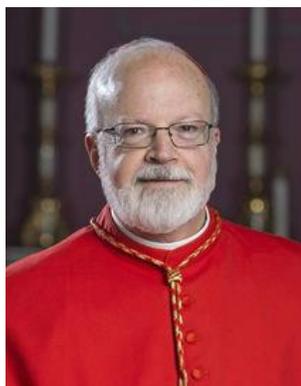


# PARISH 'LIFE' NEWS

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St. Gabriel Pro-Life Committee

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## March for Our Lives



The tragedy of Parkland has taken its place in a painful narrative of violence which has claimed the lives of the young and the old, students in school and families at a concert; people going about their daily lives as citizens, people who left home in the morning with the confident expectation of returning home safely after school or

work or an evening of entertainment. Into all these activities of daily life, time after time chaos and killing have erupted -- without warning, without purpose, without limits and without mercy...Regulating access to guns, defining what is a reasonable framework which recognizes the constitutional right but also recognizes that our public policy concerning firearms, as it currently stands, is failing our children, our schools and our public safety, is the motivation and the focus of the Marches today in Washington, Boston and throughout the United States... We are rightfully horrified by the attacks that prompt the public gatherings today, but we should not be without hope. The extraordinary role of the students from Parkland in focusing the country on this critical social problem should be a sign of hope for all of us. The manner by which the students have presented their case has already impacted the tone of the debate about guns and violence. They have helped us to realize that these tragedies victimize people from all walks of life, from every class and ethnicity. We owe these students and those who will join them today our support and our gratitude. Please pray for those who have died from gun violence, their families and loved ones, the men and women of public safety who seek to protect our communities every day, and please pray for our country—excerpted from remarks delivered by Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley at the start of the Mass for Peace, Justice and Healing at St. Anthony Shrine, Boston, March 24. [The Pilot](#), 3/25/18

## Gun Violence vs. Abortion

According to recent research, there are approximately 15,000 deaths a year from gun-related violence in the U.S. Gun-related deaths from all sources (i.e., including not only violent acts, but also accidental discharge, suicides, etc.), total 38,000. The CDC reports that there are 2,712,630 deaths annually in the U.S. Thus, gun-related deaths from all sources account for roughly 1.5 percent of all U.S. deaths. The deaths of babies in the womb are not counted in CDC statistics. While not exactly known, the widely accepted estimate of annual medical and surgical abortions in the U.S. is 920,000. Each of these abortions kills an innocent human being. If that number is added to the known annual death toll, there are about 3,632,630 deaths from all causes in the U.S., and abortion accounts for 25% of them. [ALLNews](#), 3/9/18

## Catholic Charities Battles to Serve Children and Adoptive Parents

Emilie Kao, Director of the Richard and Helen DeVos Center for Religion & Civil Society at the Heritage Foundation, has seen an intensifying wave of legal challenges to Catholic adoption agencies since the mid-2000s. In 2006, Catholic Charities in [Boston](#) and [San Francisco](#) shut down their adoption services because they would be forced under the law to violate their religious principles and place children with adoption-minded same-sex couples. Catholic Charities in Washington, D.C., also [closed its foster care and adoption services](#) for the same reason following a law redefining marriage to include same sex couples. In 2011, Catholic Charities in Illinois [also shut down its adoption services](#), displacing more than 2,000 children after the state announced it would only provide financial support to adoption services that also serve same-sex couples. Closing an adoption agency has direct consequences for already traumatized children. The [Child Welfare Provider Inclusion Act](#) sponsored by Rep. Mike Kelly, R-Pa., which the USCCB supports, is federal legislation designed to protect faith-based agencies' ability to operate according to their own beliefs. "This bill would give us a landscape that promotes our freedom to serve others in a way that we don't have to leave our convictions at the door," Archbishop Kurtz, USCCB President said. [NCR](#), 3/15/18



## PROJECT MUSTARD SEED

The letter recipient for this month is:

### TORONTO-DOMINION.

Operations: **financial** (banking: TD Bank, credit cards: MBNA, investing/planning: TD Ameritrade, loans), **insurance**.

Please write to:

Mr. Bharat B. Masrani, President & CEO  
TD Bank Group  
Toronto-Dominion Centre  
55 King St. W.  
Toronto, ON M5K 1A2

Tell him to  
stop funding  
Planned  
Parenthood

www.td.com

Please note that this recipient is in Canada, making postage for a first class letter \$1.15.

### Adoptive Parents

1. The number of adoptive parents in the U.S. is declining. From 2002 to 2013, rates for men and women 18-44 who had ever adopted dropped by half.
2. More than 415,000 children were in foster care in 2014, with nearly 108,000 waiting for adoption. A foster-care child waiting for adoption is on average 7.7 years old, while the average age of foster-care children adopted was 6.2 years old.
3. A child in foster care spends nearly three years (32.3 months) waiting for adoption. More than half (55%) of these children had been placed with three or more different foster families until they were adopted.

Source: [5 Facts about Adoption in America](#)—The Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention

### Motherhood Makes Olympian Brave

Described as “insanely talented,” Miki Ando had her own Olympic moments in Turin in 2006 and Vancouver in 2010. She was known for being the first—and only—



woman to successfully land a quadruple jump in competition. In late 2012, an unexpected change came in her life when she realized she was pregnant. When Miki discovered her daughter’s presence, she was five months pregnant. Japanese news sites report that abortion was a consideration, but Miki could not bring herself to take her daughter’s life, not for figure skating and not for her reputation. Once her

pregnancy was known, she was reprimanded by the public and derided as a bad example. Miki says, “Honestly, 98% of the people said it was so bad.” However, Miki’s strength was not limited to her quadruple jumps. It extended to her mother’s heart, and she stood firmly in her tiny daughter’s corner. “I have chosen the baby’s life over skating. It was a decision I made naturally as a woman.” She named her daughter Himawari, which means “sunflower.” Miki retired from competitive skating prior to the 2014 Olympics. She has come into her own as a successful media figure, a coach, and a professional figure skater. She credits Javier Fernandez, who won a 2018 Olympic bronze medal, for giving her the strength she needed to make healthy life choices after the birth of her daughter. She said he deserves a medal for exemplary fatherhood, as he has embraced her daughter with love.

[PCUC Newsletter](#), March – April 2018

### Consider These Reasons to Rejoice

1. Pregnancy centers outnumber abortion mills seven to one [5,250 / 704 per Operation Rescue].
2. Two companies that sold baby body parts for Planned Parenthood were forced to close.
3. Both the CDC & Guttmacher Institute report that abortions are at an all-time low.
4. There are 51 public audits of Planned Parenthood for fraud & overbilling.
5. In 2017, 49 abortion mills closed.
6. Abortion mills are fewest since Roe v. Wade! [2,176 in 1991 / 704 now].
7. The FBI and DOJ are investigating Planned Parenthood.
8. Most new doctors will not do abortions.
9. Pro-lifers dominate the social media.
10. Abortion mill staff are quitting.
11. Most millennials are pro-life

The good news is that we are winning.

The bad news is that the battle is far from over.

We must trust in God.

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