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Volume 48 No. 4

2021 **May** Issue

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"Those who think of abortion as an oh-so-complicated question pitting many equal, competing rights against one another don't see — or maybe just don't want to see — that a society that can abrogate the right to life can abrogate any right. For if we don't have a right to life, we have no rights whatsoever." (Paul Greenberg, Pulitzer Prize Winner for Editorial Writing)

LONG ISLAND COALITION FOR LIFE 17^{TH} ANNUAL ORATORY CONTEST

The Seventeenth Annual High School Oratory Contest, sponsored by the Long Island Coalition for Life Educational Trust, was held on March 21st at Knights of Columbus, Joseph Barry Council in Hicksville. Students in grades 11 and 12 were invited to research, write and deliver a 5-7 minute original speech on the life issues such

as abortion, assisted suicide, euthanasia, or cloning/stem cell research. Fourteen wonderful speeches were delivered by High School Juniors and Seniors. The judges praised the excellent quality and fine presentations of the speeches, resulting in difficult judging!

The first, second and third place winners respectively, were: Emma Pirozzi, Nicholas Marrone and Amanda Kastel, all from St. Pius V. Finalists certificates were awarded to Chaminade Students: Christian Mandelos, Peter Bitalvo, Michael Micalizzi, Francis Matranga, Brandon Mosiurchak, Matthew Papiro, and James Salerno. St. Pius students who were also finalists were: Angelina Stein, Margaret Fantz, Christian Milio, and Nicholas Hawes. Prizes of \$500, \$300 and \$200 along with plaques



Thank you to all 14 participants.

were awarded to the top three speakers. Robert L. Dougherty Esq. is the generous supporter who provided the prize money and support for the contest. Judges were George Frost, Kathy Feldman and Eric Waxman. The speeches were initially reviewed by Valerie Griggs and Robert McEntee.

Thanks to Father Peter Heiskell from Chaminade and Sisters Marie Chabanel and Sr. Gertrude Marie from St. Pius V, all of whom encouraged/coordinated with students and attended the contest. Thanks also to Dan Sherry, Robert McEntee, Charlie Feldman and Jack O'Brien for also attending and helping to make this a very successful event. It was so wonderful to hear the younger generation speaking up for LIFE!

High School Scholarship Award

What have you done to help Respect Human Life this year? Action is required! Have you:

- Posted anything pro-life on any social media platform?
- Volunteered at a pregnancy resource center?
- Talked to your friends about pro-life issues?
- Helped a confused friend?
- Helped at your church or with another organization?
- Etc., etc. so many other actions you may have taken, let us know.

You may qualify for a scholarship! Go to our website; www.prolifeed.org for more information and an application. Events under Menu, LICLED HS Scholarship Award - 2021 and print a copy of the application and follow directions to submit. If you have any questions, call 631-243-1435 or email makeroom4him@gmail.com.



The Long Island Coalition for Life general meeting welcomes all interested in pro-life activity, education, legislation or volunteering. Meetings begin at **7:30 PM.** Our next General Meeting is **Monday, May 24** at St. Regis K of C Pond Rd. & Rosedale Ave., Ronkonkoma. COVID restrictions will be followed - please wear a mask!

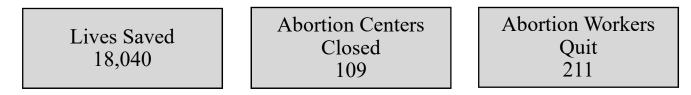
All are welcome - please join us! For further info, call LICL at 631-243-1435.

40 Days for Life On Long Island

The 40 Days for Life Campaign continued with Coronavirus restrictions loosened. There were four locations on Long Island this Spring: Riverhead, Smithtown, W. Islip & Hempstead. People of all denominations & non-denominations joined together to pray for an end to abortion and for a change of heart for the abortion workers. Thank you to all. Please continue with your prayers. Photos below left to right: Hempstead, Riverhead and Smithtown. Unfortunately, we do not have any photos from the W. Islip site.



The 40 Days for Life international campaign began in 2007. Since then, the campaign has reached over 1000 cities in 63 countries! Reported since that time:



3-Person IVF – Mitochondrial Donation: MercatorNet.com (3/29/21) carried an article on mitochondrial donation by Katherine Drabiak, JD, an Associate Professor of health law, public health law and medical ethics. Mitochondrial donation is a risky, experimental procedure for women with a very rare mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) disease who desire a healthy, genetically related child. The nuclear DNA from a donor egg is removed. The donor cannot have mtDNA disease. The mother's nuclear DNA is inserted into the donor egg. The reconstructed egg is fertilized to create an embryo. The donor mitochondrial DNA in the embryo will be passed on to future generations through the maternal line. Opinions differ on whether the procedure is successful. A few babies have been born using the technique. They are reported healthy, but little evidence was presented. Some scientists are concerned the process could cause developmental disorders, a higher risk of cancer, or even premature death of the child. There are also very serious risks to women undergoing the egg donation process. Mitochondrial disease is very rare. It is caused by mutations in the nuclear DNA or the mitochondrial DNA. Most cases involve mutations in the nuclear DNA. Mitochondrial donation can only be used in the very rare case where the mother's mitochondrial DNA has mutations. Some scientists are now suggesting that mitochondrial donation be used to treat general infertility. Regulators in the UK and US held meetings with scientists, physicians, and ethicists to debate the risks and benefits of this technology. Although scientists warned it may never be safe, their concerns were minimized, and the technology was described as promising. Drabiak warns against promoting a process capitalizing on the desire for a genetically related child "using an unproven and highly risky technology that places children – and future generations – in harm's way." She wrote an article on Mitochondrial Replacement Therapy (MRT) in the Spring 2018 edition of the DePaul Journal of Health Care Law stating, "Contrary to the common parlance discussing the procedure, MRT does not replace mitochondria or "swap in healthy mitochondria," but instead constitutes transferring the nucleus containing 20,000 genes from one oocyte or zygote to another. This procedure is more accurately classified as nuclear genome transfer and a modification of the human germline, which has [been] prohibited by numerous declarations, directives, and laws promulgated by international entities and other nations."



FEDERAL LEGISLATION

***HR.1/S.1** (*For the People Act of 2021*) sits in the Senate.

***HR.5** (*Equality Act*) is in the Senate Judiciary Committee. **HR.5** exempts itself from the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA).

The *Washington Post* says the bill would weaken religious liberty.

[See April 2021 LN, p3, re: HR.1/S.1 and HR.5] ***HR. 1440** (*The Fairness for All Act* - aka Equality Act '*lite*') is neutral on RFRA and abortion. It has limited conscience protection. Some pundits support **HR.1440** saying it strikes a good balance between competing "Rights." Others are not so convinced. NY cosponsors: Reps. Garbarino, Tenney, Stefanik, Malliotakis ***HR.2234/S.1021** (*Equal Access to Abortion Coverage in*

Health Insurance Act) This anti-life bill was reintroduced. (Reps. Meeks, Gillibrand, Rice cosponsor).

***H.J.Res.17** The House voted 222-204 to claim there is still time to ratify the 1972 *Equal Rights* amendment. The ERA would place "abortion rights" in the US Constitution. Companion **S.J.Res.1** sits in Senate.

***HR.1382** reintroduced by pro-life Rep. Chris Smith, mandates informed patient consent prior to any abortion or sterilization.

***HR.18/S.92** (*No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act*) also reintroduced by Smith, mandates clear information on abortion coverage in medical insurance policies.

***HR.619**, the House version of the *Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act* [**S.123**] is in the House Sub-committee on Crime, Terrorism, & Homeland Security. (No LI members) It improves the 2002 'Born Alive' law.

Abortion activists have urged President Biden to change regulations to allow prescribing of abortion pills over the phone. The change would make moot the January Supreme Court ruling against the practice.

The Supreme Court is still sitting on *Dobbs v Jackson*. This case is a potentially important challenge to Mississippi's 15-week abortion ban.

Secretary of State Blinken says the US will count abortion as a human right in our foreign policy. He disbanded the prior Administration's Commission on Unalienable Rights. At foreign urging, the US told the UN Human Rights Council the US may end the Helms Amendment. A new *Culture of Life Africa* video urges President Biden "please do not...do not sponsor abortion in Africa." It can be found on YouTube: https://woutube/zwmBhgUgob4

https://youtube/zymBhgUqoh4

Merrick Garland is now Attorney General, and Xavier Beccera is now HHS Secretary. Both are pro-abortion. Deputy Budget Director nominee Shalanda Young stated, "end [the] Hyde Amendment, and publicly fund abortion for racial and economic justice." Some activists are asking Justice Bryer to retire from the Supreme Court now so President Biden can nominate someone to replace him. Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson, who will soon fill Merrick Garland's DC Circuit seat, is considered a likely nominee.

The threat to end the **filibuster** has been averted for now. The Senate Parliamentarian has allowed more use of

Federal Legislation continued......

the 'Reconciliation Process," which means 51 votes are all that is needed to pass budgetary bills. In a Washington Post op-ed published April 7th, Senator Joe Manchin (D,WV), a significant vote in the 50-50 Senate, restated his opposition to eliminating or weakening the filibuster, as well as using the reconciliation process for important issues. He stated, "There is no circumstance in which I will vote to eliminate or weaken the filibuster. If the filibuster is eliminated or budget reconciliation becomes the norm, a new and dangerous precedent will be set to pass sweeping, partisan legislation that changes the direction of our nation every time there is a change in political control. The consequences will be profound — our nation may never see stable governing again. The time has come to end these political games, and to usher a new era of bipartisanship where we find common ground on the major policy debates facing our nation."



NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATION

US Court of Appeals [2nd Circuit] ruling on *NYS v Griepp* imposes burdensome restrictions on Sidewalk Counselors. Many think this case may end up at the US Supreme Court.

NYS Paid Surrogacy law took effect Feb. 15, 2021. *S.470-Hoylman/A.5499-Glick, the Pregnancy Center Report* Bill is in Committee. This bill would authorize the NYS Department of Health to study and report on "the unmet health and resource needs facing pregnant women in New York" and the impact of limited-service pregnancy centers on women's timely access to "a comprehensive range of reproductive and sexual care services." The bill would impose extreme reporting requirements on pregnancy care centers.

S.XXX-Savino/A.4321a- Paulin Medical Aid in Dying Act, has been re-introduced. It is in the Assembly Health Committee. L.I. committee members are D. McDonough and M. Miller. This bill would reverse New York's longstanding ban on assisted suicide, allowing physicians to prescribe lethal drugs to certain terminally ill adults that request them. Preventing this bill from becoming law is a top priority.

Please contact your NYS Senator and Member of the Assembly today and urge them to oppose S.470-Hoylman/ A.5499-Glick. When contacting your elected officials, always remember to be respectful and courteous.

TAKE ACTION – To contact your legislators go to: http://prolifeli.org/index.php/legislative You will find links there to look up your representatives on the Federal, State and Local level.

See the New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedoms' Albany Update for contact information and issues of concern: www.albanyupdate.com/connect

To discuss Federal Legislation, e-mail Charles Feldman at cdefeldman@optonline.net. To discuss State Legislation, e-mail Jim Miller at jimmiller9@aol.com.

Federal Legislation continued in next column...

Life News - 4 - May 2021

PROMISING NEWS IN VACCINE PRODUCTION

With the creation and distribution of various COVID-19 vaccines, pro-lifers find themselves with a moral dilemma. All currently available vaccinations were created making use of aborted cell lines. Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna vaccines utilized cell lines derived from aborted fetuses in the testing phase, while Johnson & Johnson used these cell lines in both development and manufacturing of the vaccine.

Despite the difficulty with the currently approved vaccines, there may be hope for pro-lifers who wish to reject those options. Sanofi Pasteur, one of the largest global vaccine manufacturers, recently received the FDA's approval to end use of aborted fetal cell line MRC-5 in the production of its polio vaccines Pentacel and Quadracel. Instead, they will utilize ethical Vero (monkey) cells. Sanofi is also ending production of Poliovax (which also uses MRC-5), in favor of the ethically developed IPOL vaccine.

Another promising announcement is the union of Sanofi and GSK to produce a new Covid-19 vaccine which will use Sanofi's insect-based platform as the culture medium. The partners plan to begin providing commercial doses by the end of 2021. It is hoped that this vaccine will be created without the use of abortion-derived cell lines.

Many pro-lifers are voicing their gratitude for these ethical vaccine options by writing to Sanofi Pasteur. Information on how to vocalize support of these moral decisions by pharmaceutical companies is listed below.

Letters can be mailed to: Dr. John Shiver, Global Head of R&D Sanofi Pasteur Box 187 Discovery Drive Swiftwater, PA 18370

Use this link to send a digital note: https://www.votervoice.net/NCHLA/Campaigns/77137/Respond

SAMPLE THANK YOU LETTER

Thank you for discontinuing use of MRC-5 in your polio combination vaccines, Pentacel and Quadracel. I am equally grateful for your decision to discontinue Poliovax (also produced using MRC-5), and to retain IPOL (which uses ethical cell lines). I intend to share this good news with my friends and family.

Many people do not wish to use vaccines produced from cell lines linked to elective abortion. Your decision to move away from use of MRC-5 in your polio vaccines will certainly alleviate those concerns. I am also hopeful that your COVID-19 vaccine will offer an ethical option for those of us who wish to reject vaccines which were created making use of aborted cell lines.

I hope your good example will be rewarded and encourage others to pursue vaccines and medicines that have no connection to elective abortion.

Technocracy and the Life Issues

Bioethicist Wesley J. Smith wrote an article in the Human Life Review (3/4/21) on the dangers of technocracy (rule by 'experts'). He stated, "Pro-life advocacy and policies are opposed by the elites of the West...Despite these wailing headwinds, the pro-life movement has exercised the freedoms available in the West internationally to contest antisanctity-of-life orthodoxies and policies in the public square and halls of government – battling not only abortion, but also legalization of euthanasia/assisted suicide, the moral propriety of embryonic stem cell research and other biotechnologies, threats to medical conscience, and the like. But come the "technocracy," a time may arise in which "no advocacy zones" hinder sanctity-of-life activists from presenting contrary ideas to the general community and enacting public policies through the usual democratic processes." Smith notes "the looming technocracy threatens to impose substantial control over most important aspects of life by "experts" - scientists, bioethicists and societal "influencers" but it also poses the threat of iron-clad enforcement of cultural orthodoxies and policies, not only in law, but also via the voluntary actions of powerful segments of the private sector." Smith states that the pandemic resulted in the "technocratic class" becoming bolder as the general population worried about staying safe. He cites 4 examples of how bioethicist 'experts' have set healthcare policy: abortion through the 9th month, 'aid-in-dying'/assisted suicide/ euthanasia, healthcare rationing/futile care, and the destruction/attack on medical conscience. Smith concludes, "Technocracy...can only succeed when imposed upon a cowardly people. If the pro-life movement has proved anything, it is that its activists are not cowards...let us not shrink from living fully as free men and women despite the potential costs - and that includes resisting the imposition of an international rule by experts. Because if ever such an authoritarianism establishes its grip, it will be almost impossible to reverse."

"Whenever Two or More are Gathered in My Name"

Key: (M) = MONTHLY (W) = WEEKLY

PRO-LIFE PRAYERFUL PRESENCE. Scheduled times at local abortion provider/referral sites are listed below. To volunteer, speak with the contact person before going to a site. **Never witness alone. Your presence, if even for 30 min. a month, is important. Note:** Vigils & Witnesses are **NOT** sponsored by the LICL and are provided for informational purposes.

Nassau County - Location 540 Fulton Ave (Rt 24), Hempstead	Day/ <u>Time</u> (W) Sa 8 AM-Noon (W) Th 10:30-Noon (W) Sa 10AM-Noon (W) Fr 11 AM - Noon	<u>Contact Phone</u> 917-544-0121 516-270-3845 516-270-3845 516-359-1298	IMPORTANT: Peaceful assembly on public property near an abortion site is a lawful
<u>Suffolk County - Location</u>	Day/Time_	Contact Phone (631)	First Amendment right.
498 Rt. 111, Smithtown	(W) Sa 6-9 AM	751-7894	
70 Maple Ave, Smithtown	(W) We & Sa 7:30-10:30 AM	979-8541	P.P. A.
42 First Ave, Brentwood	(W) Sa 9:40-10:15 AM	665-3630	
540 E. Main St, Riverhead	(W) We 2-4 PM	323-8001	1 cm 2 m
450 Waverly Ave, Patchogue	(M) 2nd Sa 10:30-11:30 AM	472-4314	and the second second

Pro-Life Counseling Centers nearest to abortion sites:

Women First Pregnancy Options: (Three locations): Massapequa 516-798-9100, 35 East Willow St, at E end of Sunrise Mall behind White Castle, (bilingual) open Mo-Fr, 10 AM-4 PM, Sa 9 AM-Noon (by appt. only); Hempstead 516-408-6300, 474 Fulton Av (Rt 24) (bilingual) open Mo-Fr 10 AM-4:30 PM & Sa 9AM-1PM; Deer Park 631-243-0066, 1767 Deer Park Ave, (bilingual) open Mo 10 AM-8 PM, Tu-Fr 10 AM-4 PM. (Closed Sa)

Local Pro-Life Viewing/Listening:

EWTN Opt. Ch 135, Verizon Ch 285: Defending Life hosted by Priests for Life: Sun. 11 PM; Pro-Life Weekly: Thurs. 10 PM Long Island Teen Freedom "Sexual Risk Avoidance Education" - Life Center of L.I. - Fri. 1 AM, Opt. Ch. 20 AFA of NY Programs on <u>YouTube.com</u>; then in Search bar: <u>AFA New York</u>; then click on <u>AFA NY</u>; then select <u>VIDEOS</u>

Listen to pro-life radio on the Internet: blogtalkradio.com/march4lifeny-radio *Pro-Life and Pro-Family blog*: rickhinshaw.com

Roe V. Wade - The Movie Available on digital. Go to www.roevwademovie.com.

In Memoriam: Elizabeth (Betty) Schilt, Steve Damm

. National Right to Life Convention 6/24-25, Dulles Airport; NRTL Academy 6/24-30

A fun, (fast-paced, intense 5-week academic course for pro-life college students. For information on above Nrlc.org; email jragan1@aol.com

• **NYS Camp Esther**, a teen leadership weekend for ages 14 and older, held in Utica, NY. For info call 518-434-1293 or email admin@nysrighttolife.org

Other news:

*Some stem cell researchers want to allow human embryos to develop beyond the current 14-day limit. *The Charlotte Lozier Institute reported that today's teens are more pro-life, and are having less births, sex, and abortions. Pregnancies for teenagers 15-19 years old are down 73% from 1990.

*Americans United for Life reported that 115 abortuaries in 26 states were caught using unlicensed or untrained staff.

*The parental consent law in Indiana was overturned. A Texas court allowed cutting Medicaid funds to PP. A Pennsylvania court allowed cutting state funds to PP. The governor of South Dakota signed a ban on aborting children with Down Syndrome (it has a life of the mother exception). The governor of Arkansas signed a medical conscience 'rights' bill.

"Entering Canaan" Healing After Abortion Sat., May 15

day of prayer and healing for Women For into and to register drvclife.org/projectrachel or call 516-766-2538.

All info remains confidential.

Writers for Life

Thank you to Theresa Daube, whose pro-life letter appeared in the *Valley Stream Herald*, 2/18/21. We encourage you to write pro-life

letters to the editor and if published, or you see any other pro-life letters printed, please share with us so we can acknowledge in *Life News*. Thank you.

Operation Rescue:

Forty-five abortion facilities closed or halted abortions nationwide in 2020, leaving one state (Missouri) without an active abortion facility. There are currently 706 active abortion facilities in the US. Surgical abortion facilities have decreased by 255 since 2009. There has been a 79% drop in surgical abortion facilities nationwide since 1991. 69 locations (9.78% of all abortion facilities) now provide abortion drugs via telemedicine. (Source: Operation Rescue Survey of every US abortion facility) Life News - 6 May 2021

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Robert A. Tschoke 631-475-1111 24 hr. Emergency Service Senior Discounts alphaandomegaelectricinc.com	Linda Himberger LCSW A New Beginning Counseling & Psychotherapy 60 Fire Island Ave., Ste. 103 Babylon, NY 11702 (631) 805-4227 Anxiety Disorders Addictions Relationship Issues	<u>Did you know?</u> Abortion Survivors: Human Life International (HLI.org) posted an article 3/12/21 by William Lawyer and Matthew Margetts titled " <i>Left for</i> <i>Dead: How Many Survive Abortion</i> ? Statistics on abortion survivors in the US is limited. Arizona, Minnesota, and Florida provide reports which show dozens of cases of abortion survivors and their neglect each year. Other states do not provide accurate records. The main factor for so much inaccuracy is the tendency to underreport. Dr. Willard Cates, board member of the Guttmacher	
HealthSureAdult Medicine, Occupational Medicine and GeriatricsJOHN FOLAN, MDDIPLOMATE AMERICAN BOARD OF INTERNAL MEDICINE3001 Expressway Dr. N, Suite 200C1743 North Ocean Ave.Islandia, NY 11749Medford, NY 11763631-435-0110631-758-3100Fax: 631-435-4583Fax: 631-758-3168		Institute said, "It's like turning yourself in to the IRS for an audit. What is there to gain? The tendency is not to report because there are only negative incentives." Most babies who survive an abortion are routinely abandoned or outright killed. Abortion methods have been adjusted to reduce the chances of a child surviving. The authors conclude, "Legislation to ensure the safety of abortion survivors is an unfortunate necessity given the realities we face."	

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Life News

MISSION STATEMENT

To protect innocent human life from fertilization to natural death through education, legislative action, prayer and peaceful presence.

of Long Island

Long Island Coalition for Life Post Office Box 223 Ronkonkoma, NY 11779-0223

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May 2021 Mother's Day Blessings!

Walk 4 Life Saturday, May 15 9:30-11 AM **Soundview Pregnancy Services** Virtual or IN-PERSON at Blydenburgh Park, Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown For registration or to donate go to: secure.ministrysync.com/ministrysync/event/?e=21514 for more information call: 631-676-7990

A Pennsylvania Planned Parenthood

affiliate's newsletter in early February spoke of "building volume" in abortion. It went on to state that they need to get to "over 8,000 abortion visits." Marie Gallagher of the PA Pro-Life Federation asks, "If PP is not interested in profit, why must it perform a certain number of abortions? Are women being pushed into abortion to fulfill quotas? Is the drive to increase abortion totals compromising the health and safety of women?"

NYS School Board Elections Vote

Tues., **May 18** Know before you go! Ask candidates their views on the life issues and on inviting Planned Parenthood to your school.

Inside:

Oratory Contest, 40 Days for Life, Promising News in Vaccine Production, Technocracy and the Life Issues and more.

Once again, pro-lifers stood for the right to life of preborn babies at the **Good Friday Face the Truth** event in front of Nassau University Medical Center. Standing in temperatures more akin to our January event, about 90 adults, teens and children brought the pro-life message to hundreds of travelers along Hempstead Turnpike. The LICL appreciates all those who supported this pro-life action.



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