



LONDON AREA
RIGHT TO LIFE ASSOCIATION INC.
NEWSLETTER

1193 Oxford Street E., Unit 3, London, Ontario N5Y 3M2 Tel: (519) 659-3334 Fax: (519) 659-3345
Website: www.right2life.ca E-mail: larla@execulink.com

A London Pro-Life Newsletter

December 2005 VOL. 39, NO. 4

*For unto you
is born this
day in the city
of David a
Saviour, which
is Christ the
Lord.*

Luke 2:11



UPCOMING EVENTS

*Please mark on your calendar
(LARLA events are underlined)*

Dec. 28 - MASS FOR THE UNBORN

- * 8:00 p.m. at St. Peter's Basilica
- * Celebrant - Bishop Fabbro
- * 7:30 p.m. - Rosary
- * Organizer - Steve Sylvain 686-2535

Jan. 7, 2006 - PRO-LIFE DISPLAY

- * Westmount Mall
- * Call Margarida 659-3334

Jan. to Apr. - PRO-LIFE SCHOOL PROGRAM

- * Grades 5/6 & 7/8 presentations (pg.4)

Apr. 1 - "GET A LIFE" YOUTH CONFERENCE

- * Guelph, Ont. (519) 836-6311
- * More information next newsletter

Apr. 20 - PAM STENZEL

- * World renowned pro-life speaker (pg.3)

Apr. 22 - ALLIANCE FOR LIFE/CAMPAIGN LIFE ONTARIO CONFERENCE

- * Ancaster, Ont.

May 6 - ANNUAL DINNER/SILENT AUCTION

- * St. Justin's Parish Hall
- * Speaker-Jean Echlin, palliative care nurse

Last Thursday Monthly - HOSPITAL WITNESS

- * 4 - 5 p.m. Wellington and Commissioners
- * Organizer - John Bulsza 657-9009



*New grandchild Lachlan - first blessed child for
Sarah (Arnsby) and Kalan Fairclough*

MIRACLES DO HAPPEN!

President's Message by Phil Arnsby

Some special events have occurred in my life since my near meltdown in August. You may recall I was overburdened and had said "I can't do this anymore!". This meant stopping activities in my life including my pro-life work. Thankfully, the Lord got my attention and I returned to daily Mass and prayer and with God's grace regained the energy and perseverance to continue as president of LARLA as well as my other duties.

My wife Elaine and I decided we needed to have a break. She discovered an ad for an eight day cruise and retreat starting on October 24, 2005. It read as follows: "Enjoy a spirit-filled 8 days of prayer, praise, and worship amidst the incredible natural beauty of Mexico. Join Father Fernando Suarez and Father Jeff Shannon, both well-known Canadian charismatic priests and evangelists, for a Life in the Spirit Seminar."

We were excited, but I struggled with the fact that the money I would be spending on myself could be used to build two homes for needy families in India. We pondered, prayed and finally called the travel agent. The agent told Elaine the allotted space for the retreat was all booked but that he would see if more space was available. I thought perhaps we were not meant to go but the agent called back later to confirm he had arranged space for us.

Then, a confidential letter addressed to me was delivered to the office. It was from a staunch pro-life supporter. The letter read in part: "*Dear Mr. Arnsby, I was greatly moved to read your message in the latest newsletter. As I read it, I was filled with dread that you could not carry on this very important work. As I finished the letter I was greatly relieved to find that you have found the strength to continue. You now know that you must pace yourself, for your work is a marathon and not a sprint. The Lord moves in mysterious ways. I know how awesome it is to see His hand in your life and it acts as a reminder that He is always with you. Imagine what it will be like when you stand before the throne of God and hear those words 'Well done, good and faithful servant' ".* The letter went on to suggest Elaine and I take a week of rest and relaxation. In the envelope was a very substantial cheque made out in my name noting that it was not a donation to LARLA but a gift to Elaine and myself for a vacation. I was dumbfounded. **As I reread the letter, tears welled in my eyes. I sensed the Lord had sent His endorsement of our work and of the cruise in no uncertain terms through the generous heart of this caring donor.**

We flew from Toronto to Los Angeles and boarded this gigantic and beautiful cruise ship. Our retreat group of 110 was part of 2400 passengers. There were port tours, ship entertainment and activities and round the clock food. What a feast! But the most meaningful part of the cruise for us was the religious retreat. Mass each morning with praise and worship and Life in the Spirit seminar talks each evening. Both Elaine and I experienced the healing presence of the Holy Spirit in a big way. Many of our group had physical and spiritual healings.

On Sunday, October 30th, the ship's passengers were invited to join us for Mass. Father Fernando announced that a lady, Estela Arevalo, would do the first reading. We were stunned because Estela was blind. She used a cane and her husband and friends guided her everywhere. Father Fernando had prayed over her earlier in the week and she had been blessed to receive her sight! Overcome by the wonder of God's power, she struggled to hold back her sobs as she read the small print perfectly. Father Fernando stood next to her during the reading to comfort her (see photo). There was not a dry eye in the room. I felt chills run up my spine - God is GOOD!



If God can bring sight to the blind, He can also bring victory in the struggles for life. We must pray and trust in Him. May you and your loved ones celebrate the real meaning of Christmas and may you have a safe, holy and happy New Year.

SIGNS OF HOPE

- Office Report by *Margarida Andre*

As I write this report and I am looking out of my window, I see big beautiful flocks of snow colouring our streets. The first snowfall of the year for me is always a moment of wonder. It really does remind me of a beautiful Christmas card.

Speaking of Christmas, I can't believe where the time went. Sometimes we get so caught up in the hustle and bustle of things that we forget to take some time to take a deep breath, or two. It certainly felt like that to me these last couple of months here at the office.



Early last month, I had the opportunity of meeting Nathaniel, a Fanshawe student who felt compelled to come to our office and let us know the struggles he faces on a daily basis due to his outspoken pro-life beliefs. As most of you know, we have been advertising there, both in their newspaper and in the student handbook and on the backlit-board at the entrance to the on-campus pub. Naturally, this has drawn some criticism from the heavily pro-choice population at Fanshawe. The good thing is that slowly more and more students are coming "out of the closet" and letting us know that they are in fact pro-life, although many are afraid to admit it in front of their peers and professors.

That was my experience during the Sexual Awareness week at Fanshawe College during the last week in October. We had a pro-life booth set-up there that I think was very successful in the sense that there were always people at our table. The students were hungry for knowledge and most had no concept of an unborn baby at 12 weeks gestation. In addition students did not realize that condoms do not protect them against the AIDS virus. The "field was ripe for the harvest". By the end of the "fair" we had given out numerous precious feet pins, quite a few license plate frames, and hundreds of pamphlets replete with information on STD's, abortion information, and fetal development.

A couple of weeks later, three female Fanshawe students came to the office and asked for information on abortion and alternatives. During our conversation, they shared that one of them was 8 weeks pregnant and was scared to tell her family and although they were all "pro-choice", having seen our display at the fair, they thought that "just in case" they should know about the alternatives to abortion. As I quickly prayed for the right words to say, I felt so humbled and blessed to be able to share with them the beauty and wonder of a baby at 8 weeks gestation, and all of the milestones that this baby had already surpassed. After a while of sharing more information with them and as they left, I could see the shine in the eyes of the pregnant girl. There was a hint of a smile and I knew that, if nothing else, her "pro-choice" belief was now really on very shaky ground.

Due to our Fanshawe ads, we have also met another student, Nathan, who has decided to lay it all on the line and get serious about his pro-life beliefs around the campus. Just like Nathaniel, Nathan had been writing letters to the Editor in defence of pro-life issues. We have since sponsored him to go to the National Pro-life Conference held in Montreal this year so he could be better prepared to be a witness for Life at Fanshawe.

I am not sure if it's because Christmas is so close, but I am feeling very optimistic about the future. The most important thing is that our message has to be told. Please keep us in mind, as any donation will certainly make a difference.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

BISHOP STRONGLY CONDEMNS EUTHANASIA

On Sept. 29, 2005, Bishop Ronald Fabbro sent a letter out to all 143 parishes in the Diocese of London. Part of the letter reads as follows:

"Let me be clear: whether it is called euthanasia, or mercy-killing, or doctor-assisted suicide, the reality is that this Bill proposes to make murder legal in our country. What is more, it risks setting our country on a course which is the exact opposite of the one it should be following. What we need is universal palliative and hospice care for the dying, more research and training in the field of pain control, better-funded home-care so that loved ones can be looked after in a comfortable environment as they face their final days. Some people argue that there is a right to die. As Catholics, we believe in fundamental human rights, but the right to die is not one of them. Indeed, the concept of rights is now being used to justify all sorts of legislation which does harm to the social and moral fabric of our nation. We are forgetting that along with rights, there are duties. In this case, we have a duty as a nation to care for the most vulnerable so that they do not come to believe that they are burdens to society or to their loved one. ...pray for those who struggle with age, handicaps and disease so that they will never lose sight of their own dignity and will be surrounded with people who, through their love and care, reveal to them the loving, caring face of God."

Editor's note: LARLA commends Bishop Fabbro for his staunch and consistent defence of life.





LONDON AREA RIGHT TO LIFE ASSOCIATION INC.

1193 Oxford Street E., Unit 3, London, Ontario N5Y 3M2 Tel: (519) 659-3334
Fax: (519) 659-3345 Email: larla@execulink.com Website: www.right2life.ca

Dear pro-life friends,

Elaine and I have just returned from the Canadian National Pro-life Conference held in Montreal this year. Pro-abortion feminists and homosexual activists, calling themselves "Abort Their Conference Coalition", threatened to disrupt the conference which had been booked for a year at St. Joseph's Oratory, Canada's national shrine. The Oratory cancelled the contract with the conference organizers just hours before its commencement because of their fear that pilgrims to the Shrine might be at risk. Two Catholic churches and one evangelical church offered their accommodations and the Conference of 400 proceeded at the evangelical church. The protestors spray painted obscene graffiti at both the Oratory and the new site. They mocked family, life, and religion in obscene ways, tried to force condoms on us, and pummelled one police officer — and only one protestor was arrested. On the positive side, the media came out in droves and, by the grace of God, despite the apparent setbacks, the Montreal conference was a resounding success. ***But ominous signs surround us: daily abortions in our city, legalizing euthanasia on the horizon, embryonic stem cell and cloning experimentation, attacks on family and marriage and the escalating persecution of Christians in the public square.***

So what is LARLA doing?

The mandate of the London Area Right to Life is to defend human life at all stages through the education of the public. A large percentage of our community is unaware of life issues. Our efforts must increase and we are in the process of doing just that but we absolutely need your assistance.

How can you assist?

This year both individual and group donations are below the previous year's. We must continue our pro-life presence in the local buses, at fairs, malls, and elementary schools, and by providing literature, films, tapes and CDs to students of all ages, and of course by producing our LARLA newsletter. We are also having our website redesigned and made as user friendly and educational as possible including links to other pro-life sites.

In the coming year, LARLA and National Campus Life Network plan to work together to support the development of pro-life student groups at University of Western Ontario and Fanshawe College where pro-life activities are difficult at best.

A major new initiative involves partnership with the Catholic School Board and the London Diocesan Family Life & Youth Ministry to sponsor world renowned speaker, Pam Stenzel. Pam speaks to over 500,000 young people each year about issues of sexuality and the importance of chastity. This powerful speaker has been invited here to speak to over 6000 secondary school students, 200 teachers and students' parents in April 2006. Our share will be approximately \$5000 plus the cost of handout literature.



Pam Stenzel

Please consider making a special year end donation to help us increase our presence at the University and College levels and to assist us in our new Secondary School initiative. It is so important to receive your help to reach our young people and ensure, with God's help and guidance, that the culture of life prevails. Thank you for your generous support.

Beggar for Christ,

Phil Arnsby,

President, London Area Right to Life Association

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRO-LIFE PROGRAM

by Phil Arnsby

The program is in its 11th year. The 100 plus presentations will reach 100 teachers and 2200 students each year. The 5/6 program "I'm Special" explores the wonder of life in the womb as well as the uniqueness and value of all human beings. The 7/8 program "I'm Worth Waiting For" discusses pro-life issues, chastity and the sacraments. The London District School Board, London Area Right to Life Association and the Diocese of London Family, Life, and Youth Ministry are partners in this unique program

Sample Teacher Feedback:

"Great springboard for discussion. Parent who attended enjoyed presentation and looked forward to discussing it with her child. Informative, educational, presented with sensitivity. Very helpful to Family Life program."

"I was impressed with all of the brochures and information packages that were distributed to the students. Very much appreciated!"

"Great video, students discussed it all day long! Interesting and engaging presentation, probably could have gone on all day...the students were very interested and engaged in learning. Thank you."

Sample Student Feedback:

"Overall I think it was an amazing presentation about what makes us special."

"I learned life starts at conception not birth."

"I liked that she showed us the passage in the bible because sometimes I feel like I don't belong. It reminded me that I do!"

"Before this presentation I thought little of abortion killing people. I just thought it was a surgical removal of something that could be, not something that was."

"The most meaningful thing was learning about euthanasia, infanticide and abortion. I never knew this was deliberate killing. I wasn't even sure what abortion was."

"What they do is very good. Children need speakers like these so they know the value of life and sex. I have made my commitment and that is to follow God's direction which is to have sex after marriage."

LARLA is very much indebted to Anne Clark, the volunteer who schedules all presentations, coordinates all hand outs (approx. 10,000) and trains the 7/8 volunteers. We also thank Sharon Weston, the coordinator of the 5/6 program. **We are looking for volunteer speakers. Come and see!** Be a part of a positive and powerful message for young people. Please call Sharon 472-2038.



WESTERN FAIR REPORT - 2005

by Marian Obeda

Did you visit our booth at the Western Fair this year? There were many who did - people of all ages. The fetal models that we always have on display are a great attention getter. Children see them and bring their parents over to get a closer look. Parents see them and bring their children over to show them what they looked like at the various stages in "mommy's tummy". Grandparents come to see what their children looked like before they were born because unlike today's generation, there was no ultrasound to see the baby in the womb. The continuous-loop video of life in the womb was also a draw to many who saw how active the little ones are inside their moms. Many children come to get a pro-life balloon - with their parents' permission. The balloons were less work for our volunteers now that we have an electric pump. It's a joy to see young mothers looking at the fetal models and showing their family or friends "what my baby looks like now". A Precious Feet pin was given to each pregnant mom.

It saddens us, of course, when a mother or father refuses to allow their child a balloon because they don't agree with the pro-life message on it. Our hearts go out to those little ones and we pray for them and their parents.

We thank the 67 volunteers who manned our booth throughout the eight days of the Fair (some doing extra shifts) who were ready to welcome the many members of the public dropping by to have a look and perhaps pick up one or more of our many pamphlets.

We thank Theresa Fenik for donating the draw prize - a basket themed "A Spring Garden". Congratulations to this year's winner, Nicole Stevenson of Thamesford.

I have been coordinating this event for several years, and for a while as assistant coordinator. I have enjoyed doing this, getting acquainted with many of you, but I feel that it is time for me to step down from this task. I am more than willing to "show you the ropes". One person has stepped forward to volunteer to coordinate next year but we need at least one more. Someone who drives would be very helpful since there will be a couple of trips to the Western Fair office which is at a new location. To offer your services please call Margarida at 659-3334. To learn more of what is involved please call me at 473-2969.

THE TIME YOU HAVE SPENT

The time you have spent as a volunteer
Be it half a lifetime or just one year,
Will have its effect in such far reaching ways,
It can never be measured in hours or days.

But we want to say thank you for doing your part,
For giving your hand and giving your heart.
Thanks for the smiles when you wanted to weep,
For prayers and promises that you keep.

For running and phoning and meeting and waiting,
For baking and canning and sandwich-making.

But thanks more than ever for the years yet to come,
When someone remembers the job that you've done.
And memories brighten a person's face
In some other time and some other place.



The Physical and Psychological Impact of Abortion

Talk by Dr. D. Zeni at the National Conference.

Report by Elaine Arnsby

PHYSICAL IMPACT

HAEMORRHAGING: a key problem. 5% of abortions result in bleeding inside the uterus or outside. 2% of these must go back for further surgery - a very high percentage (hernia operations - 0.2% back to O.R.)

INFERTILITY: is often caused by the STD Chlamydia which causes scar tissue. Two cases of pelvic inflammatory disease in a women can result in increase of infertility by 50% due to so much scar tissue and low grade infection that may never clear. Infertility affects approx. 1000 Canadian women yearly. In young women 19 and under the risk factor goes up dramatically because the medication for Chlamydia is often not taken properly because of lack of encouragement and the adverse side effects of the medication.

SUB-FERTILITY PROBLEMS: means trouble keeping the pregnancy .

PELVIC PAIN: can be quite severe.

ECTOPIC PREGNANCY: means the fertilized egg does not proceed into the uterus from the fallopian tube often because of scar tissue resulting from infection (Chlamydia). The fetus cannot grow in the fallopian tubes because there is no room and no blood supply. Ectopic pregnancy results in bleeding internally. Caught very early the baby and fallopian tube may be saved but is very difficult to detect.

PREMATURE DELIVERY runs double the risk after an abortion. After a later term abortion (after 12 weeks) there is a 155% increased risk due to low grade infection (Chlamydia) which spreads into the amniotic waters and the membranes rupture early resulting in a premature birth. These babies are born extremely tiny (750 gr.) and there is a 25% rate of death and a 25% rate of handicap. 7% of those born handicapped have cerebral palsy. The premature baby often suffers from chronic lung problems and the fragile blood vessels in the brain of a premature baby can cause a stroke and cerebral palsy. Because of

the large number of previous abortions, cerebral palsy cases have increased in the general population. These babies are very difficult to care for and can place a great deal of stress on the family and, without proper support, can result in abuse of other family members.



ABORTION BREAST CANCER LINK

has been recognized in many studies. Young women 19 and under are at a two fold increased risk of cancer after abortion. Add to that smoking and a family history of cancer and the risk jumps to a 310% increase! (see last newsletter) or www.abortionbreastcancer.ca

PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT

Depression: shows itself in pain and anguish. There is a 5 times higher hospital admittance of women with depression after abortion. This does not take into account those who suffer with milder forms treated with counselling and prescription drugs - constant crying, sleepless nights, volatility. Those hospitalized are suicidal and this form of mental illness lasts a lifetime. Since abortion has been allowed, there has been a 6 fold increase in actual suicides - mostly young women not previously depressed but who lack support.

Abuse: Those who suffer from depression caused by abortion lose part of their sense of identity and can no longer say "I'm worthy" and often become victims of abuse, self-abuse, and alcohol and drug abuse.

Child abuse: Women who are victims often isolate themselves from family and friends due to depression. Relationships with children born before the abortion(s) often change and a lack bonding with subsequent children very often results in some form of child abuse. This results in angry, difficult children which results in more abuse and hospitalizations.

The men involved: very often men internalize their grief which can come out in anger at themselves and others and shows up in dangerous behaviours, alcohol and drug abuse, and homicides.

ABORTION IS NOT JUST A WOMEN'S ISSUE, ABORTION IS A KID'S ISSUE, A YOUNG PERSON'S ISSUE, A SOCIETAL ISSUE.



SILENT NO MORE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

"Women's voices have been locked in silence due to pain, shame, denial and fear of judgement. But the **Silent No More Awareness Campaign** is an effort to make the public aware of the devastation abortion brings to women, men, and their families. The emotional and physical pain of abortion will no longer be shrouded in secrecy and silence, but rather exposed and healed."

Three Main Goals:

- * Inform the public that abortion that abortion is harmful emotionally, physically, and spiritually to women and others.
- * Reach out to women and family members who are hurting from an abortion and let them know help is available.
- * Invite those who regret their abortion to join the campaign in speaking the truth about abortion's negative consequences.

For more information see: www.SilentNoMore.org

The Knights of Columbus Initiative

Peter Lierman, Grand Knight of Council 10561, St. Joseph - St. Pius X parishes called Phil Arnsby to ask if the Knights could sell licence plate frames to serve the pro-life cause. Peter and Phil were once colleagues at Fanshawe College. Phil enthusiastically supported the idea and arranged to speak to the Council.

Peter comments:

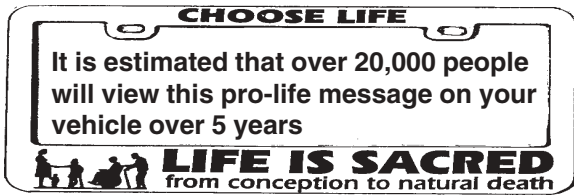
"Your talk was most informative. Many of us were astounded at the statistics that you presented that evening. In three subsequent weekends, I obtained all of the frames that were available, inserted three announcements in our parish bulletin to the effect that we would be selling the frames at three dollars apiece after mass the following two Sundays, acquired a few knights to assist me, and the rest is history. WE SOLD OUT!

I must tell you what a moving experience it was for me to help Right to Life as we did.

Hopefully, the message is now rolling throughout our city compliments of you, your association, our Knights of Columbus and the parishioners of our combined parishes. VIVAT JESUS!"



The London Area Right to Life thanks Peter, the Knights and all who supported this pro-life event.



PLEASE CONSIDER BECOMING A MOBILE MESSENGER OF LIFE

LIFE CHAIN - 2005

This year we experienced a new awareness of the need to stand up and be counted when it comes to pro-life issues. The Life Chain and the Morgentaler protest both brought out approximately 600 pro-life advocates. Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish had an amazing 86 out for Life Chain! We had to scramble to provide more signs for that group but what a wonderful problem to have. We thank Theresa Fenik for her work in helping to organize the Life Chain and the statistical information she provided to assist us in the planning for next year. Participants represented 43 churches. We were pleased that a number of youth groups witnessed for life this year. We are particularly indebted to:

All Saints Parish/Strathroy Right to Life (27)
 Blessed Sacrament/St. Patrick's, London (8)
 Cornerstone United Reformed Church (14)
 Covenant Orthodox Presbyterian (22)
 Faith Lutheran (7)
 Good News Christian Reformed (5)
 Mary Immaculate (25)
 New Horizons Baptist, Portugueses (13)
 Our Lady of Czestochowa (86)
 Sacred Heart, Delaware/St. Charles, Glencoe (25)
 Sacred Heart, Parkhill (39)

St. Andrew the Apostle (9)
 St. George's (16)
 St. John the Divine (24)
 St. Joseph/St. Pius X (31)
 St. Justin's (11)
 St. Martin of Tours/
 St. Martin's Spanish (12)
 St. Mary's (6)
 St. Patrick's, Lucan (25)
 St. Peter's Basilica (60)
 St. Peter's Seminary (12)
 West London Alliance (21)

We realize many were unable to join us this year and we ask for your continued prayer and support.

Possible Pro-life Club at Fanshawe College

Report by Nathan Welch

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am Nathan Welch and I am a Fanshawe student enrolled in my second year of Child and Youth Worker. This November I had the opportunity to attend my first Pro-life Conference thanks to the London Area Right to Life Association. While in Montreal, I heard many excellent speakers, one of my favourites was Dr. Deborah Zeni. Her slideshow presentation was full of great information on the biological and psychological side effects of abortion. Of particular note to me as a future CYW were the increased incidences of mental illness and child abuse after a mother has an abortion. Knowing that other children will be affected by a woman having an abortion has given me an opportunity to speak to my community of child and youth workers and professionals in our field.

At Fanshawe another student, Nathanael Moijj, and I have been collaborating to create a pro-life club. Nathanael and I are in the preliminary stages of having our group recognized by the



Fanshawe Student Union. While at the conference, I also had the opportunity to meet Paul who is the president of National Campus Life Network, who will be helping to support our fledging group. In the future, Nathanael and I hope to have an open debate on the subject of abortion. In the present, we are working to connect and organize other pro-life students at Fanshawe, and we are looking forward to working with London Area Right to Life. Thank you again for your support.



Listening

A heart warming story from a Birthright newsletter

A young man named Michael had been to a Bible study, where the priest had discussed the gifts of the Holy Spirit, especially discerning the voice of God. Michael didn't say much, but he wondered if God really did continue to speak to people in the 21st century.

Afterwards he went out with his friends for coffee and pie and they discussed the message. It was about ten o'clock when they left the café and Michael started for home. Sitting in his car, he prayed off the top of his head: "God, if you do still speak to people, will you speak to me? I promise I'll listen, Lord. Really."

As Michael drove, he found himself thinking he should stop and buy a gallon of milk, but he knew he had milk at home. Then he remembered his prayer, and said, "Lord? Could this be your idea?"

There was no answer, just the impelling desire to stop at the next convenience store and buy milk. "What the heck", he laughed as he pulled into the parking lot: God had asked the Jews to do much harder things than this - what if it was the voice of God? - He had said he would listen. As he continued toward home, the milk on the seat next to him, he passed Holland Avenue and felt the urge to turn right.

"This is crazy," he thought as he drove past the intersection. "God has bigger fish to fry at this time of night!" But the feeling wouldn't go away, and he decided it was easier to just turn the car around than worry about it. He was familiar with Holland Avenue, he'd had his first apartment in the area when he finished college a few years ago. It would be kind of nice to see the neighbourhood again he rationalized, while the other half of his brain laughed, "Yeah, right. At almost eleven o'clock at night?"

Driving along he noticed that things were much the same, it was the mix of student housing and working people he remembered. Suddenly he felt like he should pull over near the corner and stop, which he did, just to sit there wondering again - what in the Name of God was he doing?! As soon as the thought had crossed his mind, he knew... "I'm supposed to take this milk to that house with no porch light, right? Lord, excuse me if I sound rude, but this is really crazy! People get shot doing dumb things like this." He could see the story line "Man shot for trespassing...unarmed except for a gallon of milk!"

Michael tried to laugh at the situation and decided to bargain with God. "OK, this is what I'm willing to do. I'll go over and ring the doorbell, but only once, Lord...if there's no answer, I'm outta here...me and this gallon of milk!"

He walked over to the house and up the porch steps. The doorbell looked like it wouldn't work, but he heard it ring deep inside the darkened

house. Then, "Who is it? Who's there?" Before he could answer, a light came on inside and the door opened with a jerk. Michael found himself facing a guy about his own age, wearing a rumpled house coat and looking tired. There was no other way to do this but to do it. Michael thrust the milk into the man's arms and sputtered, "Do you need this by any chance?"

The man's face lit up and he almost laughed as he embraced the cold container and spoke in Spanish to a young woman who had come into the hall. She responded by handing him a wailing infant hurrying into the kitchen with the milk.

"Please, please, come in!" said the young father. Michael declined, murmuring about the lateness of the hour. So together they stood on the porch, the father trying to sooth the miserable baby. "How did you know to come? Who told you we need milk for the baby? This is a miracle! We had some big bills this month, then my pay was late and we ran out of money. We've had no milk for our baby for two days...my wife and I were praying together...begging God to help us...and the doorbell rang, and there you were! I tell you, this is a miracle!"

His wife came out with a bottle of warm, fresh milk, took the baby tenderly in her arms and settled into a porch rocker. For a moment they were silent, intent on watching the baby suckle hungrily, her small body relaxing as the pain subsided. The young mother looked at Michael for the first time and said softly, "I told God we needed an angel...and you came. We will never forget this night, we will never stop thanking God for sending someone who answered when God called."

Michael reached for his wallet and found a few bills which he pressed into the protesting father's hand. Then, he quickly left, unable to listen to them express gratitude he knew he'd done so little to deserve. He turned on the car and watched halos form around the street lights, tears stinging his eyes...a new joy bubbled in his chest rising to give glory and praise to a real and present God, who apparently still has a lot to say to anyone who will listen.




The Shepherd's Guide

Christian Business and Ministry Directory

- Your business and ministry resource for the Greater London Area
- Available at your church and all local Christian bookstores.

633-0123
 London@ShepherdsGuide.ca
1-888-276-5225



SERVING TO EDIFY AND STRENGTHEN THE BODY OF CHRIST IN SOUTH WESTERN ONTARIO



PRO CARPET

CLEANING SERVICE

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • APARTMENTS

- ✓ COMPLETE CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING
- ✓ DEEP STEAM EXTRACTION
- ✓ 3m SCOTCHGUARD AVAILABLE
- ✓ FULLY BONDED AND INSURED
- ✓ WE ALSO CLEAN AUTO INTERIORS

E. (MANNIE) MICALLEF

"WITH OVER 35 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE"
 WE'RE THE ONE TO CALL

453-5198



Michael and Pauline Flick

The Mustard Seed

Specializing in
 Catholic books & gifts
 Visa - M/C - Mail Order

502 Springbank Drive
(East of Wonderland Road)
London, Ontario
N6J 1G8

Ph. (519) 439-4423
 Fax: (519) 439-2487


ADOPTION ♥ **BOARDING** ♥ **GROOMING**



ANIMAL CARE CENTRE

Treat your pet to the **BEST**
 in Boarding and Grooming.

5592 Egremont Dr., 2 km E. of Poplar Hill
 (519) 666-1632
 email: gertie1@gtn.on.ca Website: www.petfinder.com



Knights of Columbus Councils

St. Patrick's Lucan Council #7754	Fr. Alphonsus Council #10630
Ecumenical 70 Council #6246	St. George's Council #10843
Marian 87 Council #9607	St. John the Divine Council #11053
London District Council #49	St. Michael Council #12820
Brother Andre Council #8339	St. Martin of Tours/Holy Rosary #12996
St. Pius X Council #10561	Colborne Street Council #1410

LONDON AREA RIGHT TO LIFE ASSOCIATION

1193 Oxford Street East, Unit 3, London, Ontario N5Y 3M2 Phone: (519) 659-3334 Fax: (519) 659-3345 Email: larla@execulink.com

OFFICE HOURS: 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. July/August 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

MEMBERSHIP \$10/Person per year _____ Cheque Enclosed
 \$25/Family/Group per year _____ Number of People _____

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- YOUR TALENTS Office Computer General Other
- I WILL HELP LARLA Office (mail-outs, reception, phone) ongoing
- As required (Circle) - Dinner/Silent Auction, Western Fair
- Prayer Life Chain, Mall Displays, Schools

DONATION _____ Cheque Enclosed

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY NAME: _____ PHONE: _____
 ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ POSTAL CODE: _____

A tax receipt is issued for all memberships and donations.