

# *Family* LIFE

*Defending Life, Faith and Family*

SUMMER 2020

FREE



## INSIDE THIS EDITION:

- National March for Life 2020
- All you need to know about the new abortion law
- Will your local medical centre become abortion providers?
- Meet the Next Generation team making a huge impact with youth
- Stories of hope, and much more...

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## Cover Image

Giselle and Baby Noah, speaking at the National March for Life on December 5, 2020

*Family* **LIFE**

*Defending Life, Faith and Family*

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*Gianna's* **CHOICE**  
Pregnancy options and support

**0800 367 5433**

**Call free nation-wide**

### **OUR MISSION**

To build a culture of life and love by promoting and defending the dignity of human life from conception to natural death, and by promoting marriage between one man and one woman, and the natural family through prayer, education and service.



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*Family* **LIFE**



# A YEAR OF DEATH, BUT LIFE WILL TRIUMPH

## *Dear Friend for Life*

Everyone would agree that 2020 is a year unlike any other.

Who would ever have thought a virus, which, for a few vulnerable people, can potentially be deadly, could lead to such extreme measures globally to 'save lives'?

One does have to consider the real motive of our government in its response. If the motive truly is to protect vulnerable people and to 'save lives', then that concern must be consistent for all people at all times.

The concern for saving lives just doesn't stack up.

Just as New Zealand was preparing to go into Level 4 lockdown in March, legislation was rushed through the House, legalising the killing of unborn children in their mothers wombs throughout all nine months of pregnancy.

It was vital that this law passed to ensure abortion would remain accessible as an 'essential service' as the country made extra-ordinary efforts to 'save lives.'

I, like so many other pro-lifer's in the gallery that evening, sat in stunned silence as the Prime Minister and her team of pro-abortion activists passed around sweets to celebrate their win.

No concern there for saving the lives of the most vulnerable of people.

Read all about that barbaric, violent abortion law from page 6.

Carrying on the death theme, New Zealander's recently approved the End of Life Choice Act.

From November next year, doctors will be able to kill their patients or assist them to commit suicide.

It took decades to get to this point. Now that these anti-life practices are legal for some, it will not be long before the criteria is widened. This fact

has been proved time and again in jurisdictions where euthanasia and/or assisted suicide are legalised.

Don't let the pro-death rhetoric fool you. Canada, Belgium, the Netherlands all serve as warnings.

The End of Life Choice Act was covered extensively in the December 2019 edition of *Family Life* magazine. Read more about the referendum on page 28.

As a mother of seven, protecting the innocence of children is always forefront in my mind.

In September, when the nation was distracted by the upcoming election and referenda about euthanasia and cannabis, the Ministry of Education released new guidelines for relationships and sexuality education.

The Guidelines take the sexual and gender agendas to a whole new level, recommending that a whole-school approach be adopted for implementing the directions. I urge you to read my analysis of these guidelines on page 22, and be pro-active in your child's education. Ours is a grave responsibility.

We are told in the book of Hebrews that "... faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

Let us persevere in faith, hope, and love.

Yes, death is all around us, but we are a people of life, and in the end LIFE triumphs!

Yours in the service of life



*Michelle Kaufman*

Communications Director  
Family Life International NZ

# FAITH IS THE LIGHT IN DARKNESS

Father Linus Clovis



**Trust in Him  
who alone is able  
to remove fear  
with His presence,  
destroy darkness  
with His light,  
trample death  
with His resurrection  
and bring good  
out of every evil.**

**W**e are living in strange times, strange and trying times. All around us, we see confusion and fear, uncertainty and despair, troubles with no end in sight. In the midst of this ominous and all pervading darkness, we need eyes to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

It is worth reflecting that the sun shines on everyone, including the blind and, though blind persons may not see the sun, they know it is there because they can feel its heat. Analogously, we may not see the way out of this present crisis but, the warmth of our faith in Christ should be an indication that we are neither alone nor abandoned.

Let us consider Our Lord in the Garden of Gethsemane on the night of His betrayal. Although He had brought His three closest disciples with Him into the innermost part of the Garden, He felt, nonetheless, alone, that is, without human company, comfort or consolation. Aware of the bitterness of the cup of suffering of which His Father had asked Him to drink, His deep anguish and great fear produced bloody sweat. It was then that, in the midst of His spiritual torments, He cried out "Father, not my will but Your will be done." And, comforted by an angel, He was at peace.

As disciples of Christ, we must strive to follow and fulfil in ourselves the various stages of Christ's mysteries. It is also most important that we implore Him to bring these mysteries to completion in us and indeed in the whole Church. For the mysteries of Christ are not yet completely perfected and fulfilled as St. Paul tells us in Colossians "I complete in my own flesh that which is lacking in the sufferings of Christ for the sake of His body, the Church."

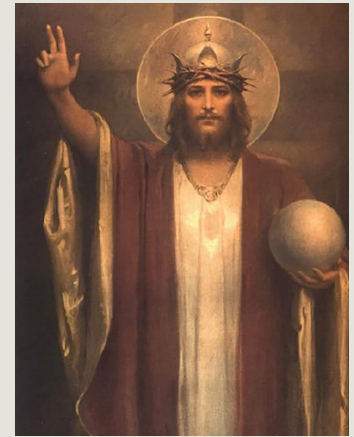
Given our current climate, our isolation, our fear and, indeed, our deprivation of not having the consolation of living in the sacramental life, we are at present completing in our own flesh what is lacking in the sufferings of Christ. Faced with all these crises, can it be deduced that we are now following Christ out of the Garden and onward to Calvary? Those who still have a window of fresh air, are able to look on and observe that the whole world is in turmoil and, throughout the world, believers and non believers alike, are suffering in inconceivable ways. Yes our world has arrived on Calvary and soon we will all be crucified with Christ.

Calvary can, in many ways, be a prefiguration of our times, a mirror image. The two thieves crucified with Christ were sinners; we are all sinners. Christ alone is innocent and, He alone, is the Sun shining in the darkness. On Calvary, even as the sun in the sky hid its face, the light of Christ continued to shine, so much so that, one of the thieves, feeling the warmth of Christ's loving embrace of His Father's will, found faith. A faith sufficient for



him to recognize his own sinfulness “we are only paying for what we have done wrong” and, enough for him to declare Christ’s innocence “but this man is innocent” and, substantial enough to ask Jesus to remember him. The Lord, who did come to save sinners, turned to him, saying “today you will be with me in Paradise.”

In this valley of tears, faith is given for light in the darkness. Even if we lack the eyes to see the Sun of righteousness in the midst of these contemporary troubles, we can nonetheless, with faith in His love for us, feel the warmth of His Presence which is surely Paradise within us. Let us not then give way to despondency, fear or discouragement but rather, trust in Him who alone is able to remove fear with His presence, destroy darkness with His light, trample death with His resurrection and bring good out of every evil. And we, comforted by the Good Shepherd, shall be at peace.



## CHRISTUS VINCIT, CHRISTUS REGNAT

*Christ conquers, Christ reigns,*

## CHRISTUS IMPERAT

*Christ rules*

*Father Clovis is the Spiritual Director and Chairman of Family Life International NZ. He is currently residing in the UK where restrictions have again been tightened.*

THIS LENT BE A LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS  
**BE A SIGN OF HOPE & HELP SAVE LIVES!**

  
**40 DAYS FOR LIFE®**  
**17 FEBRUARY TO 28 MARCH 2021**

*Bring Christ to your community by praying outside the local abortion place and by offering alternatives to pregnant mothers in need.*

Details of vigils in Auckland and Wellington and other 40 Days for Life vigils (or vigils in solidarity) in New Zealand will be posted on FLI’s website.

**[fli.org.nz/40daysforlife](http://fli.org.nz/40daysforlife)**

Please visit **[40daysforlife.com](http://40daysforlife.com)** to learn about the global movement.





# New Zealand's New Extreme Abortion Law

**E**arlier in March, Parliament passed one of the most extreme abortion laws in the world, treating the lethal procedure as a “health care service” and removing all protections for the pre-born child.

Less than eight months elapsed from the presentation of the Bill in Parliament to its third and final reading. The legislation was fast-tracked through the House to ensure abortion would remain an essential service during the Level 4 Covid-19 lockdown.

## **ABORTION IS NOW OPEN TO ANY WOMAN**

The Abortion Legislation Act allows for abortion with no restrictions up to 20 weeks.

Later term abortions require that the attending health care practitioner “reasonably believes that the abortion is clinically appropriate” in the circumstances, taking into consideration the woman’s physical and mental health and overall well-being. A second health practitioner must be consulted regarding the appropriateness of the abortion, however, that person is not required to meet the woman requesting an abortion.

A pregnant mother may self-refer for an abortion, and does not need a referral from her GP or other health service, nor is it mandatory that she receives counselling prior to the abortion taking place.

## **FAMILY LIFE INTERNATIONAL’S RESPONSE**

Family Life International is appalled at the blatant disregard of the humanity of the pre-born child, and their first right, the right to life.

“Pre-born children have been stripped in law of their humanity,” stated Dame Colleen Bayer, Founder and Director of FLI. “They are viewed as *something* to be disposed of, not *someone* worthy to be protected, loved, and given a chance to thrive.”

Many have noted that societies will be judged on how well they treat the most vulnerable in their midst.

Hubert Humphrey, Vice President of the United States from 1965, to 1969, clearly articulated the relationship between how people are treated and the moral fortitude of a government. In a speech on November 1, 1977, Humphrey stated:

*“the moral test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; those who are in the shadows of life; the sick, the needy and the handicapped.”*

Saint John Paul II, the great defender of human life, went even further in his address to New Zealand’s Ambassador to the Holy See in 2000.

*“A society will be judged on the basis of how it treats its weakest members; and among the most vulnerable are surely the unborn and the dying. A materialistic view of the human person will concede little value and dignity to either. What is then claimed as a victory for human rights is really the sanctioning of a freedom sundered from truth. In the end, that is no freedom at all but a descent into arbitrariness and the dominion of the strong over the weak.”*

That stark warning from the Pontiff was ignored by the government this year, not only sanctioning the killing of pre-born children up until birth, but also the killing of the vulnerable at the end of life.

“As a nation we will be held to account for the lives lost to abortion,” declared Mrs Bayer. “Hundreds of thousands of babies lives have been snuffed out and the wounds left on mothers, fathers and families is tremendous.” ♦

### **PASSED**

#### **MARCH 18, 2020**

The Abortion Legislation Act passed its Third Reading in Parliament. 68 in favour to 51 opposed.

### **ROYAL ASSENT**

#### **MARCH 23, 2020**

The new Act was given Royal Assent officially making it an Act of Parliament.

### **ENFORCED**

#### **MARCH 24, 2020**

The new law came into force, allowing free access to abortion.

**IN LAW ABORTION IS NOW CONSIDERED A “HEALTH CARE SERVICE”**



## FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE RESTRICTED FOR HEALTH PRACTITIONERS

**Under the Abortion Legislation Act the ability for health practitioners to freely follow their conscience is restricted.**

A qualified health practitioner who does not want to provide or assist in the provision of abortion, sterilisation or contraception must, when approached, supply contact details of the closest provider.

The health practitioner cannot be dismissed because of their refusal to provide abortion, sterilisation, or contraception (clause 15.1).

However, in clause 15.2 protection is removed if the employer judges that an applicant for a job, or a current employee “would reasonably disrupt” the provision of these “services.” In that case the employer has the right to:

- Refuse or omit to employ a prospective employee for available work;
- Offer a prospective employee or give a current employee less favourable:
  - terms of employment
  - conditions of work
  - superannuation or other fringe benefits
  - opportunities for training, promotion or transfer
- Terminate the employment;
- Subject the employee to detriment which others would not be subjected to;
- Retire the employee or cause them to retire or resign.



See article on page 8 for why this could become a real problem for health practitioners.

## Total Fertility Rate hurtles towards catastrophic low

In November, Statistics New Zealand revealed the number of births for the year ended September 2020. There were 57,753 live births in that time period.

However, the ever decreasing Total Fertility Rate is troubling. This rate is an average indicator of fertility showing the number of children a woman would have in her lifetime. For a nation to replace itself without any migration, the required fertility rate is 2.1.

Right now, New Zealand's Total Fertility Rate sits at 1.63—catastrophically below replacement level.

Once a nation hits a fertility rate of 1.5, demographers warn a serious line is crossed. It is unlikely that a nation will ever recover from such a low fertility rate.

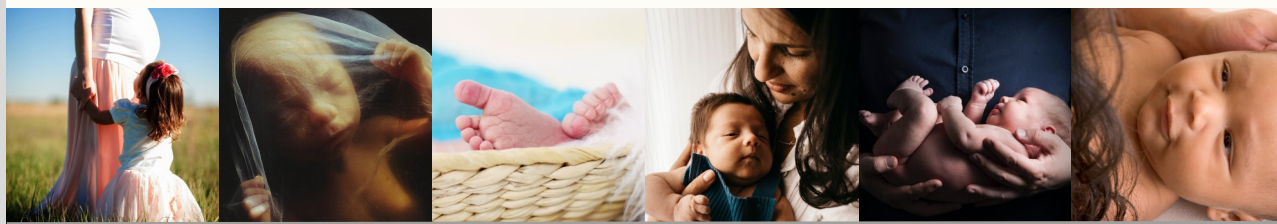
New Zealand's fertility rate hit a high in 1961

with a total 4.3 births.

Overall the world fertility rate is declining. It currently sits at around 2.4 births. A number of countries have fertility rates that have dipped below, or are sitting on the warning line of 1.5; these include Canada (1.5), Italy (1.3), Hong Kong (1.1) and Singapore (1.1).

Typically African countries have an excellent fertility rate. For example Congo (5.9), Chad (5.7), and Guinea (4.7).

Pacific nations tend to have good fertility rates, for example Samoa (3.9), Vanuatu (3.8), and Kiribati (3.6). However this is likely to change as population control groups and organisations such as NZ Family Planning work very hard to normalise contraception, abortifacients, and abortion in these family-orientated nations.



# Auckland DHB's looking for ABORTION PROVIDERS

**A** call for registrations of interest to provide first trimester surgical and medical abortions in the wider Auckland area has been tabled.

Auckland, Counties Manukau, and Waitemata District Health Boards have combined a tender for abortion services. Their intention is "to increase equity and access to high quality first trimester abortion services for women."

The Health Boards are looking for providers who will deliver a service for medical abortions up to 9 weeks and/or surgical abortions up to 13 or 14 weeks gestation.

Integrating "first trimester abortion services with other women's health services" is preferred. This integration, it is said, helps to lessen the "stigma" of abortion.

A particular focus is given to providing abortion

services for Maori, Pacific and young women.

"We need practitioners who are well connected with high needs communities, can engage young people and are culturally competent" states the official tender document.

Preference will be given to those who can offer:

- A "non-judgemental service."
- A one-day service, including the provision of long acting contraception.
- Services in "an economically deprived community and/or [are] linked to one such as through transport hubs."
- Counselling.

The DHBs are also interested in acquiring new abortion providers in rural and remote areas.

The objective is to "deliver a greater proportion of early medical abortions."

## LOCAL MEDICAL CENTRES COULD BECOME ABORTION FACILITIES

*How will you know if your local medical practice is involved?*

Given the call for "service" provision by the DHB's, it is quite possible that your local medical centre may choose to offer First Trimester medical and/or surgical abortion.

Not every practice will be interested in providing abortions. However, there are those who are located close to traffic hubs, have large well-equipped premises, and staff that take a particular interest in women's health. These practices may very well opt in.

Although the contracts do not commence until July 1, 2021, it is possible to find out now if this is a "service" your practice is willing to take on.

Family Life International has taken advice from a medical practitioner who suggests that, as a first step, individuals write to their practice manager. Respectfully ask if the practice have registered to provide First Trimester abortions. Politely explain that this is something that you would not like to be associated with.

The practice manager's response will determine what steps to take next, if any.



For pregnant women who live within the catchment of the three DHB's, the "service" will be free as long as they are eligible for publicly funded healthcare.

At the time of writing no other DHBs have asked for expressions of interests in providing abortions.

Contracts for those who are successful begin on 1 July 2021, and last for a period of three years.

Applicants for the tender are required to be trained and experienced in providing abortions of the type they are applying to offer. However, an allowance is granted for those who wish to apply but need to be trained. These applicants needed to provide a pathway and timeline for their study.

As part of their submission, applicants were to describe the volume of abortions they could deliver.

They were also asked to outline "effective means of reducing repeat abortions, particularly through provision of LARCs of the woman's choosing."

Despite this requirement to reduce repeat abortions, potential providers have also been asked to demonstrate "awareness of financial sustainability" showing "appropriate planning to manage growing service demand."

Under the new abortion law the criteria for who is able to provide abortions has widened. Doctors, nurse practitioners, and midwives are permitted to become abortion providers. ♦



## THE FACTS

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



#### UP TO 20 WEEKS

No restrictions

#### AFTER 20 WEEKS

The health practitioner must "reasonably believe that the abortion is clinically appropriate in the circumstances."

Appropriateness is determined by:

- | Consulting at least one other qualified health practitioner, although this person is not required to see the woman seeking an abortion.
- | Having regard to relevant legal, professional and ethical standards for the provider's particular profession.
- | Considering the woman's physical and mental health and over-all well-being.
- | Considering the gestational age of the unborn child (fetus).

In an emergency none of these considerations apply, despite direct abortion never being medically indicated in order to save the life of the mother. Immediate delivery may be indicated, but not the intentional killing of the child.

References:

Abortion Legislation Act, 2020

American Association of Pro-life Obstetricians and Gynecologists

# THE IMPACT OF PRAYERFUL VIGIL

## STORIES FROM THE STREET

Often the impact of standing in prayer and witness outside an abortion facility goes unnoticed by those who make sacrifices to be there. At times, prayer volunteers may wonder how, or even if, they can save lives. Here are some stories to encourage and inspire you in this great work which consoles the Sacred Heart of Jesus and does indeed save lives.



### BABY SAVED

An encouraging example of how a peaceful, prayerful presence saves lives can be found in the young woman who approached Auckland vigil participants near the middle of the 40 Days for Life vigil in 2018.

She approached a selfless prayer volunteer and told him that in the previous year she had an appointment at AMAC. However, when she arrived, people were standing on the pavement just as he was, and she lingered near them, listening to the prayers and speaking to prayer volunteers only briefly, never letting on that she had an appointment.

"I went home that day without keeping my appointment," she explained. "My son is now three months old. Thank you."

### ANGRY WOMAN APOLOGISES

The first 40 Days for Life vigils in New Zealand took place in 2014. That year, (and the following year), Mark Mitchelson co-ordinated the Auckland

vigil. Each day, he spent many, many hours at the vigil site, often receiving abuse from a few vocal members of the community as he fervently prayed.

A year later, Mark was back out on the street opposite the misleadingly named Auckland Medical Aid Centre (AMAC). He was approached by a young woman who apologised profusely to him. "Last year," she said, "I was so angry with you standing out here. I am a Christian. I have realised that I need healing and forgiveness for what I have done."

The woman had spent many months reflecting on her own abortion experience, and sought forgiveness from God. Although seeing prayer volunteers outside the abortion place initially caused her great pain, the experience enabled her to face that pain, and begin the path to healing.

### IT'S A PLACE OF DESPAIR

Earlier this year outside Wellington Regional Hospital, prayer volunteers were approached by a woman who asked if anyone had been inside.





She explained that near the end of 2019, she had gone in when she accompanied a family member to her abortion.

The only words the woman could find to describe the abortion place was “a place of utter despair.” She kept insisting that “all you feel in there is nothing but despair.”

Desperate to bring hope, she told her relation that she did not need to do it, but the staff repeatedly advised her “it was best in her situation.”

The woman continued, “I can not tell you all that I saw, it was just too horrible. I will never forget it; I regret ever having gone in. Utter despair and hopelessness that is all there is up in there.”

### **COUPLE DIDN'T RETURN FOR SCHEDULED ABORTION**

In 2018, prayer volunteers were encouraged with the news that a husband and wife, who had attended an appointment at the Auckland Medical Aid Centre (AMAC), had chosen life.

The couple were told by AMAC staff to return in the early afternoon to begin the abortion process, so they went home to wait.

Still undecided, the husband returned to the vigil site and took down the number on the sign offering help, then returned home to his wife. From there, multiple texts were exchanged with a pregnancy advocate at FLI. The couple explained their situation and asked what kind of assistance could be given.

Finally, the decision was made that they would not go through with the abortion! The team at Family Life International were at their home that afternoon to assist with housework, and continued to support them through the pregnancy.

### **GRATEFUL 14 YEARS LATER**

A few years ago, FLI's Founder, Colleen Bayer, was standing outside AMAC praying, when she was approached by a woman. The woman said hello and started to say Colleen's name.

Colleen looked up and the lady began expressing her gratitude. “Thank you Colleen. My son Harry is 14-years-old now and he is amazing and has grown up very well. He has a younger brother and we are all very happy.”

More than fourteen years earlier, Colleen had been standing outside the very same abortion facility, praying and offering alternatives to the mothers seeking an abortion. It was there that she met Yuki, the woman who recognised her on this day. Yuki had been there for an abortion. A procedure that would have taken the life of her son, had it not been for Colleen who promised to support her throughout her pregnancy and for as long as needed after baby was born.

That is precisely what Colleen, and the team at FLI did. They gave Yuki hope in her greatest hour of need, causing her to still be grateful more than fourteen years later. ♦



## **JOIN US**

**Weekly prayer vigils  
outside AMAC at  
7:30am and 9:30am  
for one hour each.\***

**Participate in  
40 Days for Life  
during Lent 2021.  
[fli.org.nz/40daysforlife](http://fli.org.nz/40daysforlife)**

*\*Note:*

*A break is taken over  
Christmas and New Year.*

# “Safe area” legislation threatens to shut down peaceful prayer vigils

**A Bill which would legalize the establishment of so-called “safe areas” around selected abortion centres in New Zealand has been introduced to Parliament.**



**T**he Contraception, Sterilisation, and Abortion (Safe Areas) Amendment Bill was introduced by Louisa Wall (Labour) on 28 July. A First Reading has yet to take place.

So-called “safe areas” that exclude pro-life activity and prayer outside abortion centres were inadvertently voted out of the rushed through Abortion Legislation Act. A misunderstanding by pro-abortion politicians led to an Act which mentions the notion of “safe areas,” with no possible way to implement them. Hence, this Amendment Bill.

## **PURPOSE OF THE BILL**

According to the General policy statement, the purpose of the Contraception, Sterilisation, and Abortion (Safe Areas) Amendment Bill is to “provide a regulation-making power to set up safe areas around specific abortion facilities, on a case-by-case basis.”

The writers of the Bill argue that this regulation-making power is designed to “protect the safety and well-being,” along with the “privacy and dignity,” of those accessing abortion and of abortion workers.

## **SAFE AREAS TO BE DETERMINED ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS**

If this law is to pass, so-called “safe areas” would not automatically be enforced at every single abortion facility in New Zealand.

Where established, the “safe area” can be no more than 150 meters from any part of the premises.

## **SAFETY, WELL-BEING & DIGNITY ONLY PROTECTED IF YOU’RE BORN**

New Zealand law now views induced abortion up until birth as an essential health service.

However, one only need look at the scientific evidence that a unique human being is created at fertilization (conception) to realize the gaping disconnect be-





tween true health care and the very nature, and end, of abortion.

Maternity care, recognizes that both the mother and her unborn child must be looked after, and all measures are taken to ensure the safety of both when the child is “wanted.”

Abortion denies the humanity and the right to life of an unborn child, simply because of the wishes of his or her mother. Abortion does not have the aim of healing. Its aim is to destroy.

Ironically, this Amendment Bill declares that “safe areas” are about the “safety and well-being,” and respect of the “privacy and dignity” of women and abortion workers.

It does not consider the safety, well-being and dignity of the tiniest of human beings, hidden in their mother’s wombs.

### PEACEFUL, PRAYERFUL PRESENCE OUTSIDE ABORTION FACILITIES SAVES LIVES

For almost 30 years, Family Life International has had a peaceful, prayerful presence outside abortion centres in New Zealand. **Many, many lives have been saved because people have sacrificed their time in order to be a sign of hope.**

Our presence is never in protest.

It does, however, acknowledge that tiny human beings are being subjected to a brutal death.

Our presence reminds the community that something very unsavoury is happening in their midst. It challenges people to critique their values.

Being present extends other options to abortion-minded mothers. Our presence tells her that she is strong; that she is not alone; that there is hope.

Fathers are reminded that they have a duty to protect their child and the woman they love.

The very beginning stages of healing can begin for those who hurt after their abortion experience.

Workers are extended love and mercy.

Finally, and most importantly, abortion offends the heart of God. We make reparation for this grave injustice and beg for His mercy at the site where this atrocity occurs.

The day after the Amendment Bill was introduced into Parliament, FLI’s faithful prayer volunteers stood as they do every Wednesday on the opposite side of the road from AMAC. They were

### PROHIBITED BEHAVIOUR



**Section 13A 3 of the Bill** explains what is deemed as prohibited behaviour:

(a) intimidating, interfering with, or obstructing a protected person—

(i) with the intention of frustrating the purpose for which the protected person is in the safe area; or

(ii) in a manner that an ordinary reasonable person would know would cause emotional distress to a protected person.

(b) communicating with, or visually recording, a person in a manner that an ordinary reasonable person would know would cause emotional distress to a protected person

A **protected person** is anyone who is in the prescribed “safe area” to have an abortion, or seek information about the procedure, and anyone who is working in the abortion centre, including workers from outsourced providers.

Anyone convicted can accrue a fine of **up to \$1,000**.

If a constable asks a person to stop engaging in behaviour that they believe contravenes the legislation, and the person does not stop, that person can be arrested and **taken into custody without a warrant**.

This only applies if the Bill becomes law.

approached by a staff member from the abortion facility. There was a woman, she said, that they could do nothing for. She knew FLI had helped previously and wondered if we could do so again. She asked for cards for our pregnancy centre – *Gianna’s Choice* – and took them with her to the facility.

At the heart of the introduction of the Bill is the acknowledgement that a peaceful, prayerful presence outside abortion facilities changes hearts and saves lives. A reality that cannot be tolerated by militant pro-abortion proponents. ♦



## GIANNA'S CHOICE BRINGS HOPE

**When a pregnant mother is facing an unexpected pregnancy, or finds herself in an unsupportive situation, among many other powerful feelings, she can feel very alone.**

This is where Gianna's Choice Pregnancy Options and Support steps into the breach and offers hope and friendship, genuinely walking beside each woman in her greatest hour of need, letting her know that she is not alone.

This year has been particularly busy for the team at Gianna's Choice, an outreach of Family Life International.

Throughout the Covid lockdowns and restrictions, we have continued to field phone calls, text messages, and emails. Because of the generosity of our Friends for Life, we have been able to provide practical assistance to pregnant mothers including housing, nappies, food vouchers, and necessities such as prams and cots.

In June, Saint Gianna's Home for mothers and babies opened. This home is a response to the needs, challenges, hopes, and dreams quashed by broken friendships, unfortunate circumstances, and unhealthy life choices.

With professionally trained pregnancy advocates now available to serve in Rotorua and Tokoroa, the Mobile Life Centre is able to have a regular presence in these localities.

The Mobile Life Centre provides a pregnancy centre on wheels, serves to educate the public, be a moving billboard for life-affirming choices, and is an important space to connect with other pro-lifer's.

Saint Gianna's Home and the Mobile Life Centre are vital components of our mission to serve women in their greatest hour of need. ♦

### GIANNA'S CHOICE OFFERS THIS SUPPORT THROUGH 3 SERVICE PATHWAYS

#### GIANNA'S CHOICE CENTRE



#### SAINT GIANNA'S HOME FOR MOTHERS & BABIES



#### GIANNA'S CHOICE MOBILE LIFE CENTRE







## GIANNA'S NEWS

To keep up-to-date with the latest news from Gianna's Choice, please see our new publication, Gianna's News in print or online at **FLI.ORG.NZ**

## GIANNA'S CHOICE PREGNANCY OPTIONS & SUPPORT CENTRE

The Gianna's Choice Centre is open for drop in appointments for pregnancy tests and to discuss pregnancy options every Wednesday.

**10AM TO 3PM**

569A Richardson Road  
Mt Roskill, Auckland

**OR BY APPOINTMENT**

Phone 0800 367 5433

Text 027 448 80 70



## HELP REACH PREGNANT MOTHERS

Do you have a visible place to display a Gianna's Choice sign?

The signs are effective at reaching pregnant mothers who need help. We will provide signs for free.

For more information please contact **Simon 021 400 729**  
**simon@fli.org.nz**



## BABIES DUE

**NOVEMBER 2020**

**1**

**BABY**

**JANUARY 2021**

**2**

**BABIES**

**FEBRUARY 2021**

**2**

**BABIES**

**MARCH 2021**

**3**

**BABIES**



**APRIL 2021**

**2**

**BABIES**

**MAY 2021**

**1**

**BABY**

**JUNE 2021**

**2**

**BABIES**

**JULY 2021**

**2**

**BABIES**



# NATIONAL MARCH

for

*Life*



Over a thousand people gathered from all over New Zealand in the nation's capital, Wellington, on Saturday December 5, for the National March for Life.

A joyful atmosphere was apparent throughout the family-friendly event which exists to celebrate the value of life and the unborn child, while peacefully protesting the nation's extreme abortion law.

"Forty-three years ago, Parliament passed a law that said not all unborn children have a right to life. Under that law more than half a million pre-born children were aborted" the organisers pointed out in a press release prior to the March.

"Abortion not only takes the life of a human being, it wounds women physically, emotionally, and spiritually; and families are negatively affected."

"New Zealanders love both women and their unborn children, and we want the law to reflect that love."

Gathering at Civic Square, participants were treated to entertainment by Jazz musicians, and the formidable Mother of Divine Mercy Refuge whose vibrant and joyful performance added to the celebratory mood.

Children enjoyed a bouncy castle, face painting, and balloons.

## SUPPORT FOR PREGNANT MOTHERS

Prior to the March, pro-life, and pro-family materials and services were highlighted at Civic Square, showing those gathered the wide variety of supports and options available to pregnant women in need, and to those suffering after an abortion.

Gianna's Choice Mobile Life Centre, an outreach of Family Life International, made a bold statement about how willing the pro-life movement is to support mothers in their greatest hour of need.

"The Mobile Life Centre is a tangible expression of our willingness to serve," said Colleen Bayer, FLI's founder and director. "When people see the



Centre a whole new world of possibilities of reaching abortion-vulnerable women is opened up for them."

### **AGNES LOHENI GIVES A WARNING**

Once at Parliament Grounds Agnes Loheni, mother of five, and a former National List MP who sat on the Abortion Legislation Committee, addressed attendees.

Referencing the State's response to protecting the vulnerable during Covid, Loheni boldly proclaimed "we can bring the full weight of this State to bear when it comes to protecting the vulnerable, unless that person is an unborn baby, in which case the State sits idly by."

"History has never looked kindly on governments that sanction the killing of its own citizens, and history will not judge the passing of this Abortion Legislation kindly," she stated.

Loheni concluded by giving a stark warning about the coming restrictions on speech about abortion. Referencing the miraculous defeat of the "anti-free speech and the anti-freedom safe zones" in the Abortion Legislation Act, she noted that it was "likely that this will be raised again in this term of government."

It "is only a short jump from banning speech outside an abortion clinic to banning speech that is anti-abortion," she finished.

### **LOOKING TOWARD A DAY WHEN LIFE RETURNS**

Parliament's most vocal pro-life politician, Simon O'Connor enthused the crowd with his straight-talking exhortation.

Acknowledging the difficult decision made by women who have had an abortion, O'Connor made it clear that those present stand with them. "To those mums who have chosen abortion we stand with you, we love you, we support you," he stated.

He then challenged fathers who often pressure women into abortion "to love them and to love your child."

"Support those women. Support your child. Stand with them," he said.

Mr O'Connor asked the crowd to remember the babies lost to abortion, those who were "denied being part of the team of 5 million."

Explaining why he is pro-life O'Connor said simply "I don't like killing people," igniting the crowd who burst into loud applause.

Recognizing "that much death has been legislated" this year, he encouraged the crowd to accept that change begins with each of them. "Continue to be bold and strong as you are," he stated. "Have those conversations in your families with your friends and in your workplaces."

"...In a few years' time we will stand here not to lament, if you will, the laws that have passed, but to celebrate that life has once more returned to Aotearoa."

### **MOTHER SHARES HER TESTIMONY**

Those gathered at Parliament were also addressed by Giselle, a young mum whose support network failed her when she found out she was







pregnant. Her boyfriend, family, and medical staff all told her that abortion was her best option.

However, she chose to reach out to *Gianna's Choice Pregnancy Options and Support* and was given all the encouragement and support she needed by the team, and especially Colleen, to give life to her son Noah. She explained that knowing she "was not alone" helped her to make her choice for life.

#### **LILA ROSE: KEEP GOING UNTIL ABORTION IS ENDED**

A final message was given via video by Lila Rose, the founder and director of Live Action, an educational and activist pro-life group in the United States.

Rose gave those gathered three important tasks to continue with after the March for Life. Education, involvement, and prayer.

"The movement isn't just today," she stated. "The movement is throughout the year until we reach victory, which is the complete ending of abortion and the rebuilding of a culture of life."

She asked people of faith to pray with her "that people across continents, people throughout societies, across nations can have a restored vision of humanity, of humanity made in God's image and likeness. Of children as worth fighting for and pre-

cious. Children that should be protected instead of killed and of families as first, as important, as the building blocks of societies."

#### **NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE A YEARLY EVENT**

The event was the fourth National March for Life. Launched by Family Life International NZ in 2017, the first one commemorated the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passing of the Contraception, Sterilisation, and Abortion Act, 1977.

Since then, a united front has been formed with Family First, Voice for Life, and Focus on the Family. The March is endorsed by a number of religious and pro-life groups throughout New Zealand.

The New Zealand March for Life joins a global movement of people standing up for the most vulnerable in their communities, and against abortion through peaceful marches.

Organisers are asking people to save the date now for the fifth National March for Life, which will be held on Saturday 4 December 2021. ♦

*This article has been edited.  
To read the full version please visit [fli.org.nz](http://fli.org.nz)*





## BISHOP GIVES ENCOURAGING HOMILY AT MASS FOR LIFE

**“Protecting life from beginning to end should be the cornerstone of our nation. Life must be treated as a sacred taonga,” declared Bishop Michael Gielen, at the Mass for Life.**

Two hundred people attended Mass and Adoration at Saint Mary of the Angels in Wellington City on December 4, in preparation for the fourth National March for Life.

Both the Saint Mary of the Angels choir, and Mother of Divine Mercy Refuge Choir from Auckland added to the prayer with their singing.

Bishop Michael Gielen, Auxiliary Bishop of Auckland offered the Mass.

During his homily, the Bishop expressed how proud he was to be with those gathered that evening. “I appreciate your prophetic witness on behalf of life,” he said.

“How honoured I am to lead you in this great prayer of the Mass.”

Quoting Pope Francis, Bishop Gielen highlighted the value of every human being. “Human



beings have inherent, irreducible value, but when a throwaway culture finds them inconvenient, it deems them “inefficient” or “burdensome”; and they are ignored, rejected or even disposed of.”

“Jesus has called you here,” he stated. “It is His work first.”

He reminded the congregation of St Teresa of Calcutta’s words that “we are not called to be successful, but faithful.”

“Let us take hope,” he concluded. “Allow Him to use us in this March for Life.”

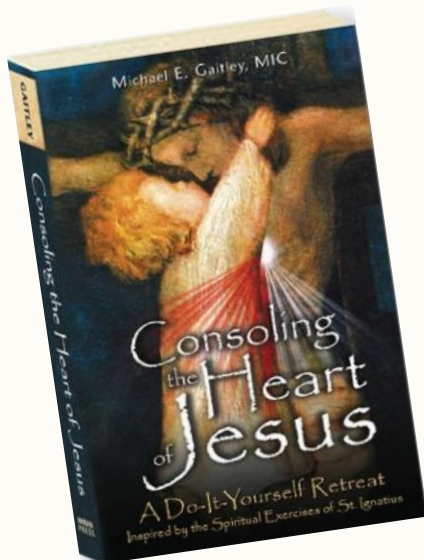
At the conclusion of Mass, the Blessed Sacrament was exposed for an hour of Eucharistic Adoration. The time offered participants an opportunity to quietly pray. The evening concluded with Benediction. ♦



Following the National March for Life, approximately 150 people gathered on the grass outside the Beehive to pray the Rosary, asking for the Blessed Mother’s intercession for New Zealand, and for an end to abortion.

The Mass, Adoration, and Rosary wrapped the entire March for Life in prayer, offering all our work for the Glory of God.

# SUPPORT FLI'S PRO-LIFE AND PRO-FAMILY WORK THROUGH OUR CATHOLIC GIFT STORE



## CONSOLING THE HEART OF JESUS

A do-it-yourself retreat that combines the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius with the teachings of Saints Therese of Lisieux, Faustina Kowalska, and Louis de Montfort. The author, Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC, has a remarkable gift for inspiring little souls to trust in Jesus, the Divine Mercy. 428 pages. Includes practical helps in appendices. (BB700)

**\$31.00**

## HOLY WATER BOTTLE-SPRINKLER

Handy Holy Water bottle with sprinkler adaptor, makes for easy distribution. Generous storage capacity. Measures 9cm x 7cm. (HB3117)

**\$4.50**



## SACRED HEART TRIPTYCH

An attractive image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, displayed on a wooden triptych. An angel on either side decorates the hinged side wings. A beautiful image is revealed when the "door" closes over. 13.5cm x 20cm. (PQ56208)

**\$31.40**

## DIVINE MERCY TRIPTYCH

Jesus, Lord of Divine Mercy, is represented on this wooden triptych. Gold foil highlights bring the image to life. Angels stand on the right and the left. 13.5cm x 20cm. (PQ56201)

**\$31.40**



## ENAMEL MIRACULOUS MEDAL

A beautiful Miraculous Medal with blue enamel background. "Oh Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee" is clearly inscribed on the perimeter. Height 4cm. (MD1595)

**\$4.80 each**



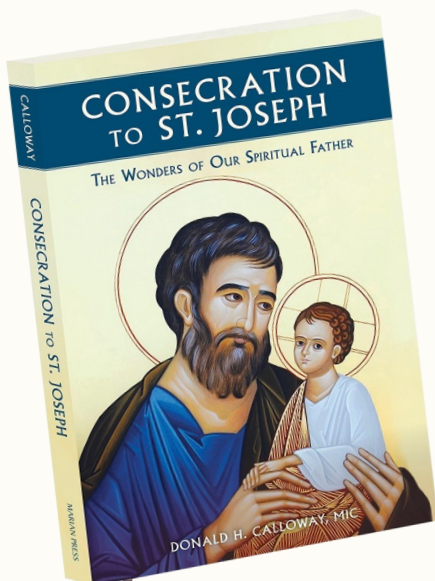
## BROWN SCUPULAR

A high-quality woollen Brown Scapular. (SC1000)

**\$4.80 each**







## CONSECRATION TO ST JOSEPH THE WONDERS OF OUR SPIRITUAL FATHER

**Perfect for the Year of St Joseph!**

In the midst of crisis, confusion, and a world at war with the Church, it's time to come home again to our spiritual father, St. Joseph. In this richly researched and lovingly presented program of consecration to St. Joseph, Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC, brings to life the wonders, the power, and the ceaseless love of St. Joseph, Universal Patron of the Church and the Terror of Demons. 342 pages. (BB699)

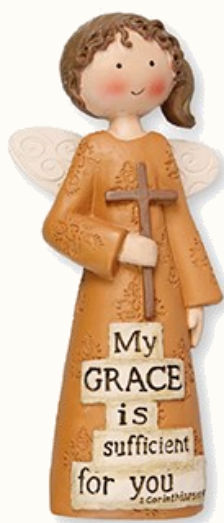
**\$30.00**



### ORNATE OLIVE WOOD CRUCIFIX

Beautiful olive wood crucifix on sturdy cord. Well defined "silver" corpus. Measures 4.8cm. (CR12087)

**\$8.50**



### RESIN MESSAGE ANGEL

A lovely statue for young or old. Height 12cm. (ST3955)

**\$24.00**



### OUR LADY OF GRACE / ST CHRISTOPHER KEYRING

Sturdy metal keyring displaying Our Lady and St. Christopher. Made in Italy. Medal height 3.5cm. (KR099)

**\$4.50**

### MOTHER MARY AND CHILD JESUS KEYRING

This is a beautiful Italian-made keyring in "Gold" with blue Swarovski crystals. The centre medal is a silver image of Mother Mary and the Child Jesus. A stunning product that will make a great gift for a special occasion. Height (excluding chain/ring) 3.5cm. (KR2418)

**\$12.80**



**Many more items available online or in our store.**

## FAMILY LIFE CATHOLIC GIFTS

**Saint John Paul II Centre for Life**

569 Richardson Road Mt Roskill, Auckland

**Monday to Friday 9:00am - 4:30pm**

**Saturday 10:00am - 2:00pm**

Phone 09 620 0820

E-mail catholicgifts@fli.org.nz

**CATHOLICGIFTS.CO.NZ**



# WHAT EVERY CONCERNED PARENT NEEDS TO KNOW

## RELATIONSHIPS AND SEXUALITY

### GUIDELINES

New Relationships and Sexuality Education Guidelines which push the gender diversity and inclusivity narrative have been published by the Ministry of Education. The guidelines are intended for teachers, leaders and Boards of Trustees of all State and State-Integrated schools.

There are two guides, one for years 1-8 and another for years 9-13. Both guides are titled *Relationships and Sexuality Education*. Content in each document is generally the same, with some issues, such as pornography, and sexting, being fleshed out further in the secondary school resource.

According to the preamble on the Ministry of Education site, the guidelines “make explicit the key learning at each curriculum level.” The Ministry claims to have integrated “the latest research on relationships, gender, sexuality, and wellbeing.”



The documents are a revision of the 2015 resource “Sexuality Education: A guide for principals, boards of trustees, and teachers.” They have been developed in response to the Education Review Office report “*Promoting Wellbeing through Sexuality Education*.”

Sexuality education is required in the New Zealand Curriculum through the Health and Physical Education strand for New Entrants to Year 10.

In order to ensure all students receive sexuality education, including senior students in Years 11 to 13, and students whose parents have removed them from this aspect of the curriculum, schools are encouraged to provide “opportunities in health education, in other curriculum programmes, and in many other school contexts.”

The Ministry of Education maintain that “relationships and sexuality education cannot be left to chance in schools,” and are advocates for this education to begin from early childhood, building consistently.

The government is pledging active support for schools to implement these recommendations school-wide.

The following points are what every parent, caregiver, and grandparent should know about the new Guidelines so they can protect the children and teenagers entrusted to their care.

## 1

### PRIORITY IS GENDER DIVERSITY & INCLUSIVE SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

In the overview, the intention to prioritise gender diversity and inclusive school communities is very clear. The authors state that the guidelines

“cover learning about relationships as well as about gender and about sex and sexualities. They discuss social and emotional learning and look at how young people can come to understand the physical and social contexts of gender, bodies and sexuality... The formation of young people’s personal and gender identities is viewed as an ongoing lifelong process.”

Schools are asked to implement policies and foster an environment which embraces gender diversity

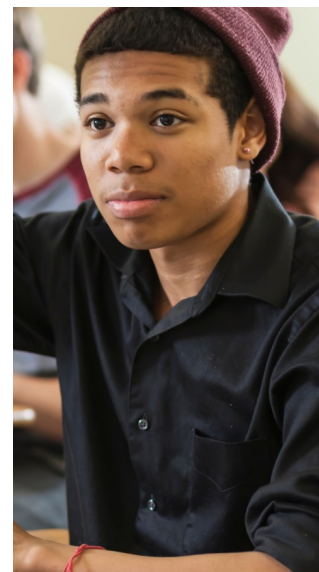


through:

- Inclusive environments.
- Allowing children to express their gender identities and sexual orientation freely.
- Ensuring children can choose their own name and identity.
- Discussing diversity of sex characteristics, gender identity and sexuality in their programmes.

In addition, policies should include:

- Permitting biological boys to access girls' toilets and changing rooms;
- School rolls and records are to use the student's name, gender and pronoun of choice;
- Include gender diverse and non-binary options on school forms;
- Confidential access to health services for all students of all ages.



## 2 > VEILED HUMAN RIGHTS BIAS

Although the documents express a concern for the rights of all to be upheld, on a closer reading, it is clear that these rights only pertain to people who have diverse sexual orientation and gender identities.

## 3 > SEXUALITY TO BE TAUGHT ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Sexuality education is traditionally taught as part of the Health and Physical Education learning area. Under the Education and Training Act 2020, parents and caregivers can legally request in writing that their child be released from *health class during sexuality education*.

However, this new resource encourages teachers to find opportunities across the curriculum, and to utilise “authentic social contexts” as teaching opportunities. The exemption above does not apply to other subjects or instances where sexuality is discussed.

Each document gives examples of learning intentions for each curriculum area, showing how the Guidelines might be integrated into learning in other subjects.

## 4 > GUIDELINES ACTIVELY WORK TO DISMANTLE THE NATURAL FAMILY

According to the documents, it is important for schools to “include policies that explicitly require inclusion of diverse staff, families, and community members who interact with the school.” This, it is said, part of the whole-school approach of establishing and maintaining a culture of inclusivity.

School events are viewed as opportunities to “welcome diverse families with a range of structures, actively including same-sex, trans, and gender-diverse partners and community members.”

Furthermore, teachers and school leaders are encouraged to use language which recognises “gender diversity and diverse families.”

“Schools should avoid referring exclusively to “Mum and Dad” and include other possible family structures,” the document states.

There is no doubt that teachers need to be sensitive to the family situations of their students. However, marriage and family are the foundation of a civil society. We do a grave disservice to our children when we undermine the institution of the natural family.

## 5 > ACCESS TO TOILETS & CHANGING ROOMS BASED ON GENDER

Both primary and secondary school Guidelines highlight a belief that students should “access toilets and changing rooms that align with their gender identification,” claiming that it “supports their sense of identity and wellbeing.”

The Guidelines state “Trans girls should be able to use the female toilets if they prefer to.”

## 6 > ACTIVIST “SUPPORT GROUPS” ARE ENCOURAGED

Activist support groups such as “gay-straight alliances, queer groups, rainbow groups, peer sexuality support groups, feminist groups, and school health councils” are actively encouraged.

Assistance in setting up these activist groups is given by way of listing three resources:

- InsideOUT (an organisation that works with “rainbow” youth throughout New Zealand).
- Guide to LGBTQIA+ students (on the Ministry of Education curriculum site).
- Secondary Schools Diversity Groups: Rainbow safety first (on InsideOUT’s website).

These so-called support groups have as their goal the normalisation of LGBT behaviour within the school community.

## 7 > PORN & SEXTING ADDRESSED BUT NOT BECAUSE THEY ARE BAD

It is laudable that pornography and sexting are identified as problems for students. The documents cite a recent study by the Office of the Film and Literature Classification Office which revealed that one in four young people in New Zealand have seen porn before the age of twelve.

However, the concern doesn’t appear to be that pornography and sexting are bad for youth or people in general.

Referring to research, the authors state that “*young people want more and better information about sex and sexuality. RSE programmes provide an opportunity to discuss the complexities, issues, and impacts of widely available pornography, including how it is becoming a kind of de facto sex education.*”

There is the concern: *that pornography is becoming a “de facto sex education.”* The Ministry would much rather teachers provide the sex education.

## 8 > RECOMMENDATION THAT SCHOOL UNIFORMS BE REVIEWED



Uniforms for boys and girls is “an exclusionary practice,” according to the Guidelines.

“School uniforms often reinforce gender norms and binaries, so schools should offer gender-neutral clothing choices when reviewing school uniforms.”

The UNESCO report (referred to in point 9) labelled “gender-specific uniforms” as “implicit homophobic and transphobic violence.”



# TIPS FOR CONCERNED PARENTS

Our children depend on us to protect them and to help them grow in virtue. One day we will have to stand before God and give account for all that we have done, or failed to do, in our duties as parents.

- ① Choose a school that aligns best with your values.
- ② Find out what your children are being taught.
- ③ Find like-minded parents in the school and band together.
- ④ Remove your child from health class.
- ⑤ Communicate with your child.
- ⑥ Consider home education.

## 9

### ANTI-BULLYING PROGRAMS USED TO NORMALISE HOMOSEXUALITY

All bullying is nasty behaviour that strips people of dignity. Bullying can never be tolerated. However, anti-bullying campaigns have been hijacked and are used to mainstream LGBT behaviour.

C-Fam, an organisation which keeps a close eye on developments at the United Nations, saw this hijacking coming some years ago. In a 2016 article they highlighted a UNESCO report, which advocates for “inserting LGBT materials into public school curriculum worldwide by means of a UN General Assembly mandate aimed against bullying.”

In that article, C-Fam staff noted concerns that the report “uses the issue of bullying as a pretext to mainstream homosexuality among children.” The report made “no reference to children with disabilities, those belonging to religious minorities, or migrant children who are also targets of bullying.”

The Relationships and Sexuality Guidelines specify that procedures dealing with bullying should “directly address” incidents related to “sexual orientation and gender identity.” ♦

#### NOTE:

Both the *Relationships and Sexuality Guidelines* article, and the *Tips for Parents* article have been heavily edited for print. The original articles which contain links to many important documents may be found on FLI’s website.

FLI.ORG.NZ

# PARENTS, PRIMARY EDUCATORS OF THEIR CHILDREN

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**"But he that shall scandalize one of these little ones that believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone should be hanged about his neck, and that he should be drowned in the depth of the sea."**

Matthew 18:6

**T**he education of children, especially in the area of sexuality, is a very grave matter. Fundamentally, parents have the right and duty to educate their children, this is especially true when it pertains to sex education as it is a very delicate and private matter, and parents are best equipped to know when each individual child is ready for formation.

Pope Leo XIII taught about this serious parental duty in his encyclical letter *Sapientiae Christianae*, - *On the Duties of Christians as Citizens*.

"By nature parents have a right to the training of their children, but with this added duty that the education and instruction of the child be in accord with the end for which by God's blessing it was begotten. Therefore it is the duty of parents to make every effort to prevent any invasion of their rights in this matter, and to make absolutely sure that the education of their children remain under their own control in keeping with their Christian duty, and above all to refuse to send them to those schools in which there is danger of imbibing the deadly poison of impiety." #42

Later, Pope Pius XI in his 1929, encyclical *Divini Illius Magistri* - *On Christian Education*, warned of the dangerous error of sex education.

"Another very grave danger is that naturalism which nowadays invades the field of education in that most delicate matter of purity of morals. Far too common is the error of those who with dangerous assurance and under an ugly term propagate a so-called sex-education, falsely imagining they can forearm youths against the dangers of sensuality by means purely natural, such as a foolhardy initiation and precautionary instruction for all indiscriminately, even in public; and, worse still, by



**WHO WILL  
PROTECT  
OUR CHILDREN'S  
INNOCENCE?**



exposing them at an early age to the occasions, in order to accustom them, so it is argued, and as it were to harden them against such dangers." #65

"In this extremely delicate matter, if, all things considered, some private instruction is found necessary and opportune, from those who hold from God the commission to teach and who have the grace of state, every precaution must be taken." #67

Far from being prudish, these two popes understood the nature of the human person, and how easily we are led into occasions of sin. Further, and most importantly, these teachings expressly highlight the rights and duties of parents as primary educators of their children.

The Church's perennial teaching is unchangeable. It is not possible for She, who safeguards the truth, to teach something in one age and then contradict it in later years. Those who attempt to do so, and practice otherwise are in error.

In union with the perennial teaching of the Church, and with a true pastoral concern for families, in 1995, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith released Guidelines for Education within the Family in a document titled *The Truth and Meaning of Human Sexuality*.

Again, the irreplaceable role of parents is repeated. "The Church has always affirmed that parents have the duty and the right to be the first and the



principal educators of their children," the document announces.

The Truth and Meaning of Human Sexuality concludes with this powerful and encouraging exhortation for parents:

"The Pontifical Council for the Family therefore urges parents to have confidence in their rights and duties regarding the education of their children, so as to go forward with wisdom and knowledge, knowing that they are sustained by God's gift. In this noble task, may parents always place their trust in God through prayer to the Holy Spirit, the gentle Paraclete and Giver of all good gifts. May they seek the powerful intercession and protection of Mary Immaculate, the Virgin Mother of fair love and model of faithful purity. Let them also invoke Saint Joseph, her just and chaste spouse, following his example of fidelity and purity of heart. May parents constantly rely on the love which they offer to their own children, a love which "casts out fear," which "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things" (1 Corinthians 13:7). Such love is and must be aimed towards eternity, towards the unending happiness promised by Our Lord Jesus Christ to those who follow him: "Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God" (Matthew 5:8)." ♦

## A MAJORITY VOTE 'YES' TO EUTHANASIA & ASSISTED SUICIDE



A majority of voters have agreed to the End of Life Choice Act coming into force, which will usher into New Zealand euthanasia and assisted suicide.

Passed by Parliament in November 2019, the End of Life Choice Act will come into force on November 7, 2021 after 65.1% of voters ticked the “yes” box at the General Election.

The Act provides for euthanasia and assisted suicide to anyone over the age of 18 who has been diagnosed with a terminal illness and who is *likely* to die within six months.

According to the legislation, a person who requests to die must be “in an advanced state of irreversible decline in physical capability” and experience “unbearable suffering that cannot be relieved in a manner that the person considers tolerable.”


People with mental illness, a disability or advanced age are not excluded from being approved, although these reasons alone are insufficient for eligibility.

There are no requirements for patients to receive palliative care before being given the lethal drugs, nor is there provision for a cooling-off period.

Many doctors, lawyers, and palliative care specialists opposed the legislation, however their concerns were not heeded.

The End of Life Choice Act comes under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Health. The Ministry will be responsible for implementing the Act, creating regulations and developing policy and guidelines.

The End of Life Choice Act must be reviewed by the Ministry of Health within three years, and thereafter every five years. ♦



— ” —

Once a society  
accepts the noxious  
notion that killing is  
an acceptable  
answer to human  
suffering, the  
definition of  
“suffering”  
*never stops  
expanding.*

— ” —

WESLEY J. SMITH

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NEW ZEALAND



## Euthanasia's slippery slope

**P**roponents of euthanasia and assisted suicide like to deny the evidence which clearly shows that wherever these practices are legalised over time the criteria and practice loosens.

Euthanasia zealots say that the slippery slope doesn't exist. However, those with eyes to see know the goal is always to open the door to legalisation with what appear to be tight "safeguards" in place. Over time, pro-euthanasia activists know the criteria will be loosened. They are patient enough to wait.

Here are just a few recent examples of how jurisdictions are working to make euthanasia and assisted suicide more accessible to a wider group of people.

### CANADA

Right now Bill C-7 is before the Senate, after passing its third reading in the House of Commons.

This Bill seeks to remove the requirement that the person requesting medically assisted dying (MAID) be terminally ill. Patient consent at time of death will not be necessary. The two witnesses currently required to ensure the person does indeed want to die by euthanasia, will also be removed.

Patients who previously indicated they would like to die by euthanasia or assisted suicide through an advance directive and whose cognitive

capacities have declined will not have to give their consent, meaning that if the desire to die no longer exists the previous direction overrides current wishes.

### BELGIUM

Euthanasia was legalised in Belgium in 2002. Just over a year later the country's Senate approved euthanasia for children, however the law was only approved by Parliament in 2014.

### NETHERLANDS

Euthanasia was approved in the Netherlands in 2001, and came into effect in 2002.

In 2005, under the Groningen Protocol it became legal for infants under the age of one to be euthanised.

Children over the age of 12 can access euthanasia with the permission of their parents. However, there is now a government consensus that the law should expand to allow children under the age of 12 to request death. Regulations are being drafted.

This year codes of practice in the Netherlands were changed. The code allows doctors to give sedatives to patients they are euthanizing if it is thought they may struggle. If a patient has dementia, a doctor does not need to agree with them about the time and manner the lethal drugs will be administered. In other words, they can kill their patients without their knowledge or consent and be completely immune from prosecution. ♦



Thus an act or omission which, of itself or by intention, causes death in order to eliminate suffering constitutes a murder gravely contrary to the dignity of the human person and to the respect due to the living God, his Creator. The error of judgment into which one can fall in good faith does not change the nature of this murderous act, which must always be forbidden and excluded.

- Catechism of the Catholic Church #2277

# NEXT *generation*

*We **pray, educate and serve** young people about how our Catholic faith is the basis for building a **culture of life**.*



**PRAY**



## OUR HISTORY:

Next Generation was established in New Zealand as a programme of Family Life International in 1993, by Angela Reynolds, and Michelle Bayer (now Kaufman). They were inspired by St Pope John Paul II's World Youth Day homily that year.

Extract from the homily: *"At this stage of history, the liberating message of the Gospel of Life has been put into your hands. And the mission of proclaiming it to the ends of the earth is now passing to your generation. Like the great Apostle Paul, you too must feel the full urgency of the task: 'Woe to me if I do not evangelize' (1Cor 9,16). Woe to you if you do not succeed in defending life. The Church needs your energies, your enthusiasm, your youthful ideals, in order to make the Gospel of Life penetrate the fabric of society, transforming people's hearts and the structures of society in order to create a civilization of true justice and love.*

*Young people of "World Youth Day", the Church asks you to go, in the power of the Holy Spirit, to those who are near and those who are far away. Share with them the freedom you have found in Christ. People thirst for genuine inner freedom. They yearn for the Life which Christ came to give in abundance. The world at the approach of a new millennium, for which the whole Church is preparing, is like a field ready for the harvest. Christ needs labourers ready to work in his vineyard. May you, the Catholic young people of the world, not fail him. In your hands, carry the Cross of Christ. On your lips, the words of Life. In your hearts, the saving grace of the Lord."*

Inspired by these words Next Generation took root through talks in high schools, groups praying outside abortion clinics, organising Youth Days and Life Fests, and other events. The idea of young people speaking to young people has always been a core focus of Next Generation, creating both a learning experience for the receivers and a way of serving Christ for the leaders.

If you believe that we are the pro-life and pro-love generation, a movement of young Catholics called to 'proclaim the Gospel of Life,' we dare you to join in on our mission, get involved and keep this important work in your prayers.



**EDUCATE**



**SERVE**





# WHY NEXT GENERATION?

**Amie:**

*Next Generation Director*



## **What has brought me to be so involved with Next Generation?**

Besides my wonderful upbringing in my Catholic pro-life home, I also put this decision down to the grace of God in my high school experience. Challenging moments at school led me to take my faith, my friendship with Jesus, and my stance as a pro-lifer seriously.

It was in Year 9 that one of my peers asked me what abortion was. I knew very little at this point besides that it was bad and “hurts babies”. I went home and the next morning on the drive to school I asked my mum. I will never forget how mum wept as she explained in simple yet horrifying terms what abortion is. She said it was a procedure that deliberately ended the life of an unborn baby. I went to school and told my friends the answers to their questions. We were only in Year 9, around 14-years-old.

I noticed my friends were searching for the truth, and so was I. I wanted to know my true purpose. I wanted to know who I was and the answers to the enormous controversial issues my family were so passionate about. During this year my lunch times and R.E. classes were full of questions. I had many discussions with my mum learning things and then sharing the answers with my friends. We had

healthy debates and grew in our friendship, but that all changed the following year.

The change I saw was saddening. My friends no longer wanted to ask critical questions. They no longer were searching for the truth. They were different. When they went through the Health and Sexuality program they weren't interested in discussions. They shut down any conversations. I felt pretty alone at this time. The couple of Catholics in my year level that actually did go to Mass on Sundays were too afraid to side with me.

It was these years in high school that inspired me to take a stand for the young people who have no access to the beautiful truth of their dignity, identity in Christ and their value as a human being. I now know there are multitudes of young people who are struggling to authentically live their Catholic faith to the fullest in this over sexualised world.

I'm so honoured and filled with joy to share my love for Christ with other youth and to encourage them to think critically in this confusing world. It is exciting to help build a new generation devoted to serving God by protecting the most vulnerable, the unborn. But also to help build a generation striving for holiness, purity, and sainthood—a chaste generation that has its eyes fixed on Christ.

I'm so blessed to have such wonderful friends who are my support and prayer warriors! It is only with God's grace working through you and me that Next Generation is where it is today.

Please keep this important work, and our team in your prayers.



*Ann-Margaret,  
Miguel, Daniel,  
Fleur, Bernadette,  
Matthew, Amie,  
Sarah, Krystal,  
Martin, and Fatima.*

# MEET SOME OF NEXT GENERATION:

*Next Generation offers young adults education and training days which form them to become 'Next Gen Leaders.' One way they have been serving and handing on this education to other young people in 2020 has been helping with the programmes for schools.*



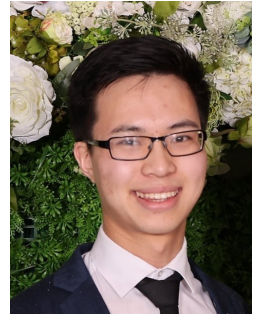
**SOPHIE:**  
*Next Gen Leader*  
(Volunteer)

My story is an interesting one as I was actually born and raised as an Anglican. Prior to meeting my Catholic boyfriend I had no interest in Catholicism, but slowly, over time I came to see the beauty in it. Not just in God himself, but in my friends, my passions, my aspirations. It saddens me to think so many people go without faith in their lives which is why I think there is so much beauty in bringing it to school aged children. With faith, we can't just decide overnight that it's for us, it takes time and serious reflection which is why introduction to it's importance at a young age is often so valuable.



**DANIEL:**  
*Next Gen Leader*  
(Volunteer)

Hey! I'm Daniel, a 4th-year university student. I hail from the humble New Plymouth but have since moved to Auckland for my studies. In this move, as is natural, I left behind some old friends and set out to make new ones. Being involved with the workshop of "True Friendship and Real Love" in schools with Next Generation struck a chord with me and was a message I wanted to be involved in sharing. It prompted me to examine my own friendships and what I wanted for myself. I knew it would better equip the youth we were speaking to of a knowledge of what they both desire and deserve.



Meeting many other young people in my time at university I was confronted with the fact that we, the young and upcoming generation, are saturated in a culture of mixed messages filled with use and individualism - leaving many people confused and searching for better things. The mission of Next Generation is something I hold close to my heart and is something I am privileged to be able to share.



**FATIMA:**  
*Next Generation Support*  
(Staff)

I want to help young people know the value of life, friendships and love. I am grateful to help the young people as I would help my younger self be able to live in this hostile and toxic environment we are facing today in New Zealand. I am passionate about seeing young people grow and be who God created them to be.





**FLEUR:**  
*Next Gen Leader*  
 (Volunteer)

There are many reasons why I have decided to volunteer with Next Generation. Firstly, I think that the education of our youth in our Catholic faith is so important, especially at the high school stage as they transition into secular environments such as University. Being a 'cradle Catholic' myself, the shift from a 'safe' Catholic space at high school to University had more of an impact on me than I thought. The worldly ways that we are exposed to

through peers and media slowly etch away at us if we do not remain guarded and make a consistent effort to deepen our faith and relationship with God. This is where friendships are so important. Surrounding yourself with like-minded people who strive to reach our heavenly goal is vital in remaining focused on our walk with God, and I love that Next Generation has taken a strong focus on this. The love that this world offers is temporary and not enough to satisfy our hearts that are made for God, but unfortunately many have fallen into the trap of chasing materialistic things to fill their emptiness. I hope that through Next Generation I can help those realise the true love of God.

## WHAT WE DO:



**MARCH FOR LIFE**

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE**



**UNPLANNED MOVIE SCREENINGS**



**GIANNA'S CHOICE MOBILE LIFE CENTRE EDUCATION TOURS**



**LIFE FEST**



**'PROGRAMMES IN HIGH SCHOOLS**

- Friendship & Love
- Theology of the Body

## JOIN US:

To stay up to date and get involved follow us on our social media platforms and fill out our online volunteer form. Next Generation is a Catholic pro-life group, although ALL young people ages 13-25 are welcome to join.



**Next Generation**



**Nextgenerationnz**



**[Thenextgeneration.org.nz](http://Thenextgeneration.org.nz)**



**[werthenextgen@gmail.com](mailto:werthenextgen@gmail.com)**



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## AUCKLAND

To find out more about any of the Auckland or nationwide activities please **contact the St John Paul II Centre for Life 09 629 4361**

### Weekly Prayer outside AMAC

**Every Wednesday**

7:30am to 8:30am | 9:30am to 10:30am

Outside the Auckland Medical Aid Centre

283-289 Dominion Road • Mt Eden

Gather on the opposite side of the road.

Join us at Calvary in praying for the pre-born children in danger of death, their mothers and fathers, and the abortion workers. Your presence saves lives!

### Carols for the Unborn

**Sunday 27 December, 2020 • 7:30pm to 9:00pm**

Outside the Auckland Medical Aid Centre

283-289 Dominion Road • Mt Eden

Gather on the opposite side of the road.

This year on the eve of the Holy Innocents, let us be united with our voices and remember the millions of innocent children all over the world killed by abortion. Let us beg Almighty God for His infinite mercy for this great crime against human life.

For more information contact:

Peter Yung

contact@churchcandles.co.nz | 021 380 073

### Introductory Pro-Life Apologetics Workshop

**Tuesday 26 January, 2021 • 7:00pm to 9:00pm**

Venue to be confirmed

Have you ever wondered how to effectively answer common questions and statements about abortion?

Here is your opportunity to learn how to respond to the common arguments friends, colleagues and strangers make in favour of abortion. In this Introductory Pro-Life Apologetics workshop, you will be equipped with the beginning skills and information you need to intelligently defend life especially on the street. Further courses will be offered throughout the year to build your knowledge.

A portion of this evening will be dedicated to discussing the philosophy behind 40 Days for Life and having a peaceful presence outside abortion facilities, addressing the particular situations encountered there.

For more information, and to confirm venue contact:

Michelle Kaufman

michelle@fli.org.nz | 027 526 1199

### Sidewalk Advocacy Training

**Saturday 6 February, 2021 • 10:30am**

Venue to be confirmed

Reaching out to abortion-minded mothers, on the street is a vital component of a peaceful, prayerful presence outside abortion facilities. Advocacy is the last opportunity to reach her heart and assist her in her greatest hour of need.

The programme is comprehensive, covering a variety of scenarios, and will equip you with all you need to effectively serve and help save lives.

It is expected that those who complete the sidewalk advocacy training, and who wish to be active in this ministry, will do so as part of the Family Life International's outreaches outside abortion facilities throughout New Zealand.

For more information:

Michelle Kaufman

michelle@fli.org.nz | 027 526 1199

VISIT THE  
CHAPEL OF THE  
ANNUNCIATION

MASS ON WEDNESDAYS @ 12PM

SAINT JOHN PAUL II CENTRE FOR LIFE  
569 RICHARDSON RD  
MT ROSKILL, AUCKLAND



## NATIONWIDE

### 40 Days for Life

**Lent 2021 • Nationwide**

**Auckland:** Auckland Medical Aid Centre

**Wellington:** Wellington Regional Hospital

Other locations to be confirmed.

**Join us in Lent 2021 for New Zealand's seventh 40 Days for Life vigil.  
Be that sign of hope and help save lives!**

Prayer volunteers are rostered on an hourly schedule, 12 hours every day between 17th February to 28th March. That's 480 hours to cover! Could you offer just one hour? Are you able to offer one hour every week of the vigil? Will you sacrifice several hours a week? Your presence saves lives!

#### SAVE THESE DATES:

Midpoint Candlelight Vigil: **Sunday 7 March** (Auckland)

Final Hour Candlelight Vigil: **Sunday 28 March** (Auckland and Wellington)

**FIND OUT MORE AT [FLI.ORG.NZ/40DAYSFORLIFE](http://FLI.ORG.NZ/40DAYSFORLIFE)**



### Human Life International Mission Trip to New Zealand

**August / September 2021 • Nationwide**

HLI and FLI are very excited to be partnering again in our shared mission to rebuild a culture of life. Father Shenan Boquet, President of HLI, and Dr. Brian Clowes, PhD, whose research into the anti-life agenda spans more than three decades, will travel to New Zealand for a two week mission trip informing, equipping and encouraging pro-lifers after our tragic year of death (enacting both abortion and euthanasia laws).

Planned activities include:

- LifeFest Youth Event
- Pro-life advocacy training which will inspire participants, equipping them with information and tools to tackle the culture of death, changing the culture one heart at a time.
- Opportunities for prayer and retreat.
- A nationwide speaking tour.

Please pray that border restrictions will be removed in time for this scheduled visit.

**[FLI.ORG.NZ/PROLIFEEVENTS](http://FLI.ORG.NZ/PROLIFEEVENTS)**



*The team wish you and your family a joy-filled Christmas and a blessed year ahead!*

We will be taking a break to spend time with our families over the Christmas and New Year period.

We will still be answering the Gianna's Choice phone, so we can assist as needed.

**Auckland John Paul II Centre for Life:** Closed from midday Tuesday 22 December to Tuesday 12 January

**Family Life Catholic Gifts:** Closed from Tuesday 24 December midday to Tuesday 12 January

(Any orders received online will be processed on Tuesday 12 January)

**Wellington:** Closed from midday 22nd December until Tuesday 12 January



# Pregnant?

## Need help?



**0800 367 5433**  
**pregnancyoptions.org.nz**

*Gianna's* **CHOICE**  
Pregnancy options and support