



Carpe Diem

Anglicans
**FOR
LIFE**

F O R L I F E

December 2015

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Can *YOU* Protect Life?

By Deacon Georgette Forney

I remember thinking when I was asked to apply for the executive director position at NOEL, “I can’t end abortion, it’s too big of an issue.” More importantly, I also remember hearing, “I’m not asking you to end abortion, I’m asking you to just touch one heart at a time.”

This memory came flooding back to me recently as I read the phrase, “Being pro-life is much bigger than being anti-abortion.”

When I said yes to the job offer I thought I was simply signing up to address abortion, but it quickly became apparent that being pro-life meant much more!

First, I came to appreciate that life at every stage of development was a unique miracle, sacred and sanctified. I realized it wasn’t my job to be anti-abortion but to uphold the sanctity of life. Which includes acknowledging all the ways life is devalued, denigrated, and destroyed. (Anglicans for Life addresses a plethora of topics in addition to abortion that threaten the sacredness of life. See yellow side bar.)

Upholding the sanctity of life implies a respect for life, an intent to protect life, as well as a celebration of life as a gift from our Creator. In other words, from womb to tomb, every life should be seen as divine and holy, set apart for sacred use, to be honored.

But headlines and postings on social media daily depict how we as humans have failed in upholding this Biblical principal. Not only do we see arms and legs from aborted babies, bodies with heads chopped off, victims of sex-trafficking, and reports in support of physicians helping people commit suicide being emitted daily from our electronic devices, we see it with eyes of indifference.

Why? Has the amount of information we come in contact with daily served to overwhelm us? Have you and I become emotionally numb for the sake of self-preservation? I meet a lot of people who express concern about the issues that threaten life but feel they cannot actually do something about them in addition to navigating the daily demands of life and family.

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This response is slightly different than what I hear from many young adults I have spoken with on college campuses and through social media. They are very aware of the various people groups suffering from numerous social injustice issues and human rights abuses. They decry inequities of any kind and want to see social and economic equality for all.

I realize I may be over-simplifying this, but it seems as we get older, we feel helpless to fix all the brokenness. So we do nothing, while the younger crowd believes they can fix it all, if only the 'system' wasn't so broken.

The truth is that neither is a valid response to actually make a difference, especially if you seek to serve God and call yourself a Christian! So what is an appropriate response that is actually achievable?

AFL has two recommendations that we believe God can use to change the world through His people!

The first is to prayerfully discern one topic that you are passionate about, not interested in, but **PASSIONATE** about! What gets your heart pumping and your righteous indignation triggered? Take that topic and learn everything you can about it. Find three great stats that exemplify the need, articles that you can share with others, and concrete activities you can do to raise awareness about it. The next step is to daily ask God to help you do one thing related to righting the wrong.

AFL's second idea, if you do not have one thing you are truly passionate about, is to begin each day, praying, "Lord, show me one thing I can do today to honor the sanctity of life." During the day, keep your eyes, ears, and heart open to the Holy Spirit's guidance, then trust and obey as God leads you!

Both of these suggestions leave a lot of room for individual interest and talents to be employed. For some, it will be addressing abortion, while others may feel called to help the homeless or to minister amongst the elderly or disenfranchised. Respecting, protecting, and honoring life can and must happen at every stage of development, from the womb to the moment we cross over into eternity. We encourage you to think about your individual gifts and serve life in a way and to a group you feel called to serve.

AFL seeks to create a consistent ethic of life in our culture, and we believe it must start with God's people and His Church. Every one in every church doing one thing every day to uphold the sanctity of life. Imagine all the hearts that would be touched and how different life could look at the end of 2016 if God's people adopted these ideas.

The Amazon Smile logo is displayed on an orange rectangular background. It features the word "amazon" in its signature black font, followed by "smile" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font. A white curved line, resembling a smile, is positioned beneath the word "amazon". To the right of the logo, the text "You shop. Amazon gives." is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.

Give to Life by simply shopping on Amazon! Anglicans for Life will receive .05% of your purchase as a donation!
<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-1431886>

Life Issue Sub-Topic

Abortion Breast Cancer & Abortion
Morning After Pill
RU-486
Rape & Abortion
Partial Birth Abortion
After Abortion
Men & Abortion
Abortion & the Church

Abstinence STD's & STI's
Sexual Addictions &
Sexual Brokenness
Contraception

Adoption Snowflake Adoption
Birthparents
Adoptive parents
Special Needs Adoptions
International Adoptions

Bioethics Stem Cell Research
Cloning

End of Life Assisted Suicide
Euthanasia
Futile Care Theory
Brain Dead
Advanced Directives

Pregnancy Designer Babies
Assisted Reproductive
Technology
Still Birth & Miscarriage
Pre-Natal Diagnosis

Pregnant? Voices of Experience
PreNatal SlideShow

Life/Other Health Care Reform
Planned Parenthood

Deacon G

Happy New Year! This issue of Carpe Diem should be landing in your mailbox as we welcome the first full week of 2016.

Reflecting back on 2015, I am in awe of all the unexpected blessings and challenges that were woven into 12 months that felt more like six weeks!

We saw more people become Life Leaders in their churches and women and men healed from abortion grief become Regional Coordinators with the Silent No More Awareness Campaign. We shared life-affirming teachings with students at the university level, including medical students at Dartmouth College most recently. The new Healing the Shockwaves of Abortion initiative helped many family members connect with their grief and find healing. And, finally, we added three outstanding new leaders to our Board of Directors and welcomed Ali Kirby as AFL's new Marketing Director.

Now, as I gaze out into 2016, I ask God for faith to trust Him afresh each day and in all that AFL is attempting to do for life in the Anglican Communion.

Specifically, we are looking forward to His faithful presence at the **SUMMIT 2016: Mobilizing the Church for Life** event scheduled for Thursday, January 21st at Falls Church Anglican in Falls Church Va., and the March for Life in Washington DC and the Walk for Life in San Francisco. (See the back cover for more details and registration information.)

There is a lot more Anglicans for Life will be working to accomplish in 2016, but 18 years of experience here has taught me to take it one Summit and two Marches at a time!

I pray God's love will abound for you and yours,

Deacon Georgette Forney
President, AFL

Fall 2015 Travel



Georgette with members of the Clarion University Students for Life group



Georgette with members of the Oklahoma City 40 Days for Life Prayer Team



Great to catch up with Rev. Coleman Tyler and wife Susan from Truro Church at the Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic Synod.



Georgette with Church of the Holy Spirit parishioners in Tulsa, Oklahoma



Georgette and Silent No More Awareness Campaign Regional Coordinator, Delia Warnecke (middle) with Ana Maria Dumitru, leader of Students for Life Dartmouth Medical School



Georgette with Charlene Carter, Chapter Leader of the Church of the Holy Spirit



Georgette visiting with participant at the Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic Synod at AFL Exhibit Table.

In Honor

Anglicans for Life joins in honoring those who make courageous choices.

Mr. & Mrs. William Edwards gave a donation in honor of their parish priest and his growing family, the Rev. Brice Ullman, wife Lauren, big sister Elsie Kate and newborn Eleanor Ruth.

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Amy gave a gift in honor of Virginia Hulette.

In Memory

Anglicans for Life joins in memorializing

The Edwards also honored the memory of Sammy Hale.

Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Miller gave a gift in memory of Gail's brother, David MacGregor Brown, who until his death upheld the sacredness of life.

Mrs. Ann Weeks in memory of her husband, The Rev. Robert O. Weeks

Keeping you Informed about State Legislation & Statistics

• In our last issue of Carpe Diem we reported that a bill to legalize assisted suicide in California was awaiting Gov. Jerry Brown signature or veto. Sadly, he signed the bill, making California the 4th state to allow your physician to prescribe pills to kill yourself. A diverse coalition of Californians has come together to form **Stop Assisted Suicide**. California law allows citizens to examine bills passed by the legislature and signed by the Governor before they go into law. For 90 days after signature, the citizenry may examine the bill and its implications and collect signatures to request that it be brought to the people to vote on at the next General Election. This effort to collect signatures is underway. AFL strongly urges folks to share this information with friends and family in California, so they can request petitions and help get the initiative on the ballot. Visit StopAssistedSuicide.com for complete details. Also be praying for NJ and NY, where bills are pending votes in 2016.

• MLive.com is reporting African American women were five times more likely than white women to have abortions in Michigan in 2014 according to statistics released by the state health department. Black women make up 16% of Michigan's female population, yet had half of the abortions. Since 2009, reported abortions in the state have increased by 19%, but among African Americans, they have increased 41%.

• A recent article posted on LifeSiteNews.com reports the number of Planned Parenthood surgical abortion facilities decreased in 2015 from 173 to 166,

but the number of PP "abortion pill only" clinics increased from 164 to 187. The American Life League's STOPP International reports that this year marks the first time that Planned Parenthood had more RU-486-only clinics than surgical abortion clinics. The group also reports that Planned Parenthood operates 90% of the abortion-pill-only facilities in the U.S. There are currently about 700 locations in the U.S. where an abortion can be performed.

• In 2015, 48 states considered approximately 315 measures related to abortion - a 17% increase from the previous year, according to Americans United for Life. (47 new Pro-Life laws were enacted.) In 2014, 41 states considered approximately 270 measures, many of them based on AUL-drafted model legislation.

• The Washington Post reports the federal budget compromise that will fund the government through next September contains existing abortion funding restrictions such as the Hyde amendment and bans on using taxpayer money for abortions in the District of Columbia and for federal prisoners. Also included was a 7% reduction in funding for the United Nations Population Fund. Not included were proposed "riders" to cut Title X family planning spending, defund Planned Parenthood, allow states to defund Planned Parenthood from their Medicaid programs, and grant conscience protection to employers who provide health insurance to their employees.

Anglicans for Life is a 501(c)(3) tax-deductible organization, supported by churches, individuals, and foundations. Your donation makes it possible for us to uphold the biblical standard of the Sanctity of Life.

Please use the enclosed envelope to make a donation!

A financial statement is available upon request.

405 Frederick Avenue Sewickley, PA 15143-1522 412-749-0455 Email: info@AnglicansforLife.org

WELCOME!

New Board Member Cathie Young

AFL would like to extend a big welcome to our newest board member, The Rev. Cathie Young.

Rev. Cathie has been serving the Lord full time since 1992. After receiving her Masters of Divinity from Fuller Seminary in Pasadena, California, she was ordained to Anglican Holy Orders in 2007. She serves as Associate Rector and Director for Outreach and Missions at St. James Anglican Church in Newport Beach, CA (www.stjamesnb.org). She is a writer, teacher, and preacher and frequently speaks at Bible studies, retreats, and conferences.

She is a member of the ACNA's Task Force for Marriage, Family, and the Single Life, a Leader in the Greater LA Deanery's Ministry Development Program for the Diocese of Western Anglicans, and a former member of the Bishop's Executive Committee in the Diocese of Western Anglicans. She has also founded two ministries that are close to her heart. In late 2011 Rev. Cathie was diagnosed with advanced stage breast cancer and, during her three-year treatment, she blogged about her journey, gaining more than 700 followers. The book that chronicles her journey is titled *Gold in the Road: Walking with Christ through the Cancer Storm* and will be published by Anglican House Publishing in early 2016. From



her journey, she established Cancer with Compassion, an outreach to those suffering with cancer, reaching the community in Orange County, California and beyond. She is also the founder and president of 1211 Ministries, a non-profit foundation for sharing the love and truth of Jesus Christ.

Rev. Cathie has been married to Philip, the love of her life, since 1986. They often serve together in ministry. Her ministry passions include Bible teaching, outreach to cancer sufferers, sanctity of life from conception to natural death, and evangelism.

New Staff Member Ali Kirby



Dear AFL Friends,

Hello! My name is Ali Kirby; I was recently hired as the new Anglicans For Life Marketing Director. I have really enjoyed learning about AFL's ministry and I am super excited to get to know you as well. My background is comprised mostly of Visual Art and Graphic Design, which flows easily into the marketing world and, in many cases, goes hand in hand.

I was born and raised in Lakeland, Florida, lived in Fairfax Virginia for a while, and now reside in Ambridge, Pennsylvania, where my husband John is in his first year of seminary at Trinity School for Ministry.

John and I have been married over three years now and love where God has placed us. We have a kitty named Nami to keep us entertained and a wonderful community between the school and Anglicans For Life.

My passion for life may seem a little odd due to my actively creative, overly optimistic, and romantic take on everything. I love people and helping them get through the hard things in life. I have faith that we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. And I believe that we can affect how the culture around us thinks. I have a passion for seeing families succeed as well as the arts being better used within the church.

I am so glad to be part of the AFL team, and I am looking forward to helping many of you fulfill God's call to uphold the sacredness of Life!

~Sending Love and Blessings,

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Ali".



Summit 2016

Mobilizing the Church for Life

Summit 2016
Mobilizing the Church for Life
Thursday, January 21st, 2016
8:30am – 5:30pm
The Falls Church Anglican
6565 Arlington Boulevard
Falls Church, VA 22042

Pre-March for Life
Anglican Prayer & Worship
Service
Friday, January 22nd, 2016
Columbia Baptist Church
103 W Columbia St.
Falls Church, VA 22046

Registration is \$25, this covers lunch and Summit materials.

Bus tickets are \$15 each

For more information call Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic at 703-590-5470
or visit www.AnglicanDOMA.org/Summit2016

Sponsored by Anglicans For Life and the Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic.