

Helpers of God's Precious Infants



Msgr. Philip J. Reilly

5300 Fort Hamilton Parkway

Brooklyn, New York 11219

Tel: (718) 853-2789

Fax: (718) 853-0599

<http://www.helpersny.org>

Email: FRHGPI@AOL.COM

August 2017

I would like to begin this newsletter by thanking everyone who responded to my appeal from the last newsletter of November 2016. The response was tremendous; I was able replenish the Helpers bank account and in the process, help several young women with their living expenses so they would be able to keep and raise their children. I thank you from the bottom of my heart. We all know how difficult it can be to make ends meet in today's economy, and your generosity has helped many, many women over the years to make the choice for life.

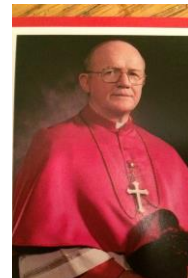
GOD CALLS HELPERS HOME



Detective McDonald



Mary Murray & Dorothy Doyle

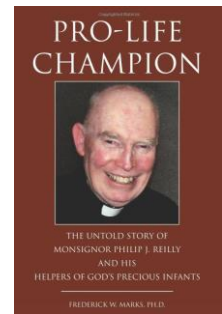


Bishop Thomas V. Daily

Over the last several months the Helpers have lost some of our biggest and most vocal supporters here in the New York City Area. Last newsletter I asked you to pray for Mary Murray who was ill at the time. Mary went home to God in December of 2016. She was 92 at the time of her death, and she had served as Treasurer of the Helpers for about 25 years. She was also a prayer warrior/sidewalk counselor for almost as long. In January of 2017, we lost NYPD Detective Steven McDonald, who joined our large prayer vigils whenever his schedule permitted. You may remember that Detective McDonald was shot and paralyzed while trying to make an arrest in 1986. He ultimately forgave his assailant and became great witness for life. I and all the New York Helpers will miss him. March of 2017 saw God call home Dorothy Doyle, lifelong friend of Mary Murray and Secretary of the Helpers as long as Mary was Treasurer. Dorothy was also a sidewalk counselor on Saturdays at the same location as Mary. There are many children alive today who would not have otherwise been through the efforts of "Dottie" and Mary. Dottie was instrumental in getting out the mailings to all who requested materials from us and was a constant encouragement to me in this apostolate. Finally, in May Bishop Thomas V. Daily died, the sixth Bishop of the Brooklyn Diocese. When Bishop Daily first came to Brooklyn, he asked me if I was the priest who prayed in front of abortion clinics. I responded that I was. He proposed to come with me. In 1989 he was the first Bishop to lead a large pro-life vigil to an abortion facility in the United States. Bishop Daily continued to support the Helpers throughout his time as Ordinary, having either himself or assigning one of the auxiliary Bishops to come to the large monthly vigils in Brooklyn or Queens. Even after retiring as Ordinary, he continued to come to the large vigils and could be found on other Saturdays at a site in Queens near where he resided. In fact on one occasion Bishop Daily, who was fluent in Spanish, was able to help a young woman who knew no English keep her child, by explaining to her where help was available to her. May God have mercy on the souls of these fine people.

NEW BOOK PUBLISHED

I am delighted to announce that the book “Pro-Life Champion: The Untold Story of Msgr. Phillip Reilly and His Helpers of God’s Precious Infants” has been published. It was written by Frederick W. Marks, PhD and is available on Amazon.com. Mr. Marks spent many hours with me and has written my story from the beginning of my involvement with the pro-life movement in 1967. It is an excellent analysis of the Helpers, of where we are today and how we got here. It also gives an overview of what is happening in the broader pro-life movement. I think it is a great read if I do say so myself. I have some copies here at the Monastery and if anyone would be willing to donate \$100.00 to the Helpers I would be happy to send them a copy. Mr. Marks has graciously petitioned the Nobel Peace Prize Committee to nominate me for the peace prize and submitted this book as evidence. I am very honored that he did this.



GOOD AND EVIL

Many times, especially at the clinics, people will come up to me and tell that I have no business being at these modern day Calvarys or that I am being “judgmental”. In fact I have every reason to go to the places that the killing is happening and in no way am I judging anyone. I am there to offer my help, and will do so even if the woman chooses abortion. In truth, the woman will need more help if she does make the tragic choice, as she will be all too aware of what she has done. The idea that doing whatever I think is right versus what God has revealed to us what is right is the age old conflict that first appeared in the Garden of Eden. There Adam and Eve delighted in all the various plants and animals that God had provided for them. The Fathers of the Church understood the many trees in the Garden as corresponding to all forms of human flourishing: the arts, science, philosophy, politics, friendship, sensual pleasure and the like. However, God did make one prohibition, they could not eat of the Tree of Life. Why did God do this? God did this because it is the unique prerogative of God to determine what is good and what is evil. When man attempts to do this for himself the moral universe is thrown off kilter. It leads to grasping for ourselves the right to decide what is good and what is evil and leads many people to believe that it is up to the individual to determine the meaning of life. The modern philosophers, particularly Nietzsche and Sartre, insisted that human freedom creates meaning. Thus, the “freedom to choose” becomes the freedom to kill, and the truth is whatever that particular individual believes. There is not anything that can be called objective truth. It many times leads people to call good what is evil and vice versa. Jesus Christ came to save us from this dysfunctional freedom. He specifically warned us about calling evil good. I have spent my entire priesthood trying to help people to understand Gospel values and to reason from the general to the particular (Killing is wrong so I may not abort my child) rather than from the particular to the general (In my case, fear of poverty or any other reason means I may indeed kill my child). Adam and Eve ultimately made the decision not to serve God. We Helpers see all too often the results of refusing to serve God. After an abortion there are two, sometimes three victims, one dead, the other wounded, and there are many times that the fathers of these children are wounded as well. The Helpers exist to help all involved in the Culture of Death to see the light, so that someday abortion will be unthinkable, even if it is still legal. I thank you very much for all that you do to promote the culture of life.

THE SISTER ADORERS OF THE MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD

When many years ago I was appointed Chaplain of the Sister Adorers of the Most Precious Blood by Bishop Daily I asked the Bishop how my pro-life ministry would fit in with my work there. Bishop Daily replied, “Don’t you get it - Precious Blood – Precious Infants?” That was it. An overt connection was made between the care of the unborn and the precious Blood of Christ. At the same time, a link was made between myself and an order of nuns devoted to the Precious Blood, a devotion that would be uniquely linked to the work of all the Helpers. I take the intensity and simplicity of the contemplative focus on prayer and suffering as lived out by the Sister Adorers to Helpers prayer groups first on the streets of New York and now throughout of the entire world. After I have offered Mass for the Sisters early in the morning at the Monastery of the Most Precious Blood, our common home, the Sisters begin to pray. I go to a nearby abortion business to sidewalk counsel. The constant prayer and reparation by the Sisters is a spiritual powerhouse for the Helpers. It is by the Precious Blood of Jesus that we are washed and made clean. Jesus paid the price for our sins by His Precious Blood. How wonderful it is that the Sister Adorers were founded to be devoted to His Precious Blood. Often after arriving home from the clinic one of the Sisters will ask me “How did I do? Did I have any turnarounds?” I jokingly reply and ask if the people at the facility get any credit. We both know that all the credit goes to God. I am especially indebted to Sister Precious Mary Morgan, Sister Eileen Bruton, and Sister Mary Claire Flynn who have prayed with and for me for all these many years.

SCHEDULE OF VIGIL MASSES FROM AUG 2017 TO JUN 2017

DATE	CHURCH	ABORTION SITE
August 26, 2017	Our Lady of the Cenacle Richmond Hill, Queens	Jamaica Hospital
September 16, 2017	St. Joan of Arc Jackson Heights, Queens	Women’s Care
October 28, 2017	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Jamaica, Queens	Choices
November 18, 2017	St. John Vianney Flushing, Queens	Mass of Thanksgiving
December 16, 2017	St. James Cathedral Downtown Brooklyn	14 DeKalb Avenue
January 20, 2018	St. Catherine of Genoa Brooklyn	Kings County Hospital
February 17, 2018	St. Paul/St. Agnes Downtown Brooklyn	Planned Parenthood
March 10, 2018	Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Forest Hills, Queens	All Women’s Medical
April 21, 2018	Blessed Sacrament Jackson Heights, Queens	
May, 2018	No Large Vigil – Please go to your own clinics and pray.	
June 16, 2018	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Jamaica, Queens	Choices

NEWS AND NOTES

I am very pleased to report that 21 abortion facilities across the United States have closed since January of 2016. Prayer warriors, many of them Helpers, have significantly contributed to these closings. Among these closures was a clinic in Tempe, Arizona where I had spoken and a Helpers group was formed many years ago. Even here in New York, the abortion capital of the world, there are far fewer clinics than when the Helpers were founded in 1989. Never underestimate the power of prayer.



In April, I was honored to receive an award from the St. Gianna Center for Life in Hartford, Connecticut. This pregnancy help center is located right next door to an abortion facility. I gave a retreat for the directors of this pro-life center three years ago at the Monastery and they have continued to persevere and have helped many women in the greater Hartford area to choose life for their unborn children. The Helpers of Louisville, Kentucky have recently celebrated their 20th anniversary of pro-life prayer and counselling. Congratulations! There was recently a story on LifeNews.com that a Helper in Australia, Dr. Roland von Marburg, won a judgment against of pro-abortion group there. Dr. Marburg, a medical doctor, and his wife are regular participants in pro-life vigils in Albury, Australia. The "Right to Privacy Albury" group disparaged Dr. Marburg's medical skills and photographed him while he was praying at the abortion site in his town and posted this on Facebook. Dr. Marburg sued and won. The pro-abortion group was forced to apologize and pay Dr. Marburg for his pain and suffering. From this we can surmise that God is with us as even the courts in Australia are becoming pro-life. The husband and wife team of Franco and Carmel Dekalab have brought the Helpers approach to their hometown in New Jersey where a large vigil was organized. When they were called home unexpectedly to their native India they brought the Helpers there. I wrote a letter of introduction for them and they presented it to their local Bishop. The Bishop was very receptive. Here is yet another country where the Helpers are now involved. Please pray for the people of India as they are under attack from the international pro-abortion forces as India is now the largest country in the world in terms of population. In June, together with sidewalk counselor Don Magnotta, I gave an interview to Pastor Joni Lupis on Facebook. The interview went very well. Pastor Lupis asked me about my beginnings in the pro-life movement, and asked Don about his experiences as a sidewalk counselor. I am very happy to announce that the Helpers Prayer Book is now available to be downloaded for free from our website helpersbrooklynny.org. Many thanks to Helpers Craig and Wenqui Glantz for their efforts in making this possible. Some of you may be aware that the Attorney General of New York State has filed a federal lawsuit against a pro-life group from The Rock Church in Brooklyn for "protesting" too vigorously at the Choices abortion facility in Jamaica, New York. No Helpers should fear going out to the streets. The Helpers approach has been vindicated by the highest court of the State of New York several years ago. Our method of prayer and counselling in a peaceful manner has won admiration from politicians to police officers and at no time have the Helpers been threatened with arrest. Please continue to go out to the killing centers and be a voice for the unborn. It may be their only chance. Finally, there will be a get together for all Helpers who can come on Sunday, October 8, 2017 at the Monastery. I would love to see as many of the Helpers as possible at this event.

Until we meet at Calvary,
Msgr. Philip J. Reilly