

Anglicans for Life Canada Newsletter,  
Advent 2016



### A Christmas Message – Now Is The Time!

“Now Mary, please understand we are very happy for you. Joseph is a wonderful man with good job prospects, and I am sure you will have plenty of children, for you are still very young. But Now Is Not The Time To Have A Baby! You are not even married, and having this child will cause Scandal for our family, and oh yes, you will be stoned too. How Could You Be So Selfish!! Besides, things in the world are so unsettled right now. Who knows what these Romans are up too? There are those who say they could even destroy our temple, though I am sure we can come to

some kind of Understanding. So once again, now is not a good time! Let's just quietly Get Rid of It, and don't worry. You will soon forget about All This!"

Probably such a conversation did not actually happen in Nazareth in 1 B.C. But such conversations do take place on a regular basis today whenever a woman, unmarried or married, young or older, becomes pregnant. The same initially Sensible Arguments are used. Personal circumstances are not right, it is all very inconvenient, and the world is such a cruel place. Sadly many a woman sighs wearily, weeps, and submits to the inevitable, only to be patted and told that everything will be all right.

Literally thank God, Mary did not submit, and –thank God – Joseph was a devout man, who stood by her, and he wasn't even the father! It took courage and faith – and of course it was The Right Time, the decisive moment in human history, 1 A.D. Jesus was duly born, and the rest is history, or rather the Christian Gospel. Once again we shall rejoice at His birth.

Let us, as life-affirming Christians, pray for and encourage the modern Marys and Josephs, pressured to end a supposedly unwanted pregnancy. The reasons are still there, Convenience, Reputation, a Scary World. And let us give support not only to pregnancy centres and counselling services but also to those faithful individuals, families, churches, and community groups who support those expecting a child. They will be there for the birth but also in the following years. In hindsight of course we say Jesus was a Wanted Child, but so also are those others in the womb who by virtue of Christ's Incarnation are also part of God's glorious plan. Throughout Advent let us remember those about to become parents and pray that they will not be deterred by the world's So called Sensible Arguments. Every child a Wanted Child – thanks be to God!

Blessed Advent and Christmas,

Rev. Mark C. McDermott, Chaplain

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## Anglicans for Life Canada at the ANiC Synod



Anglicans for Life Canada thanks ANiC Synod! Our AFLC Ambassadors enjoyed meeting Delegates and Guests . The issues of abortion and physician assisted suicide are difficult to discuss, and even more traumatic to experience. We at AFLC are here to assist you in equipping your congregations with resources on these and other life issues.

- Each delegate received information on The AFLC Project Life Program – biblical, practical 8 week program that explores The Culture of Death vs the Gospel; Abortion; Post Abortion; Adoption; Abstinence; Euthanasia; Stem Cell Research and assists you with practical ways to uphold the sanctity of human life. The leaders Guide is user friendly and has everything you need: DVD's for weekly topics- reflection and conversation guides; Each Participant Guide has easy to follow notes and suggestions.
- The Project Life Program is available for individuals or groups to purchase. Please contact AFLC National Director Vicky Hedelius [Canada@anglicansforlife.org](mailto:Canada@anglicansforlife.org) or 905 220 0292 for more information and to order these resources. Want to use this as a Lenten

Study? Note: Ash Wednesday is March 1, 2017.

- The Euthanasia Prevention Coalition [www.epcc.ca](http://www.epcc.ca) has many helpful resources on the subject of euthanasia and physician assisted suicide. Their latest is a DVD '**The Euthanasia Deception**' which explains the 'slippery slope' through the documented cases from Belgium. You may order on line [info@epcc.ca](mailto:info@epcc.ca) or call their office 1-877-439-3348 or 519-439-3348.

Their Compassionate Community Care 'hotline' 1- 855- 675-8749 is available to anyone who is in crisis or in immediate need of information 24/7.

- The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada has published an excellent resource: Euthanasia + Palliative Care: A Guide for Canadians . To obtain free copies contact 1-866-302-3362 or <http://www.evangelicalfellowship.ca/>

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### Anglicans for Life (US) Summit 2017



Mobilizing the Church for Life

Thursday, January 26, 2017

Falls Church, VA

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

\$25 for Registration - This includes lunch and Summit materials

Location: The Falls Church Anglican

6565 Arlington Boulevard

Falls Church, VA 22042

### **Time**

8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Check-in, Coffee

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Summit

### **Thursday, January 26, 2017**

Anglicans will gather together to strategize, motivate, and mobilize our Church for life-based outreach. The Summit will have great teaching, testimonies, and opportunities to network around both beginning and end-of-life issues. There will also be time for you and your team to meet and discuss how to mobilize your folks at home!

[Pre-March For Life Anglican Prayer & Worship Service](#)

Friday, January 27, 2017

The Falls Church Anglican

6565 Arlington Boulevard

Falls Church, VA 22042

9:00 a.m.

For more information go [here](#).

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## Mark your Calendar

Canadian March for Life May 11, 2017

Canadian Sanctity of Life Sunday: May 7, 2017 (The first Sunday in May)



Message from the National Director

Vicky Hedelius

**ANGLICANS FOR LIFE APPEAL! NEEDED  
NOW! COMPASSIONATE SHEPHERDS!**



Most of the year, Canadians don't think much about shepherds. Except—come Christmas—Shepherds become an integral part of the Nativity Story. You just can't 'pull off' the traditional Christmas pageant without them! So why are they so special? Well, they're not passive characters, as often portrayed today—simply filling in the background on a set. No! They're prime messengers and advocates! After what they experienced (a personal encounter with both God's angels and the Christ child), how could they simply leave the city—return back to daily life and stay silent?

**What about today? Is God calling Compassionate Shepherds to fulfil His mission?**

This Advent, all across the country, more and more Canadians are finding themselves in the wilderness of hopelessness to the point of considering embracing physician assisted suicide as a viable answer to their situation. But, God's message as shared by angels to the Shepherds, is one of hope! As Advent unfolds, and the church prepares to celebrate the birth of our Saviour, AFLC invites us all to learn from the shepherds! Why? Because there is a great need for Compassionate Shepherds today!

Now is not the time for Anglicans to be passive characters in the background of daily life!

### Want to do more?

- Prayerfully, consider, becoming a 'Compassionate Shepherd' to someone who longs for 'someone to care'.
- Order the resources available to you through AFLC.
- Encourage others to join you in participating in The Project Life Program and create an action plan.
- Donate to the ministry of AFLC. Help us - help others.
- Please make cheques out to Anglicans for Life Canada and mail to:  
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Burlington, Ontario L7P 4X4



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