscience.



In 1994 an injunction was put in place that prohibits anyone from distributing literature, picketing, talking to women or even praying within 60 feet of the door of the abortuary.

Linda and Mary, as well as others in the past, have breached this injunction to share their love for the unborn children in the hope of educating their mothers. Because of the repeated offences a probation officer, vexed by the tedium of repetition said sarcastically: "They could use the same paperwork just change the dates and spare themselves the trials." Off course he didn't like Linda's non-compliance to her probation orders.

"Linda's most treasured property is her King James Bible and the glasses required to read it –Joy sufficient" she says.

Linda, currently not in jail, stated her valid reasons not to be in jail as – Mary Wagner's continued court case, her 92 year old mother, and her two great grandsons, ages 3 and 4.

Looking back, Linda continues to come to terms. Going forward, she embraces LIFE on His terms expressed in the simple prayer sent to her in prison:

"What He will, When He will, As He wills."

The evening was complemented with excellent musical contributions by the "Braun" family as well as Kelly and Colin Maslink of Stringlink. The AGM meeting part resulted in the election of our new president - Annette Loeffen. We congratulate her, while we say good bye and a HUGE THANK YOU to Muriel Dyson who led our organization for some amazing years. Muriel will stay on as board member and remain a pillar within our organization. The night concluded with some light dancing. And Finally....We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you involved in making this such a great night, but especially the donors and membership who make it all possible. THANK YOU !

Federal Opposition Party leader Justin Trudeau does not want pro-life party candidates, but the public disagrees !!

By Matthew Coutts - National Affairs Reporter <https://ca.news.yahoo.com/blogs/dailybrew/justin-trudeau-ticked-off-canadians-abortion-ruling-still-154645680.html>

Liberal Party Leader Justin Trudeau believes that he has the right to vet future party candidates based on their stance on abortion, but seven out of every 10 Canadians appear to disagree. Still, while the strong majority of respondents to a recent poll suggest federal party leaders like Trudeau have no right to exclude potential candidates from running based on whether or not they are pro-choice, the controversial move does not appear to have damaged Liberal brand and barely tarnished the image of its leader, if at all.



(Photo courtesy the Canadian Press)

The poll, conducted by Ipsos Reid and released on Thursday, found that 70 per cent of Canadians disapprove of Trudeau's decision last month to exclude potential future candidates based on their position on abortion. Thirty per cent of respondents said they felt Trudeau had the "right to decide if he only wants pro-choice candidates to run for the Liberals in the next election."

Trudeau announced in early May that future Liberal candidates would be required to agree with the party's pro-choice stance on abortion. The position riled Canadian Catholic leaders and led to Liberal MP John McKay being recorded calling Trudeau's comment a "bozo eruption." Respondents to the Ipsos Reid poll seem to agree that Trudeau overstepped his bounds as leader, yet they don't seem prepared to punish him for it. Previous polls suggest support for the Liberal Party hasn't waned, while Trudeau himself has only taken a slight hit recently. The largest negative response came from Ontario where 31 per cent of respondents said they were now less likely to support the party and only 19 per cent said they were now more likely.