

Helpers of God's Precious Infants



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Greetings from the New Headquarters of The Helpers of God's Precious Infants,

On March 1, 2020 I was newly assigned by Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio of the Diocese of Brooklyn to The Bishop Mugavero Residence of the Immaculate Conception Center in Douglaston, New York. After having served 27 years as chaplain for the Sister Adorers of the Most Precious Blood at the Monastery of the Most Precious Blood, my time of chaplaincy has come to an end. I was most blessed to have served there and will very much miss the Sisters and all who had come to me there for spiritual direction and education. I gave well over 100 retreats there to people from all walks of life. I most enjoyed the retreats with the young profilers, the seminarians, and, of course the Helpers of God's Precious Infants. I know that it is God's will that I move on, but I also know that God wants me to continue doing the work He gave me to do in the prolife movement over 50 years ago. This is why I am not retiring, merely moving, and if any Helper wishes to contact me he or she may do so by calling 718-229-8001 ext. 3040 or writing me at Msgr. Philip Reilly, Bishop Mugavero Residence, 7200 Douglaston Parkway, Room 108, Douglaston, New York 11362. In addition, at 2:00 PM Eastern Time every Sunday I, with the help of my nephew Philip and my niece Susan, will be conducting a conference call with any Helpers who wish to participate. Please see the bottom of this newsletter for information on how to participate. It is more important than ever for the work of the Helpers continue and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for all that you do to promote the cause of life.

The Pro-Life Movement in These Extraordinary Times

With the outbreak of the corona virus worldwide, Helpers have found their work in some cases severely restricted or in some cases even cancelled. In fact, the last Helpers large prayer vigil scheduled for March 23 in Forest Hills, New York was cancelled due to the closing of all churches in the Brooklyn Diocese by Bishop DiMarzio. I would urge all Helpers to continue their efforts on behalf of the unborn in whatever means available. If you must practice "social distancing" with your prayer group, do so. If the authorities force you to abandon your posts, comply with their requests. I do not want anyone risking arrest. In many cases the police will not force you to leave. At two of the abortion facilities in New York where the Helpers have a presence, sidewalk counselors and pray-ers have not encountered anyone trying to impede them. Use the good judgement God gave you. In other areas of the country, we see great cause for hope. In several states, including Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Ohio, and Mississippi, governors have ordered abortion businesses to close as they are deemed not to be delivering essential services. In some cases, the abortion facilities have not complied which shows that their number one commitment is to profits rather than the health of their clients. In fact, one abortionist in Texas has tested positive for the virus and had been continuing his grisly work until his clinic was shut down. Here in New York State, Governor Andrew Cuomo, who last year signed into law a bill allowing the killing of a child even after birth, has decreed that abortion is an essential service, and that no abortion business should close. Governor Cuomo has placed the State of New York "on pause" and has enacted many restrictions on the freedom of movement of all who live in New York State. His justification for these actions was that, and I quote, "if one life is saved by doing this it will have been worth it". I ask the Governor: What about the lives of the thousands of children killed each year in New York's abortion facilities? I also ask why, with New York State desperate for beds and medical supplies, (New York has more corona virus cases than any other state) should these vital supplies be wasted on purely elective surgeries? I believe that Governor Cuomo is afraid that if these killing centers close, many will not be able to re-open due the economics of re-starting a business. I agree with his concern. I believe that the smaller facilities will not be able to re-open and am praying and hoping that at least some of these centers will close permanently and the orders of the governors who have shut down these places of death be enforced. I would ask all Helpers to pray for this intention. I am not aware of what is happening in other countries and states concerning the corona virus, so please let me know what is happening in your neck of the woods by e-mailing me at hogpi303@gmail.com. Thank you.

The Rosary

When I and four others founded the Helpers in 1989, we had many discussions on what to include and not include in the prayer book which we would be giving to people praying at abortion facilities. I had wanted to include the Joyful, Sorrowful, and Glorious Mysteries of the rosary as the anchor of the prayer book, with the Joyful for the first hour, the Sorrowful for the second hour, and the Glorious for the third hour. There was some dispute about this from others, as the Church seemed to be distancing itself at that time from popular devotions such as the rosary. I had been devoted to the rosary since I was a child, learning this beautiful prayer from my parents. In fact, when my sisters came of dating age, my parents would invite any potential boyfriend to dinner at our house, and after dinner sit the suitor down with the family to pray the rosary before any date could happen. It was a wonderful way to gage the seriousness of any potential husband. One of the boyfriends got wind of this scheme and came very late and missed dinner. My mother then proceeded to sit him down and began to recite 27 litanies from memory. The boyfriend, now my brother-in-law, Mike Sullivan, never again came late for dinner at our house. The rosary has been a very powerful prayer for conversion of heart since it was given to St. Dominic by Our Blessed Mother in 1208. Our Lady has always asked the faithful to pray the rosary at her numerous apparitions, particularly at Lourdes and Fatima and she has graced many who have heeded her call. The rosary has even changed the course of history. Many are familiar with the story of Pope St. Pius V and his call for all Christians to pray the rosary before and during the naval Battle of Lepanto when a severely undermanned Christian fleet defeated the Muslim Turks in the 16th century. I would wager that many are not aware of the miracles associated with the rosary in events closer to our time. When Hiroshima and Nagasaki were leveled by the atomic bomb in 1945, a house of Jesuits in Hiroshima, and a house of Franciscans in Nagasaki, both the buildings and people in them were unharmed. In both houses, a daily rosary was prayed. In 1964 in Brazil a communist leaning president came to power. Large groups of people turned to the rosary and rose in rebellion against their oppressive leaders. At a large government rally, 20,000 women arrived praying the rosary loudly. The response of the country to the rosary was so powerful that the president fled the country two weeks later. 1986 the People Power Revolution in the Philippines used the rosary to oust the oppressive leadership of Ferdinand Marcos. The Sunday before the collapse of the Marco's regime, tens of thousands of Filipinos began to protest the dictator by lining up and kneeling in front of armed tanks to pray the rosary. Marcos too fled the country before any violence took place. The first large Helpers prayer vigil was held on the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary in 1989. These are some of the reasons why we insisted that the rosary be given pride of place in the prayer book. It remains so to this day.

Report from the Abortion Facility

At a recent large prayer vigil, it was reported to me by one of the Helpers there that he saw a young man enter the building which housed a Planned Parenthood affiliate. The young man wore a hat which had "Go Away" written on it. I thought, how typical of the attitude of the supporters and clients of Planned Parenthood. If a newborn child is an inconvenience to me or my partner, "Go Away". If my partner wishes to keep the child, but I do not. "Go Away". If anyone should try to talk with myself or my partner to inform us about the help that is available if we choose life, all too often the answer is "Go Away". This is precisely the opposite attitude of the committed Christian. Jesus tells us repeatedly in the Gospels that the two greatest Commandments are love God and love neighbor. Indeed, our love of neighbor should reflect our love of God. Because we love God, we try to help our neighbors, not brushing them off or asking them to "Go Away". We Helpers have been trying to reach out to our most vulnerable neighbors for over 30 years.

Perseverance

I would urge all Helpers, especially in these troubled times to persevere in their efforts while engaging in their pro-life activities. I know it is very difficult, with many restrictions being placed on you, and many indignities being inflicted upon you. I recently heard from Joe Scheidler of Chicago that a passerby attempted to cough on him while he was praying in front of an abortion business in that city in hopes that he might catch the corona virus. I ask that you remember the story of Rudolf Hoss, the Commandant of Auschwitz, the Nazi

death camp where more than 3,000,000 people were killed, most of them of Jews of Polish origin. After Poland and Auschwitz were liberated, Hoss was arrested, first by the British who treated him very harshly, as one might expect. However, after he was transferred to the International Military Tribunal in Poland he was treated with great kindness and dignity which he never expected. He could not believe that the nation that he had inflicted so much harm had, through the actions of some of its people had compassion on him. The people that had shown him great kindness were Catholics. On April 10, 1947, six days before he was hanged, he received the Sacrament of Penance from a Polish priest and was given Holy Communion as Viaticum the next day. Had not the Polish people surrounding him showed him kindness and compassion, he would have most likely died in his sins. God does not wish that anyone die without love and experiencing His great mercy. This is the reason why the Helpers are there at abortion facilities all over the world so that God's precious infants and their mothers will know the love and mercy of God.

Schedule of Vigil Masses from June 2020 to December 2020

<i>Date</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>Abortion Site</i>
6/20/20	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary 88-19 Parsons Boulevard, Queens	Choices 147-32 Jamaica Avenue
8/29/20	Our Lady of the Cenacle Richmond Hill, Queens	Jamaica Hospital
9/19/20	St. Joan of Arc Jackson Heights, Queens	Women's Care
10/17/20	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary 88-19 Parsons Boulevard, Queens	Choices 147-32 Jamaica Avenue
11/21/20	St. Mary's LIC, 10-08 49 th Avenue, Queens	Planned Parenthood 21-41 45 th Road, Queens
12/19/20	St. James Cathedral Downtown Brooklyn	14 DeKalb Avenue

If you would like spend time with Msgr. Reilly, we have 2PM EST conference call set up for every Sunday.

Join Zoom Meeting

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If you have any questions you would like to be answered by Msgr. Reilly, please send them to hogpi303@gmail.com

News and Notes

It is my profound pleasure to inform all the readers of this newsletter that Fr. Kevin Sweeney, a long time Helper and pastor of St. Michael the Archangel Church in Brooklyn, New York has been named the eighth Bishop of Patterson, New Jersey. I met Fr. Sweeney when he was a student of mine when I was stationed at Cathedral Prep. He became a pray-er at the Choices abortion mill when it was located at Rego Park, New York while still in high school. He continued praying there while he was in the seminary and once ordained a priest. While serving as diocesan director of vocations he often brought seminarians with him to our large prayer vigils. As pastor of St. Michael's, he and some of his parishioners would come by nearly every day to Ambulatory Surgery, an abortion business nearby. At the time I was praying and sidewalk counselling there. Thanks be to God that Ambulatory Surgery closed in 2012. I believe Fr. Sweeney and his group were instrumental in that closing. Congratulations, Fr. Sweeney, I am sure you will make a great bishop. It is with great sadness that I

report of the passing of Mary Devine, a long time Helper from Yonkers, New York. Mary had faithfully prayed and counselled at her site for many years. Mary often shared with us her experiences at the various Helpers gatherings we have had. She was always of good humor and never let what happened at her site to get her down. May God have mercy on her soul. On September 3, 2019, the Indiana abortionist, Dr. Ulrich Klopfer died. When his family members came to his home to collect his possessions, they found the medically preserved remains of over 2,000 aborted children. Dr. Klopfer had aborted over 30,000 babies in his career until finally losing his license in 2014 for failing to report that he had aborted the child of a minor who was raped in violation of state law. The Helpers in Indiana and other pro-lifers had prayed for his conversion for many, many years and there is some evidence that he had had one. In the last days of his life he would go the crisis pregnancy center that was located across the street from his former abortion facility and sit quietly in their chapel. I pray that God have mercy on his soul. He was born and brought up in Dresden, Germany during World War II during the devastating “carpet bombing” of that city. I believe that was a major factor in his choice to become an abortionist, for he could see no good in mankind. I am delighted to report that Cardinal George Pell was recently released from prison after being convicted falsely of child sexual abuse in 2017. I had the pleasure of meeting Cardinal Pell when I introduced the Helpers approach to Australia in the 1990s. He was very supportive of my efforts and lead many prayer vigils himself. I had warned him when I first met him that being outspoken in defense of life would get him into trouble. Little did I know how much. I am even more happy to report that Planned Parenthood has decided to close 12 of their facilities across New York State as the number of prospective clients have been dropping. Not every one of these affiliates performed abortions, but many of them did, and the others referred clients to other abortionists. I believe that the corona virus outbreak is a wakeup call from God for us to take a deep look into what is happening to our country and indeed the entire world. Recently the pro-life group Faces of Choice put together a video of 14 abortion survivors, people who were rescued from death when the abortion attempted upon them failed. One of the survivors featured was Dr. Imre Teglas of Hungary. When he learned that his own mother had attempted to kill him as a baby, he knew that he had to do something about the evil that is abortion. He has spent his life defending the unborn, first as a doctor, later working with Human Life International, and later still forming his own pro-life organization Alpha Alliance. I was fortunate to have met Dr. Teglas on one of my trips to Hungary. He is a great supporter of the Helpers and it is wonderful that his work has been highlighted in this way. One of my sidewalk counselors recently informed me that one of women he helped choose life gave birth to a baby boy and named the child after himself. This wonderful story shows what can happen when the woman listens and seeks that help that is available. Helpers from around the world have reported similar stories to me. I ask that you continue to pray for the Helpers in Manchester, UK who are facing very difficult legal battles in their efforts to pray and counsel at the abortion businesses there. In closing I would like to apologize for the lateness of this newsletter, but it could not be helped. Maspeth Press, our loyal printer for over 25 years, was shut down as a non-essential business during the corona virus pandemic. May God grant you His choicest blessings during this, the Easter season.

Until we meet at Calvary,

Msgr. Philip J. Reilly
Executive Director