



Helpers of God's Precious Infants

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Greetings to all Helpers of God's Precious Infants Throughout the World

We would like to begin this newsletter by relating the story of St. Telemachus, a saint who lived in 3rd Century. Telemachus was a hermit from the eastern part of the Roman Empire who traveled to Rome specifically to address a great evil of his time, namely gladiatorial fighting in the large stadiums of Rome. These gladiatorial bouts ended with the death on one of the contestants. One day Telemachus walked into the arena and said in a loud voice "In the name of God, stop!". These fights to the death were very popular in Rome and had been going on for a very long time. The crowd in the stadium became very upset, and Telemachus was martyred by stoning, right in the arena where he was standing. However, Honorius, the Christian Roman Emperor at the time was so moved by Telemachus' courage that he banned gladiatorial fighting completely. The Helpers of God's Precious Infants are engaged in a similar battle as St. Telemachus. Abortion is a very grave evil, is very popular among many people particularly those in positions of power, and we are very often found standing outside of abortion facilities begging those entering to stop in the name of God. Msgr. Philip Reilly, our founder, understood that the fight against the taking of innocent unborn life is mainly a spiritual battle and we must use spiritual weapons to fight against it. This is why he developed the Helpers Prayer Book to implore God's help in combatting this terrible injustice. Like St. Telemachus, we may never see the end of legalized abortion in our time, but we know that God uses our prayers in His own way to bring good out of this great evil of our time.

Remembering Fredrick W. Marks III and Kathleen O'Connell Murphy

We would be remiss if we did not mark the passing of Fred Marks and Kathleen O'Connell Murphy. We would have liked to remember Fred in our last newsletter, as he died in January of this year, but space would not allow for a proper remembrance. Fred, of course, was the author of "Pro-Life Champion: The Untold Story of Msgr. Philip Reilly and the Helpers of God's Precious Infants." Fred spent over 70 hours with Msgr. Reilly in the writing of this book and came away with many insights that we were unaware of. Fred was also a presence at many large vigils and prayed regularly at All Women's Medical Pavilion in Kew Gardens, New York. His passion was to win souls for Christ by inviting people consider joining the Catholic Church. Fred

left his position as a university professor to engage full time in street evangelization. He was cared for in his final illness by his beloved wife, Sylvia, and daughter Sister Marie Veritas Marks, OP. We were able to attend his funeral Mass along with many other Helpers.

Kathleen O'Connell Murphy at various times served as attorney for Msgr. Reilly. She worked very hard for Msgr. during his legal skirmishes. At one point the owner of an abortion business in Brooklyn sued Msgr. Reilly for over 15 million dollars for "interfering" with his business which was the wholesale slaughter of thousands of unborn children. O'Connell Murphy defended Msgr. without charge in every stage of what turned out to be a years long battle. They lost every court case until they reached the New York State Supreme Court, where one of the judges on the court stated that he had to recuse himself because he and his wife participated in Msgr. Reilly's monthly larger prayer vigils. Upon learning this the rest of the judges dismissed the suit. Kathleen also got TV stations and newspapers in New York City to issue retractions when the same abortion business owner produced a video purportedly showing Msgr. Reilly firebombing his building. Msgr. happened to be in Yugoslavia at the time of the incident. Kathleen outlived her beloved husband, Pat, but her close cousin, Alana O'Connell Ruege was able to be with her at the end of her life. We again were privileged to be able to attend her funeral Mass with other Helpers.

Another "Clinic" Closes

On November 4 of this year, we were invited by the Bishop of Brooklyn, Robert Brennan to a Memorial Mass for the deceased priests of the Diocese from the previous year which of course included Msgr. Reilly. We were pleased to attend, along with two of Susan's siblings and their spouses, Msgr.'s sister and Susan's Aunt Joan and three of her children. A very fine lunch was provided after the Mass, and many of the priests of the Diocese also attended. We ran into Fr. Manuel de Jesus Rodriguez, pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows parish in Corona, New York at lunch. Fr. Rodriguez has a pro-life Mass and rosary procession to a nearby abortion facility every month at his parish, which the Helpers join on occasion. Fr. informed us that the abortion business his procession had been paying visits to in Corona, has closed. This was wonderful news to hear and reminds us of the power of prayer. Fr. Rodriguez is not resting on his laurels, he is continuing his Masses and processes to another abortion facility in Jackson Heights, New York. We urge all Helpers to support pro-life Masses and rosary processions whenever possible. We realize that these may not be possible in all areas, but if they are, please consider attending.

An Amazing Turnaround

Recently, we heard from Don Magnotta, a sidewalk counselor in Kew Gardens, New York about an amazing turnaround at his abortion site. He received a call from Sr. Transito, SSVM about a young woman she recently began working with. The young woman was contemplating making an appointment for an abortion when a brochure from the Helpers fell out of her bag. She received this brochure from a security guard at All Women's Medical Pavilion, where Don sidewalk counsels. Mr. Magnotta regularly gives pamphlets and brochures to this security guard in case he sees anyone troubled or uncertain. After looking at the pamphlet, she called the Sisters of Life. She is keeping her baby. Praise God!! This reinforces the importance of handing out literature at abortion facilities, we may never know when a troubled woman is going to find it in her bag or on her person and make the decision for life.

Schedule of Vigil Masses from January 2026 to June 2026

Jan 31, 2026 8:00 AM Mass	Our Lady of Sorrows 104-11 37 th Avenue, Queens	Women's Health Care 8922 Roosevelt Ave, Queens
Feb 14, 2026 8:00 AM Mass	Saint Charles Borromeo 31 Sidney Place, Brooklyn	Planned Parenthood 44 Court Street, Brooklyn
Mar 21, 2026 7:30 AM Mass	Our Lady of Cenacle 136-06 87 th Ave., Richmond Hill, NY	Jamaica Hospital
April 25, 2026 8:00 AM Mass	Our Lady of Sorrows 104-11 37 th Avenue, Queens	Women's Health Care 8922 Roosevelt Ave, Queens
May 9, 2026 8:00 AM Mass	Saint Charles Borromeo 31 Sidney Place, Brooklyn	Planned Parenthood 44 Court Street, Brooklyn
June 27, 2026 7:30 AM Mass	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary 88-19 Parsons Boulevard, Queens	Choices 147-32 Jamaica Avenue

News and Notes

Recently, while in the doctor's waiting room waiting for her sister to finish with her doctor, Susan was crocheting a baby blanket for Bridge to Life, a local pregnancy help center. A woman approached her and asked what she was crocheting. Susan replied that she was making a baby blanket. The woman then related to her that she had considered aborting her own child over 20 years earlier. However, while walking toward the abortion center in Brooklyn, she was met by an "old Irish priest" who counseled her and convinced her to have her child. This priest then drove her to a place with "a lot of nuns". At this point Susan realized she was talking about her uncle, Msgr. Reilly who then was residing in a monastery full of cloistered nuns. The woman was very happy that she kept her child who is now in the military. She met a wonderful man and married him and has been very happy throughout her life. Susan was very happy to hear this story, and we encourage you to persevere in your efforts at defending life. Some day you may meet someone who will relate a similar story to you.

At the end of 2024, we had the privilege of meeting Fr. Morty O'Shea, SOLT. Fr. Morty is a priest from Ireland who was familiar with Msgr. Reilly and the Helpers of God's Precious Infants. Fr. O'Shea was in New York to receive cancer treatments at Sloan Kettering Cancer Center because the treatments he needed were unavailable in Ireland. In fact, he was told he would have died had he not received these treatments. Fr. Morty concelebrated Masses at some of our large vigils and prayed at several different abortion sites in the New York area on other Saturdays while he was here. Praise be to God his cancer treatments were successful, and he has returned to Ireland.

40 Days for Life recently concluded their fall campaign with a record number of cities participating. Many abortion businesses have closed following 40 Days for Life campaigns and thousands of babies have been saved. After numerous 40 Days for Life campaigns and in collaboration with the Helpers, an abortion facility in the Bronx that has been open since 1969 has closed. The leaders of 40 Days for Life were trained by Msgr. Reilly and are using prayer, fasting and outreach to help young women and men to make the choice for life.

We heard from Margaret Driscoll about whose battle with cancer we have been documenting in this newsletter. She recently was operated on to remove one of her kidneys, and after this operation and follow-up treatment she is hoping that she will soon be cancer free. She was recently elected judge in her hometown of Syracuse, New York. Way to go, Your Honor!

We were saddened to hear that Marion Higgins, a long-time Helper, passed away recently. She was a regular presence at large Helper's vigils in the 1990s until her health forced her to stop. Her grace and charming wit will be missed. We would like to ask for prayers for John Foley, Mary Duran, Emily Faugno, and Rose Diaz, long-time Helpers who are battling age and illness. In closing we would like to wish you many blessings this Christmas season.

Yours for Life,
Kevin and Susan Moore