

# PRO-LIFE NEWS

## For Love and Life

Bill Gedgard honors his beloved wife by sponsoring this year's DC bus



*"The promise of America is not just for the privileged, the planned and the perfect."*

Henry Hyde

Mary Jane Gedgard was a stalwart pro-lifer. She and husband, Bill, were regular attendees and supporters of the NJ Right to Life annual banquet in North Jersey, despite her deteriorating health.

Mary Jane passed away in 2015. In memory of Mary Jane's passionate commitment to the right to life, Bill has generously

underwritten the cost of the Mater Ecclesiae bus that will travel to the 44th annual March for Life on **January 27** this year.

The Mater Ecclesiae DC pilgrimage will be missing two other ardent pro-life parishioners: Dick Werkley and Frank Rooney. Both died suddenly last month. So this year, we march in the honor of these three valiant defenders of life.



*Mary Jane Gedgard (2nd from left), with her husband, Bill, together with Mr. & Mrs. Steve Lonagan -- at the 2009 NJ Right to Life Banquet.*

### Upcoming Events

**Thursday, March 30**

**OPTIONS Annual Banquet**  
Featuring comedian Brad Shine

***Save the Date!***

# Mater Ecclesiae Pro-Life Giving Tree Christmas - 2016

Number of Families Helped: 24  
Number of Gifts Donated: 68  
Outpouring of Love: PRICELESS!



*Pro-Life Apostolate  
members organize  
Giving Tree gifts for  
distribution.*

Thank you!



## March for Life

January 27, 2017

7 AM Mass 8 AM Departure

Bus, Breakfast, Bag Lunch, Dinner

All Inclusive -- No Cost

Sign up for the Mater Ecclesiae  
bus in the Padre Pio  
Book Store.

LAST CALL. Seats are limited.



## 6 Reasons You Should Attend (at least one) March for Life

*Excerpts from an article by Natalie Brumfield, Bound4Life*

Every January, I usually see the same faces coming to the Marches for Life happening across our country. I long to see more people I don't know participate...There may be a myriad of reasons why not everyone comes.

You may think you don't want to attend because that isn't your thing—you are involved in other ministries and the pro-life stand is great, but not your battle...

But *what if?* What if you came just to see what it was like to attend? What if you came just to see what the people were like? Here are [6] reasons I think everyone should experience the March for Life.

- **Come and see for yourself.** There are rumors and so much confusion that media and culture put on the pro-life movement. The best way to know about something is to experience it.

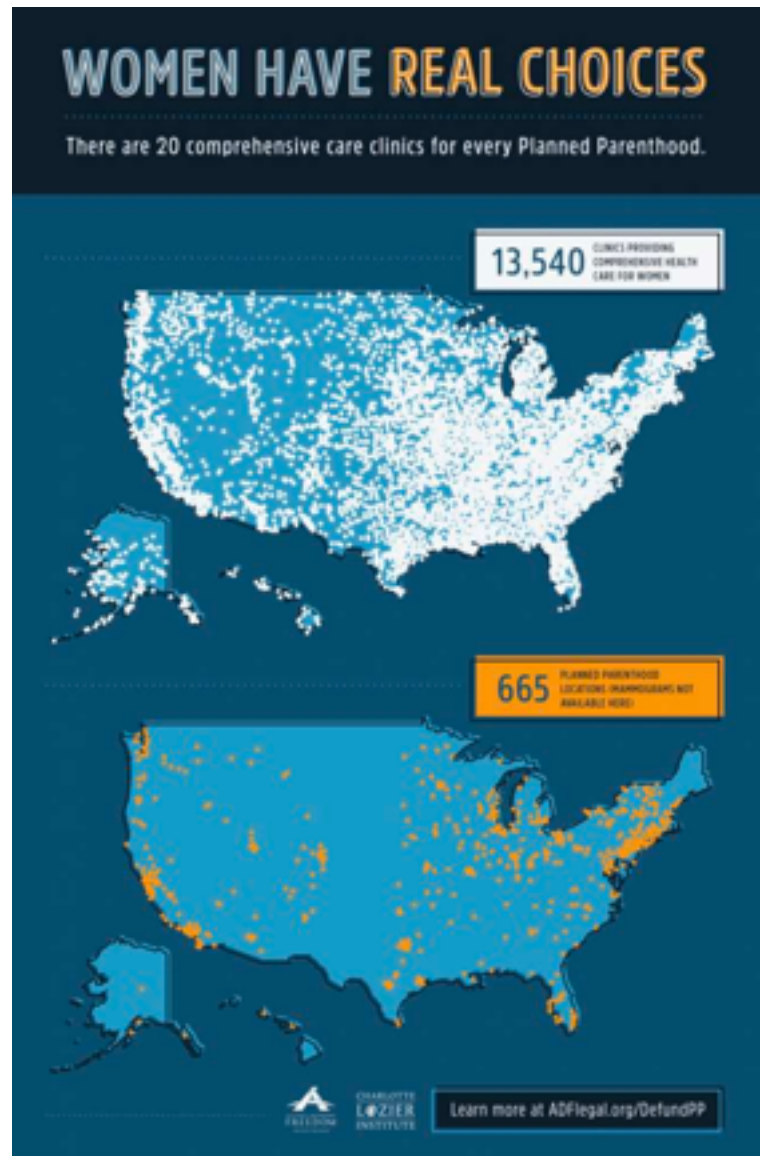
You should come once and for all, seeing for yourself what it's like to be at a pro-life gathering. Come and meet the people and ask them why they are there. Their stories and their hearts just might warm yours.

- **Open your eyes.** Most people agree about animal rights or laws that ensure basic land conservation and protection. But somehow, not everyone agrees about the rights of the baby in the womb.

If you haven't heard in person why a pro-life advocate believes the right to be born is the most sacred right of all, then you should. Open your eyes to seeing this perspective for the very first time. Speakers at pro-life gatherings and marches explain in their own personal stories why every human life—before or after birth—is irreplaceable.

## 6 Reasons (continued from Page 3)

- **Speak up for those who can't speak for themselves.** You have a life and you have a voice. But there are those who cannot be heard yet. We carry authority to speak up for the ones who can't speak.
- **Learn something new.** I've been praying for Life since I was 7 years old. I've been to countless gatherings, marches and conferences in my life. But after each one, I come away learning something new, something fresh that inspires me.
- **Learn to pray.** In my experience, I've learned how to really let go of distractions, let go of the world around me and talk to Jesus with the most humility when I am praying for life. When life and death are on the line, and God says you have a say so in it—you learn to get on your knees and pray with everything in your body.
- **Be a difference maker.** You can make a difference for good every single day if you want to... So I ask you, what more of a difference can you make than saving a life? Today, 125,000 babies worldwide will *die in an abortion*. Come to a pro-life march and learn how you can be a part of making that number smaller.



Planned Parenthood  
 doesn't need  
 taxpayer funding.  
 Women don't need  
 Planned Parenthood.