



ZOE

FOR LIFE!

An Orthodox Christian Initiative

3352 Mayfield Road

Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118

440/893-9990

hotline number 877/436-LIFE (5433)

www.zoeforlifeonline.org

Volume 15, Issue 1/Spring 2015

Thank you for being my friend

One of the many blessings of working with ZOE for Life!, is His persistent urging us to do more. But self-questioning haunts us: How? Who? Where?

If women in distress could be given a window of time to consider the impact having an abortion would inevitably have, lives could be saved. But how? This has been the burning question for crisis pregnancy centers across the country for decades.

His answer has pierced our hearts, because this is what ZOE was created to do.

The Lord has presented us with a new model for saving the lives of His precious little ones. If we could broaden ZOE to include a women's center, the increase in the number of babies we saved would be astounding. Not a residential nor a long-term facility, it would be a center with an intimate atmosphere, like a friendly home, and would be devoted to addressing the needs of women on the brink of aborting. It would enable us to hold the hand of an abortion minded woman at that precise moment when she is feeling pressured to abort her baby, when she is feeling most isolated, desperate, and alone.

ZOE for Life! would be instrumental in answering her urgent questions, such as — Am I really pregnant? Is it really a baby? How far along am I? Is it important to know if I have a sexually transmitted disease?

A factual medical assessment given in a non judgmental,

supportive atmosphere, together with our unconditional love, will combine to create an oasis of peace for her.

We can offer her a place in time when she isn't harassed by the panic that has been building inside her. We can

give her the time to quietly consider her options, and how abortion would be a permanent end to the precious life she is carrying. The assessment would aid in confirming if there is a baby growing inside her.

This is not to put aside what ZOE for Life! is already doing. It is its fulfillment.

To create a women's center, we would need a steering committee comprised of dedicated people who believe that life is sacred, with talent in the health care, architectural, social media, financial and legal fields. Funding sources would need to be identified through grants, corporate gifts and matching funds. It will require an heroic investment of energy, talent and hard work to accomplish this. If you feel that you can offer your own expertise in any of these areas, if you have a passion to save lives, **WE NEED YOU NOW!**

We place the future of ZOE for Life! in His Hands and yours. Please call us at 440-893-9990, or e-mail us at zoeforlife@sbcglobal.net, and get ready to make a difference!

Thank you for being a friend to the unborn.

If God is with us, who can be against us?



St. George the Great Martyr Partners with ZOE for Life!

Church School mothers of this Romanian Orthodox Church in Canton, Ohio, lovingly shepherded by V. Rev. George Treff, initiated a project to aid our ministry for the entire month of December, 2014. They hosted a brunch offering scrumptious crepes made to order following the Divine Liturgy on one Sunday. On another, coffee hour was served once again accepting free will offerings to benefit ZOE for Life!

Proteasa Paula Treff introduced ZOE to Life! to her parish, encouraging each of them to actively support its life affirming



Mary Russo with her son, Brandon, and Daniela Archer with her son, Luke.

work. A free will offering of \$234.00 was presented to ZOE, the evidence of the open-hearted love of this dedicated parish.

Winter time is an especially challenging time for our clients at ZOE House. Many come to us by way of bus transportation. If they have no one to watch their child, they must bundle them up against these severe temperatures and bring them along.

We deeply appreciate the concern and compassion the parish of St. George the Great Martyr has shown to women in distress. God bless you all!

Akathist To Jesus Christ Held On Sanctity Of Life Sunday

On Sunday, January 25, St. Matthew's Antiochian Church in North Royalton, Ohio, once again graciously hosted an Akathist to Jesus Christ. Rev. Andrew Harmon of St. Matthew's, Rev. Alexander Garklavs of Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Church, and Rev. Remus Grama of St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Cathedral were present with many other lay faithful. We prayed for the lives lost, and those who have suffered from abortion: the little ones, their mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, grandparents, and our world. We were honored to listen Paul Finley, Executive Director of FOCUS North America's St. Herman's House of Hospitality, share his personal commitment to life. Thank you all for joining us. May God hear our prayers!



Greater Cleveland Council of Orthodox Clergy Meet at ZOE House

On Tuesday, September 9, 2014, it was our pleasure to host the Greater Cleveland Council of Orthodox Clergy at ZOE House for their September meeting. They conducted their business, and very kindly asked us for an update on the progress of ZOE for Life! and ZOE House. Afterwards, they were offered a traditional

Greek meal of pastitsio and salad, without omitting dessert. In closing their meeting, they offered a prayer of thanksgiving, and honored us all by chanting "God Grant Them Many Years" on our behalf! We were all so moved, and very grateful. Thank you, our beloved clergy, for all you do for ZOE House and ZOE for Life!

"I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life"

We confess this belief at every Divine Liturgy. We worship the Holy Spirit, one in Trine with God the Father and Jesus Christ, His Son, as foundational to our faith.

On Thursday, January 22, 2015, it is estimated that a quarter of a million people who consider life sacred, gathered to not only talk the talk, but walk the walk from the National Mall in Washington, DC to the Supreme Court in support of life.

The evening before the March there are often Vespers at local Washington churches. During the March there is a Panakhida for the Unborn performed along the way. Seminarians from Holy Cross, Christ the Savior, St. Tikhon's, and St. Vladimir's, (represented by the St. Ambrose Society) are invariably there, along with their families, hierarchs and clergy.

These assemblies of those who treasure the life only He can bestow have been gathering annually, since 1973.

The March always takes place on a weekday when government representatives can witness this strong support for His little souls. Please plan to join us next year on Friday, January 22, 2016.



ZOE House Executive Director, Kathy Kovalak, ZOE for Life! Vice President, Daria Petrykowski with His Beatitude Metropolitan TIKHON, Metropolitan of the Orthodox Church of America.

Greetings from ZOE for Life! - Livonia, Michigan

ZOE for Life! - Livonia, Michigan continues to gather momentum as we have secured all of the legal recognitions. We are happy to share with you that we have received our 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt status from the federal government, in addition to being recognized as a non-profit, tax-exempt charity in the state of Michigan. The acquiring of a bank account with actual finances has been quite an encouragement to us all.

These past few months we have been busy preparing to speak to local Orthodox parishes regarding the mission of ZOE for Life! We have also reached out to a few local pregnancy centers, and we hope to soon build warm and lasting relationships with them. Our group is excited to begin spreading the good works and goals of ZOE, and we are looking forward to sharing the Love of Christ to all the women and families we will be serving.

Thanks to all of you, our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, for your prayers on our behalf. Thank you for your generous donations, whether monetary or in-kind. We are so grateful for your love and support. Please continue to pray that our Lord will guide us in spreading the mission of ZOE. Any donations you are able to provide for us will be gladly accepted with joy.

May Our Lord Jesus Christ continue to bless you all!

With love in Christ,

ZOE for Life! - Livonia, Michigan
P.O. Box 258
Farmington, MI 48332-0258
Phone: 855-ZOE-LIFE/ 855-963-5433
Web - zoehousemi.org
E-mail - info@zoehousemi.org

Save the Date!

**Pure Living Retreat 2015 is
scheduled for October 24th.**

Mark your calendar!
Call 440-893-9990
for more info!

Detroit Choir Recital



Saturday, May 2, 2015 at 6:00. The spectacular voices of the Orthodox Choir of Metropolitan Detroit will perform at St. Mary Romanian Orthodox Cathedral in Cleveland, Ohio, to benefit ZOE for Life! The evening will honor motherhood, our own mothers, whether with us or on the other side of heaven, as well as the mothers served by ZOE for Life! A not-to-be-missed event!

Baby Shower



Left Photo: L to R, they are: Wendy Cheatham, Psa. Paula Treff and Daniela Archer.

Right Photo: V. Rev. George Treff with Psa. Paula Treff

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ZOE is a non-profit Christ-centered support organization with three major goals: to help women who need confidential emotional and spiritual support during crisis pregnancies; to assist Orthodox Christians seeking to adopt; and provide life affirming resources and an Orthodox Christian education program for Pure Living/Abstinence.

- Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to ZOE for Life! whenever you shop on AmazonSmile.
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In 2014 Our Angels Lifted Us to New Heights!

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Dorothy P. Laskovich

In 2014 Our Angels Lifted Us to New Heights! *cont ...*

Paul Laskovich
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The Nafpaktian Cultural Foundation
Nativity of Christ Greek Orthodox Church, Novato, CA
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Mary and Martha Chapter, Knoxville, TN
St. George Romanian Orthodox Church, Canton, OH
St. Helen's Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos, West
Babylon, NY
St. Helen Philoptochos Society, Westland, MI
St. Helen's Philoptochos Chapter #2034,
Merrillville IN
St. Irene Philoptochos, Chandler, NJ
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St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church,
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St. Mary's Ladies Auxiliary, Cleveland, OH
St. Mary's Philoptochos Chapter 2049
St. Matthew The Evangelist Orthodox Church,
North Royalton, OH
St. Michael's Antiochian Church, Louisville, KY
St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, Homewood, IL
St. Nicholas Philoptochos of Bethlehem, PA
St. Nicholas Philoptochos Society, Ann Arbor, MI
St. Philip Orthodox Church, Souderton, PA
St. Symeon Orthodox Church, Birmingham, AL
St. Timothy Church, Fairfield, CA
St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Church,
Ambridge, PA

Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox
Cathedral, Richmond, VA
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Julia Simko
Leon and Barbara Sheean
Christine Stavrou
Mrs. Katherine S. Strakes
Deacon John and Deaconess Helen Suhayda
Elizabeth Szymaniak
Jean Tannis
Dametra Tolis
Sally and Peter Tsirambridis
V. Rev. Fr. Alexander F.C. Webster and Matushka
Kathleen M. Webster
John Wienclaw
Olga Yogmour
Fr. Michael and Valere Zahirsky

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In 2014 Our Angels Lifted Us to New Heights! *cont ...*

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Anna and Alexander Krassovsky
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Orthodox Church, Maitland, FL
Ladies Philoptochos Society of Ambridge
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Nancy Lear
Dr. Violet E. Leathers
Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society of St. Luke
the Evangelist
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Roxanna and Peter Maragos
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Zoe and Bohdan Papara
Barbara and Nicholas Papas
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St. Luke Serbian Eastern Orthodox Church,
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St. Mary Fund, New York, NY
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St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, Plano, TX
St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church,
Poughkeepsie, NY
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OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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- To help women who need confidential emotional and spiritual support during crisis pregnancies;
- To assist Orthodox Christians seeking to adopt;
- To provide an Orthodox Christian education for Pure Living and other resources.



Friend us on Facebook

In 2014 Our Angels Lifted Us to New Heights! *cont ...*

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Good Health of Haddad and Sabbagh Families
St. John the Baptist Parish
Nick and Lucia
Fr. Nick and Pres. Sandra Kotsis
Noelle, granddaughter who was placed in an open adoption a year ago
Deacon John Pantelis
Our Parents
Father Basil Stoica
Anna Warren
ZOE House
ZOE's staff for their dedication to its mission

Helen and George T. Manos
Manuel and Lydia
Selma Miller
Mark Mosconas
Aphrodite (Frieda) N. Murton and
Hristos (Chris) J. Murton
My Mother and My Sibling
Helen Nestor
Helen Nicholaides
Petro, Maria, Hrynoris, Sofia, Maria and Gwen
Carole Polimenakis
All Deceased Presidents
Walter and Mary Rohan
Metropolitan Philip Salbh
Salim and Mamnome Mawak, Watfa, Issa and Jamileh, Richardt
Phillip Serene
Eugene Simko
Child of God, Oliver Tate, born at 18 weeks, Memory Eternal
Dr. Richard James Wert
Deacon John Zarras

In Memory of

All our deceased loved ones
All Holy Innocents aborted since 1973
All Ladies of St. Mary Romanian Orthodox Church fallen asleep
Stephen Acacius Borkon
Fanny "Faye" Bizoukas
Leo and Faye Bizoukas
Mary Brutka
Maggie Demas
Presvytera Kanela Eliades
John G. Janas
Eugene and Justin
George Kappos
Angie Lakios
Nicholas, Irene, Evanthia Lallas
Kuzma Leschak

For the Special Occasion of

Baptism of Adrian
Birth of Bulko Grandchild #9
Christ's Holy Resurrection!
Christmas
Health of Archpriest Basil
Nativity of Our Lord