



Mission Report

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- * **Each day, you help rescue lives like baby "Happiness" in Tanzania**
- * **Priests and seminarians learn how to defend our Faith against growing Protestantism in El Salvador**
- * **This month's gift to donors: *Three Kinds of Love* by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen**

Left: George Wirnkar, HLI Director of French-Speaking Africa, sends his thanks to HLI donors for making possible the pro-life and pro-family training in Ivory Coast.

Dear Pro-Life Friend in Christ,

In the words of Pope Francis' recent Wednesday Audience, "Wherever the Lord has planted you, stand firm in hope; never lose heart." Certainly, that is our mission, spreading the Gospel of Life, as we wage the battle for Faith, Life and Family across the globe. In this October issue, you will learn how a beautiful baby named Happiness was rescued from abortion in Tanzania. All were urging her mother, Neema, to abort but because of your prayers and support of our mission, she was able to turn to HLI instead.

HLI also conducted a mission in El Salvador, where half the population has turned away from Catholicism and joined various Protestant sects. Our team helped train seminarians and priests in the area of Apologetics; providing tools to win back converts and defend the Truth. At the same time, our HLI Delegate for International Missions preached on *Evangelium Vitae*, to help attendees recognize the signs of the Culture of Death.

And finally, on the Cote d'Ivoire in Africa (the Ivory Coast), where the Faith is alive, the birth rate is high, and youth comprise 60% of the population, our HLI Director of Francophone Africa met with young, vibrant pro-lifers. The pro-life movement is growing and HLI helped solidify the leaders in their roles as stronger, Catholic, pro-life forces in Cote d'Ivoire.

Having just celebrated the feast day of St. Padre Pio, whose famous maxim is, "Pray, hope and don't worry," we ask his intercession on behalf of our global, pro-life network and those we serve. Thank for your continued support, which makes this mission possible.

Yours in Christ and Our Lady,

Fr. Shenan J. Boquet

President, Human Life International



Fr. Shenan J. Boquet
President

MISSIONARY TRIP TO EL SALVADOR

By Raymond de Souza, HLI Delegate for International Missions, July 2017

Our Human Life International mission to El Salvador was composed of two distinct segments, namely, a three-day conference for priests and seminarians, held in a retreat house in the small town of Zaragoza, near the capital of San Salvador; and a two-day conference for the laity, held at the Mary Help of Christians girls' school.

The Church is divided into the two segments, which creates immense problems for the work of evangelization. A comparatively small number of priests and seminarians attended the first segment, about 45-50 of them. The main reason for such low attendance was political, with organizers holding two different positions: most clergy of the Archdiocese of San Salvador are of the political "left," and these did not show up. The "left" is guided by some Church leaders and clergy supporting "liberation theology." They are pro-socialist and anti-capitalist. The "right" is not as articulated as the "left," and counts on the support of the United States. The country's currency is the American dollar, and the American embassy in San Salvador is the second largest in the world, which is surprising for such a small country.

Reportedly, about 50% of the people are already "evangelicals," comprised of many sects. The impression given was that seminarian formation is considerably poor in content to enable priests to combat the protestantization of the nation. Luckily, both conference organizers



saw to it that the HLI team was invited to witness to the Faith in giving interviews on television and radio, and to newspapers. During the first conference, I participated in two one-hour interviews on channel 33 of El Salvador with HLI Latin American Regional Director Mario Rojas, and HLI Advisors Nancy Tosi and Luis Martinez. I also spoke on two one-hour radio programs with



Thanks to your sacrificial gifts, the laity in El Salvador have the Gospel of Life preached to them.



HLI's Raymond de Souza trains the clergy of El Salvador, preparing them for the challenges they face in the battle for Life and the Family.

Fr. Ronald LaBarrera, diocesan priest with a doctorate in bioethics from the Catholic University in Trujillo, Peru. During the second conference for the laity, reporters of various newspapers came to interview the speakers. I gave two interviews to them, as well.

To my pleasant surprise, the El Salvador mission was the first time in which the conference organizers asked me to address them specifically with the issue of the sects, providing arguments on how to defend the Catholic Faith. I gave three talks to both groups, namely, “The De-Christianization of the Western World and the Gospel of Life,” “Sects,” and “God’s Mercy and the Sacraments.”

The talk on de-Christianization is one of my classic presentations for HLI, which I have already given in various countries over the years. It consists of a summary of the three stages of the Culture of Death, as presented by Pope John Paul II’s encyclical letter *Evangelium Vitae*. He cites them as contraception, abortion and euthanasia, and I always add so-called ‘homosexual marriage’ as the fourth stage of the Culture of Death, in its efforts to destroy the Family.

The presentation on the sects basically contains an explanation – and refutation – of the two main heresies of Protestantism, namely, *Sola Scriptura* (the Bible alone is enough, without the Church) and *Sola Fide* (faith is

enough to justify heaven, without good works). These two heresies explain the irrationality and amorality of original Protestantism. On request, I also added arguments to defend some basic Church teaching and practices, such as: statues, priestly celibacy, the Eucharist, confession, etc.

The latter talk was particularly well received by both the priests and seminarians, who acknowledged they had received no training whatsoever on Apologetics, to enable them to teach people how to defend the Faith, and prevent their falling captive to the allurements of the sects.

The final presentation, on mercy and the sacraments, was specifically requested by the clergy and covered the Church’s teaching on the requirements for receiving Holy Communion.

The El Salvador mission was very worthwhile to the HLI team in perceiving how the struggle for “Life, Faith and Family” is being waged on a larger scale in the Catholic world. ***We – with your help - need to give even more to defend the Catholic Faith, to train people to defend the Right to Life and the institution of the Family.*** In addition, El Salvador is also battling crime, corruption and failed economic policies - all challenges to the Faith in differing ways. Please join HLI in praying for the reform of the Church in El Salvador.

MISSIONARY TRIP TO CÔTE D'IVOIRE (IVORY COAST)

By George Wirnkar, HLI Director of French-Speaking Africa, September 2017

Oyofo, our local HLI Affiliate, was hosting three days of training in September for leaders of several frontline pro-life groups witnessing in various areas of Cote d'Ivoire.

Having booked a 7:00am flight out of Douala, Cameroon, my home base, I had to kick off early to beat the morning rush hour and make it to the airport by 5:00am. The grueling thunderstorm outside, and heavy downpour that came with it, made leaving particularly difficult. Before our flight took off, a flight attendant introduced himself to me as a member of a pro-life group in Cote d'Ivoire. He regretted he could not attend as many pro-life events as he did in the past because of his job, and wished me every success for this mission. His generous offer of a full business class breakfast in the economy cabin was a most welcome gesture! When I landed in Abidjan fed and refreshed, I started off immediately in a strategic planning meeting with the head of our Affiliate in Cote d'Ivoire, Armel Angogji.

THE FAITH STILL THRIVES

Cote d'Ivoire is a country of vibrant faith, teeming with seminaries and houses of religious formation. One good indicator of how faithful her seminaries still are, is the number of seminarians from other countries, sent by their bishops to be trained in them.



Leaders from four pro-life and pro-family groups receive a training weekend sponsored by Human Life International, and provided for by generous benefactors like you.



Life indicators are still quite strong. As a result, Cote d'Ivoire's high fertility rate of 3.5 is heavily targeted by population control organizations who spend millions of western taxpayer dollars popularizing birth control. Their particular focus is the same age group as ours, 0-25 years, which constitutes 60% of the population. Working with the young in determining programs and activities, and training her leaders as we did, is a key strategy in meeting expectations of families and the Church at whose service we place ourselves. The support of the hierarchy in Cote d'Ivoire for our work is exemplary.

A WEEKEND BATTLING FOR LIFE

For three days we reviewed and refined strategy, discussed ideas, educated and informed ourselves on some recent happenings in the battle for life. We also solidified the leaders of the groups we trained in their roles, now as members of a bigger, stronger group of Catholic pro-life forces in Cote d'Ivoire.

The first of the groups we trained is Campus Provie. These college pro-lifers are organized and managed by

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If you are 70½ years old or older, you can make a tax-free gift from your individual retirement account (IRA) directly to our organization. This law no longer has an expiration date, so you are free to make annual gifts to qualified charitable organizations from your IRA this year and well into the future.

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If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Stan Kuta at 540-622-5272 or email Stan at skuta@hli.org.



past and present college students, active in four major universities. These students used to be the consumers of the “pro-choice” rot, but are now able to ask questions and expose the damage that the Culture of Death causes future husbands, wives and families. Campus Provie’s President, Kouakou Hyacint, assured us: “In the university milieu in Cote d’Ivoire, many students think that because something is new, easy and trendy, it must be good. We are educating ourselves on the morality of the lifestyles bombarding us in the university milieu and are making sure as many as possible are informed about its dangers.”

Youpougon, the second group we trained, is comprised of pro-lifers from St. Elizabeth Parish. Father Theodore Sam, a seminarian trained by HLI, serves as pastor. In doing so, he bears out the claim that as we train our seminarians and clergy, they in turn play an immeasurable role in building of the Culture of Life in the pastoral settings where they work. Having just been ordained a year ago, he took his training seriously and started Youpougon. Today, its example is beginning to encourage other parishes in the Diocese of Youpougon, Cote d’Ivoire to start similar initiatives. Leader, Mrs.



Pro-life Campus Outreach President, Kouakou Hyacinth, explains that pro-life training has helped many students see through "pro-choice" propaganda. Thanks be to God, HLI has been able to provide this training due to generous donor support.

Latro Agnes, told me, “Before Fr. Sam came to our parish, we knew generally abortion was wrong. Today we realize God’s plan for Life and Family is so much broader and we are trying to know and live this better, as parents, children and young adults.”

The third group it was our blessing to have with us was Kibii, which means in the local dialect, “Let me live.” Although their core mission is to defend life from birth to death, they were pleasantly surprised to discover a new angle of authentic pro-life witnessing. President Antoinette Meledje noted, **“For many whom we serve, the thinking was that abortion is reduced by contraception. This training was a big eye-opener to the connection that exists between abortion and contraception. This is knowledge we must share.”**

THE ROAD AHEAD

Indeed, the challenges ahead are huge: the young seem to be falling prey to the glitz of the “reproductive health” propaganda, leaving marriage and family with a bleak outlook. But nothing is more reassuring than exposing these lies, which HLI does with your help and prayers. Then these potential victims turn on their assailants to expose and resist their snares. Our work is impacting Africa and her clergy, youth and laity are leading the movement to win back their continent. **What made this gathering even more special was that our HLI Affiliate, Oyoyo, has grown in resolve and numbers.** Oyoyo President, Armel Angogji, noted with satisfaction at the end of our training: “As we see how much we can achieve together, the more we see the need to work with strong and faithful groups, large and small, to build a Culture of Life in our nation.”

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HLI’s CFC number is
10253



In our efforts for Life and Family around the world, we are often reminded that one of our challenges is we might never live to see the fruits of our efforts. This is not said to dampen the fervor of those on the frontlines. It is rather a word of caution to some who might be tempted to think the battle will soon be over and we can then kick back, celebrate Life and count the casualties in the camp of the Culture of Death. Yet, although we may not live to experience the full harvest for our labors, seeing the seeds germinate and flower are greatly encouraging. Please pray for HLI and our efforts around the world, including the Cote d’Ivoire.

Invite Father Boquet
or another HLI expert
to speak at your parish!

Call 540-635-7884 or
email us at hli@hli.org
for details.



Host a weekend mission on how to rebuild
a Culture of Life, featuring an HLI speaker!

The Ultimate Gift - HLI and the Birth of “Happiness”

Tanzanian teen, Neema Kavishe (19), a resident of Arusha, was devastated when she learned she was pregnant and the father had abdicated all parental responsibility.

She had been desperately in need of school funds to continue her secondary education, but her poor parents were not able to help. Then in June, 2016, Neema was approached by Shomari Mussa, a middle-aged neighbor, on her way to school. She knew him well and thought him a good person. Playing the benefactor, Shomari promised to pay Neema’s school fees for a full year but Shomari had only one intention: sexual relations with poor Neema.

When she revealed her pregnancy to her parents, they were bitter and angry, blaming her for being irresponsible. The baby’s father, Shomari, had



HLI's Regional Director for Anglophone Africa, Emil Hagamu, counseled Neema and said he would even adopt her child as his own to save the baby's life.



Neema Kavishe, with her newborn baby, named "Happiness." Pressured to have an abortion, she resisted. Thanks be to God, she listened to an HLI radio program our donors made possible, and reached out for assistance. Isn't her daughter beautiful?

long since disappeared. Neema could not attend school pregnant, so they told her to undergo an abortion. At the same time, she was mocked by peers for not using contraception, and she couldn’t bear to look into the eyes of her neighbors. She was traumatized.

Neema contemplated whether or not she should undergo an abortion. At first, she thought to seek advice of friends. These were in favor of abortion. They gave her many reasons: she is poor and would be unable to raise the child; she is still in school and keeping the pregnancy would mean abandoning her future educational accomplishments; and finally, they maintained

she would be unable to raise the baby without a father. Neema was leaning towards abortion.

But, thanks to God, Neema was a regular listener to Human Life International's (HLI) Radio Maria weekly pro-life talk-shows. Amid her torment, God touched her heart. September 13, 2016, she heard Radio Maria discuss the evils of abortion. What moved her most was when she heard that in abortion, “a mother kills her own child who is created in the image of God.” Brought up in the Catholic Faith, she was greatly torn. The day after the program aired, Emil Hagamu, HLI’s Anglophone Africa Regional Director, received a phone call from Neema. She unburdened herself and confided her whole story.

Immediately on hearing her sad voice, Emil said, *“I began counseling and assured her of God’s love of her and her unborn child. I told*

her how precious it was for her to have new life in her womb.” As the session continued, Neema became more at peace and self-assured with her pregnancy. Emil spoke to her with compassion. After all, she had lost love from her parents, peers and neighbors. The question which plagued her was, “How will I bring up the child alone when I am very poor and my parents do not want the child?” Emil’s answer gave her hope, “I will adopt the child after she is born.” He gave her some pocket money for her upkeep. Over time and after future advising sessions, Emil was able to talk to her parents over the phone, asking them to forgive their daughter. Neema and her parents were reconciled.

Neema gave birth to a baby girl on April 21, 2017. This was a day of great joy. She named her Happiness. The child’s birth opened up doors to more opportunities and graces. Neema asked if Emil still kept his promise of adopting the child, to which Emil answered an emphatic,

“Yes!” Just few days after Emil’s “Yes” to adopting the child, he received a phone call from a Catholic woman, Honorata Njiu, staying in Zanzibar. She had attempted the religious life but had left. “She asked if I could help her to get a baby girl for adoption. I nearly jumped in ecstasy, but before giving her the good news of Neema’s newborn baby girl, asked why she wanted to adopt a baby when she could have her own. Honorata said she was married to Jesus from the day she joined the religious life and she would remain so the whole of her life.”

There are three procedures to be followed to complete the adoption, which could take up to a year. First Neema and Honorata meet to get to know each other, then they establish conditions for the adoption, and thirdly, complete the adoption legal paperwork. Emil Hagamu said, in speaking about the situation, “I am thankful to God that HLI has helped save a life.”

DONATE \$53 OR MORE TO HLI THIS MONTH AND RECEIVE A FREE GIFT!

P.S.—This month, **when you donate \$53 or more to support HLI’s life-saving mission**, we would like to send you an audio CD of the talk *Three Kinds of Love*, by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen.

In this talk, designed for young and mature people alike, Archbishop Sheen discusses the word “love,” which is not as simple as many think. There is only one word meaning “love” in English, but there are THREE in Greek: Eros, Philia, and Agape.

Archbishop Sheen expands on these three kinds of love and their different meanings. Eros – affectionate love, Philia – love for others made in the image and likeness of God, and Agape – sacrificial, divine love, the love of God for man. We only get glimpses of perfect love here on earth. Archbishop Sheen remarks that, “All we ever get are fractions, sparks falling from the great hearth of love, which is God.”

Please send your donation of \$53 or more to HLI today, and we’ll rush this gift out to you!



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