

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30

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«Church»
«First» «Last»
«Address»
«City», «ST» «Zip»

Dear «First»:

I work with many churches and faith-based organizations across northeast Ohio in trying to educate and advocate about the sanctity of life from the moment of conception through natural death with no exceptions. All too often, whenever the subject of abortion comes up, I hear all kinds of excuses from pastors about why they don't talk about it. Excuses range from the subject matter being "too political", to "not wanting to offend" those in their congregation who may have had an abortion. *They fail to realize that those women may be crying out for spiritual healing.*

According to a Ohio Department of Health report, more than 64% of the 19,213 children from Ohio killed in 2018 through abortion were from mothers between the ages of 20-29. 28.9% of the remaining children killed were from mothers between the ages of 30-39. Roughly 10% of the children killed were from mothers under the age of 20. *76.8% of the children killed were conceived in a relationship outside of marriage.* This is a tragedy of epic proportions that makes me wonder just what we are teaching our youth and our society in general, and to also wonder where we went so wrong.

We need your help to make this stop!

There are a couple of ways in which you and your congregation can help. On January 19, 2020, churches across the United States will commemorate *Sanctity of Human Life Sunday*. We use this day to celebrate God's gift of life, to honor the many lives lost to abortion, and to commit ourselves to protecting human life at every stage. We would hope that you will participate as well, and can offer you help that includes resources to sermons, providing speakers, or whatever you need to help get the message across. Starting the year off with this messaging, and then continuing to promote morals and family values throughout the year can help keep the message about the sanctity of life prominent, especially in the hearts and minds of those who might be considering decisions which could lead to an unexpected pregnancy. In addition, women who have had abortions desperately require healing and post-abortion counseling and need to know that God will forgive them. We have many resources available for post abortion counseling that you can refer to when addressing the issue of abortion and will be happy to share them with you.

The second very important way in which you can help is to participate in our campaign which reaches out to abortion-vulnerable pregnant women to give them life-affirming resources. Studies have proven that the number one place that women with unexpected pregnancies turn to is the internet, and that's where we need to be. We partner with media resources so

that when women search for information about abortion, their top choices in the online search will be connections to receive a free ultrasound. When that happens, almost 85% of the mothers choose to carry their child to birth. If we can't stop women from becoming pregnant, then we need to be there to help them realize that their child is NOT a problem but is instead God's gift of life. We need to help them through their pregnancy and beyond, and that's what this campaign does. We desperately need the help of churches to continue this crucial media campaign so that lives will be saved NOW. The donations received through the campaign fund the expense involved with buying the keywords and phrases on the search engines which lead these women to the life resources. We combine this campaign with a petition sent to our elected officials to let them know that we want them to represent us by passing laws to protect innocent human life from conception through natural death, no exceptions. This past year, we sent thousands of collected signatures to state and federal legislators to help pass crucial pro-life legislation.

Any donations raised through the signature media campaign are staying right here in Summit, Portage, Medina and Stark counties.

We are humbly requesting that your church participate with us in our annual *Signature & Media Campaign* to continue building a culture of life. As we have in the past, we ask you to establish a weekend or two when your church will collect signatures for our petition which declares our commitment to saving lives. The petitions will be sent to our federal and state legislators, and **any donations collected will support our critically important media campaign**. A great time to conduct this campaign is on Sanctity of Life Sunday, however, if this is not a good time for you, the campaign can be conducted anytime during the year. This campaign is a great activity that can be run by your church's social justice, marriage and family, pro-life or other similar ministry or committee. We provide easy instructions and copies of all documents required. Of course, **the most important ingredient to make it work is your support, including messages of encouragement from the pulpit**. We have included bulletin and pulpit announcements to make it easier for you. You can also request us to come and speak with us at your services.

We will be following up with you soon so that we can be of assistance with your plans should you require it. If you have any questions or need any other information, please do not hesitate to call me at 330-762-2785. I can also be reached by e-mail at dleipold@rtlofneo.com. You can view more information about this life saving campaign under the "Events" tab on our website at www.RightToLifeofNortheastOhio.com.

With your help and through the Grace of God, I know that we will return to a nation with liberty and justice not just for some, but for all. Please, will you help us in our mission to protect life?

For Life,



Denise Leipold
Executive Director

Enclosures: *Signature & Media Campaign* Documents

"Rescue those who are unjustly sentenced to death; don't stand back and let them die. Don't try to avoid responsibility by saying you didn't know about it. For God knows all hearts and He sees you. He keeps watch over your soul, and He knows you knew! And He will judge all people according to what they have done." *Proverbs 24:11*