



# Mission Report

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A PUBLICATION OF HUMAN LIFE INTERNATIONAL



- \* Introducing our **First Video Training** in the English Language!
- \* **YOU spread the Truth and change lives** with your gifts, even during a pandemic lockdown.
- \* Revealing Pope St. John Paul II's 5 step Process for Cultural Transformation
- \* This Month's Gift to Donors: *Love, Marriage, and the Catholic Conscience - Understanding the Church's Teachings on Birth Control* by Dietrich von Hildebrand

The first video in our pro-life training series is now available online! Your support is what makes this, and all our other endeavours, possible. Thank you.

Dear <<name>>,

Your prayers and support have carried us through a time of trial toward a positive reimagination of our global ministry. Every challenge God sends is a gift intended to transform us according to His design, and COVID-19 is no exception. **With your unfailing help we responded to the limitations placed on our person-to-person missions by sending the Gospel of Life through the radio airwaves, television networks, and online portals in extraordinary ways.**

While this cannot replace our in-person work, it is much more than a band-aid solution for a temporary problem. Along the way, opportunities to broadcast our message to audiences of unprecedented size have appeared left and right. **We are reaching people, sometimes thousands, sometimes millions, that we could not have reached through our regular channels.** Only God's providence can account for these successes. Moving forward, we will incorporate remote evangelization as an important component of our missionary activities, even after in-person missions are once again possible.

This brings me to the subject of this month's Mission Report. In previous months, I described to you the remote evangelization that is taking place throughout our mission field, conducted by our determined and creative international missionaries and educators. Their efforts are heroic, and the impact is palpable. You may also remember that I shared with you our plans to create high-quality video recordings of our entire training series for online

**Watch the first installment of our video training series at  
[hli.org/training](http://hli.org/training)**

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## **“The New Evangelization and the Culture of Life” unlocks the spirituality and the strategy that makes advocates for life effective, and we are excited to share it with you.**

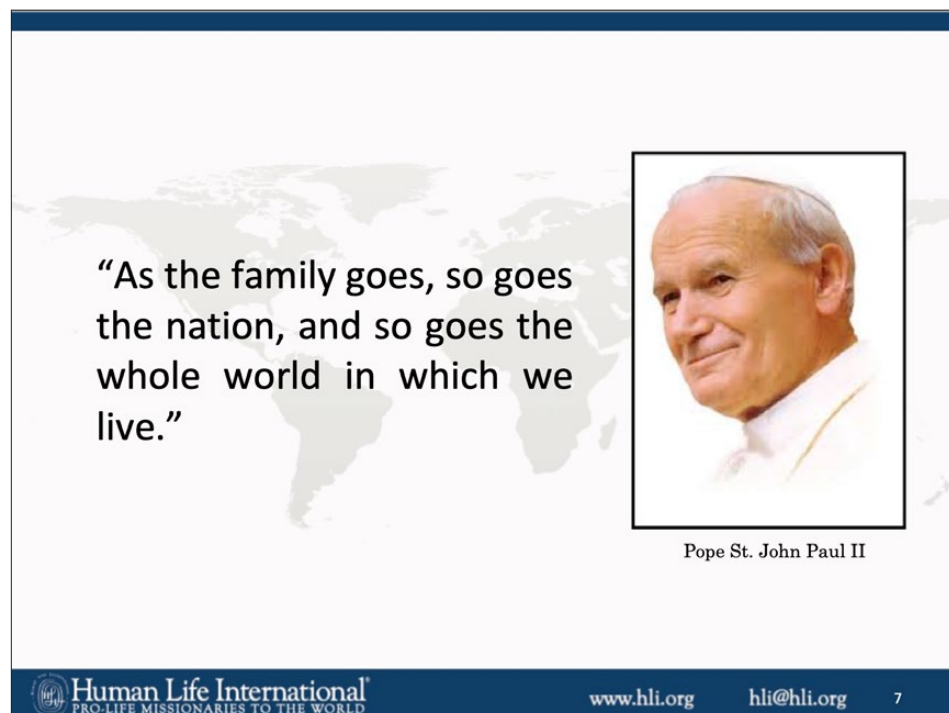
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viewers. Thanks to COVID-19, I have spent enough consecutive time in our home-office to get it rolling. **I am pleased to report that the initial stages of this project are complete, and the first video installment is live and available for viewing.** It is entitled, “The New Evangelization and the Culture of Life.”

In this video, I present the teaching that is the foundational introduction to the entirety of pro-life thinking (with the help of some of my favorite saints, popes, and theologians). This is the first talk that we present at every training session in the mission field, because it knits together the philosophy of life and love on which all the other teachings are based. Our educators all over the globe have seen the power it has to change lives and transform cultures. **“The New Evangelization and the Culture of Life” unlocks the spirituality and the strategy that makes advocates for life effective,** and we can hardly wait to send it by email to all our supporters.

### **BECOME AN AMBASSADOR FROM THE CULTURE OF LIFE**

As a valiant pro-life warrior, you know that creating a Culture of Life requires action, not only abroad, but in our own homes and communities.



“As the family goes, so goes the nation, and so goes the whole world in which we live.”

Pope St. John Paul II

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As Pope St. John Paul II knew, a Culture of Life is built on strong families. Our training video reveals how we can restore the family to heal a broken culture.

In this video, our viewers will learn that the New Evangelization is not just an activism plan for leaders; it is a lifestyle that every one of us is called to live. If we want to heal and transform the culture, we need to live lives that are radically different from the norm. This begins with the transformation of our prayer, our habits, and our home lives. Every one of us must embrace this call if we want to build the Kingdom of God on earth.

**Your personal mission to defend life and family is an extremely valuable and appreciated asset to our cause, and I strongly encourage you to strengthen it even more by adding this video to your pro-life toolkit.** You can access it at **[hli.org/training](http://hli.org/training)**. Find a quiet, focused place, turn off your ringer, spend a moment with God to prepare, and watch Part 1. At the end of Part 1, take a short break. Maybe step outside for a breath of air and let it sink in. Then watch Part 2 and ask the Holy Spirit to help you to know how best to respond to the message He has placed in this video especially for you. The answer may surprise you.

I hope that all who see this video will pray with whatever spoke to them, challenged them, or inspired them. I also encourage everyone to share it with their spouse, family

members, and circle of friends, and to consider ways God might be asking us to more actively participate in what Pope St. John Paul II called “The Great Campaign in the Support of Life.” Whether we are currently active or just getting started, the best way to move forward is to set small, manageable goals that we can integrate into our lives as new positive habits. The change may be the size of a mustard seed, but God will grow that seed into new life in Christ, which is the strongest weapon against the culture of death. We can agree that the task before us is daunting, but know that my prayers, especially during Holy Mass, are with you as we embark on this journey together. I also humbly request that you please join me in prayer, asking the Lord to bless our efforts and to assist everyone who sees the video, that they will let the message take root in their lives, and join us in creating a culture where all life is *respected, protected, loved, and served*.

This video is only the beginning of the journey. **Soon, more segments of our pro-life educational program will be available online!** HLI’s Director of Education

and Research Dr. Brian Clowes and I will speak on many issues relating to the pro-life cause.

To be the best possible ambassador of the Culture of Life, one needs a firm grasp of all the topics relevant to human life and its inherent dignity from a scientific, social, and theological standpoint. If you have ever been stumped in a conversation or wondered exactly how a certain teaching works in the real world, this is a golden opportunity to learn! A working knowledge of practical pro-life teaching will help you to build your own community of love and share it with others. I encourage you to pray for this campaign, and to follow along as the additional installments of our video series become available. You will not regret it.

### **WHATEVER HAPPENS TO MY BROTHER OR SISTER HAPPENS TO ME**

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The series begins with the principle described in the heading above. Christian morality and the Church’s teaching on human life and its incalculable dignity are based on this concept – human life is sacred, and the



Faith the size of a mustard seed can grow into the largest of plants. Fr. Boquet shows how one person’s commitment to life and family can change the world.



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## You and I must spread the truth to our communities about contraception, abortion, the Culture of Death, but most importantly... the TRUTH OF THE GOSPEL OF LIFE.

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dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. All human beings are ends to be served, not means to be exploited. Applied to the Gospel of Life, it means that every human life, from fertilization to natural death, is precious, unrepeatable, and to be treated with respect. It means that everyone, without exception, is responsible for seeing to it that every human life is defended from beginning to end.

The New Evangelization is not a task reserved for the clergy and a few designated missionaries. **We are all responsible for preaching the Gospel of Life in our spheres, and for building the Culture of Life in our families.** Our bishops, pastors, educators, and scientists cannot do it all on their own; we need Catholics, Christians, and non-Christians, indeed all people of good will in all walks of life to put theory into practice. In Part 1, I show that when we preach the New Evangelization, we are preaching the Gospel of Life, and when we live it, we are living the Culture of Life. I unpack the meaning of this relationship more fully in the video, but I will provide a short preview here.

In his encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*, Pope St. John Paul II describes the New Evangelization this way: **“We have to re-teach people how to respect, protect, love, and serve life.”** The culture of death can attribute its success less to the zeal of its supporters than to the apathy of its opponents. This is partly a crisis of education. Without a robust understanding of the meaning behind Church teachings on life, Catholics have often compromised them for solutions that seemed easier or “kinder” at the time. Small changes lead to larger ones, and before we knew it one-third of a generation had been murdered in the womb, and countless others victimized by the culture of death.

The New Evangelization proposes that we solve this crisis by “re-teaching people how to love.” Before we can aid in the conversion of others, we must start with our own conversion. This is a call to personal holiness. **We need to re-learn the language of love that has fallen out of use in the modern world and re-establish a lifestyle that truly values life.**

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WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER

Every Monday, HLI President Fr. Shenan J. Boquet writes on current issues that affect life and family.

Join 18,626 other pro-lifers who receive Fr. Boquet's column every week.

**Subscribe at [HLI.org](http://HLI.org)**



## Transformation

- Develop a deep critical sense.
- Mobilize consciences.
- United ethical efforts.
- Activate a great campaign in support of Life.
- Together we must build a Culture of Life.

— *Evangelium Vitae*, ¶95

- ✓ Activate
- ✓ Together

It is necessary first to **develop a critical sense** because in our efforts to “get along” with secular culture, many of us have built up an unhealthy tolerance for lies and illusions. We are cocooned in the belief that what other people do does not affect us, and how we respond does not affect them. We even speak their language, at least in public. The culture of death has a talent for calling things by their wrong names. They commit murder in the womb and call it “family planning.” They hear honesty and call it “bigotry.” They are enslaved by sin and call it “freedom.”

We need to remember the truth: right and wrong are constant. **It is our duty to speak the language of Truth and Love with our words, and even more importantly, with our lives.** If we, the clergy and laity alike, climb out of that cocoon, awaken our consciences, and see the wrong-headed trends in modern culture for what they are, then our brothers and sisters in Christ will awaken as well. We need to re-establish the language of love and invite the one billion Catholics and countless other Christians in the world to speak it with us.

The next step after awakening is **mobilization**. This is the process that moves a person’s mind and heart from acknowledging a problem to feeling a personal responsibility to address it. Let us go back to the very first point: whatever happens to my brother or sister happens to me.

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Fr. Boquet outlines Pope St. John Paul II’s strategy for cultural transformation in a step-by-step process that anyone can implement in their own home.

The first place where that change must take place is in the family. As Pope St. John Paul II famously put it, “As the family goes, so goes the nation, and so goes the whole world in which we live.” The assault on the family is the most diabolically effective strategy for undermining the Culture of Life that the world has ever seen. The fallout is not limited to contraception and the violence of abortion; think of sexual promiscuity, divorce, co-habitation, fatherlessness, same-sex unions, transgender dysphoria, abandonment of the elderly and sick, poverty, depression, and teen suicide, to name but a few examples. A whole plethora of tragedies can be traced back to the broken family, to a misunderstanding of marriage, human sexuality, and the gift of fertility. But what a misguided family model has broken, a renewed family can heal. This is the pebble that will kill Goliath; the tiny seed that will become the largest of plants. This is our power to change the world.

### **POPE ST. JOHN PAUL II’S STRATEGY FOR BUILDING THE CULTURE OF LIFE**

In Part 2, I outline the strategy Pope St. John Paul II provides in *Evangelium Vitae* for renewing the Church and re-evangelizing the world. This is a step-by-step action plan that every Christian can implement whatever their personal circumstances or state in life. I summarize the plan in five points:

- ✓ Develop a Critical Sense
- ✓ Mobilize
- ✓ United

## Living a Vibrant Faith

Living the everyday moments of our lives with faith, hope, and love is the most effective way to share our faith with others.

This witness is what is needed for reaching our families, friends, neighbors, and colleagues in order to transform culture.

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The Gospel of Life is a call to action, and a call to personal holiness. Our video challenges viewers to respond to this call and live a lifestyle that truly values life.

Human beings are made for community and relationship. We are connected by our families, our friendships, our communities, our nations, and our universal call to holiness and relationship with God. We are brothers and sisters. Once we realize this, it is abundantly clear that it *is* our duty and obligation to help our brothers and sisters by showing them the Truth with kindness and love and helping them to live it.

For our mobilization to be effective, we need to be **united**. The culture of death feeds off division, which is why we need to attack it with a common identity and purpose. It does not matter if someone is a clergyman or

lay person. It does not matter where they are from, or if they have made mistakes in life. **No one is exempt from the call to evangelization, and no one is too lofty or lowly to be a soldier in this battle.** Jesus came so that we may be one. In our unity, we find His strength.

Next, we **activate** “The Great Campaign in the Support of Life.” This is where it gets exciting. Each and every human being has a unique role to play in the fight for life and family. We are all called to evangelize, to preach the Gospel of Life, and to build the Culture of Life. No exceptions. For each of us, that journey begins in prayer. Only God knows exactly what we are called to do, and only God can give us the grace to accomplish it. To activate our role in the fight for life, we need to ask God to show us how He wants to change our hearts, our families, and our interaction with the world, then actively pursue that as our goal.

Now we are ready to move forward **together**. With every person in every state of life united and

## Buying or Selling A Home?

You can support Human Life International at no cost to you by taking advantage of the Real Estate for Life program.



**For details, visit: [hli.org/myhome](http://hli.org/myhome)**



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In his encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*, Pope St. John Paul II describes the New Evangelization this way: “We have to *re-teach* people how to respect, protect, love, and serve life.”

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The Language of Love has fallen out of use in popular culture. Fr. Boquet invites us to re-establish it in our homes and among our friends, and invite others to speak it with us.

activated by the call to holiness and evangelization, the culture of death cannot stand.

#### **EVANGELIZING THE EVANGELIZERS**

**Because of you, pro-life warriors are standing up against the culture of death all over the world.** Your generosity allows us, as Father Marx would say, “to *alert* the complacent, *inform* the concerned, and *arm* the dedicated.” You are helping people of every nation, calling, and socio-economic status to activate their role as evangelists. Now we are deeply grateful for the opportunity to support you in the same way. I invite you to take advantage of this unique educational opportunity to deepen your knowledge, expand your involvement, and inspire your neighbor.

#### **Combine Federal Campaign**

**Federal employees and members of the Armed Services: Support HLI with your CFC pledge.**



**HLI's CFC  
number is  
10253**

Our mission at home is no less important than our missions abroad, and I look forward to telling you about the early results of our online education project in an upcoming Mission Report. **We may be separated by distance, but we can be united through a common education that allows us to put forth a consistent and intelligent defense of life and family in every place where they are threatened.** With Truth on our side, we cannot be defeated.

I know that you are a passionate pro-life advocate already, and I pray that this video and the others that follow will help you renew your personal call to holiness, reexamine and expand your role in the fight for life and family, and reestablish the language of love in your community. **The challenge for us is not to blend in! If our lives speak a different language, we will stand out – being light and salt.** Our honesty and courage will be an inspiration to those who are afraid to speak the truth. I know that the mustard seed God has sown has already found fertile soil, and I hope that our video series will help it to grow even more for the greater glory of God.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the support you give to us, and for everything you do to defend life and family, both in prayer and in action.

Please be assured of my daily prayers for you and your family, especially during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Yours in Christ and Our Lady,



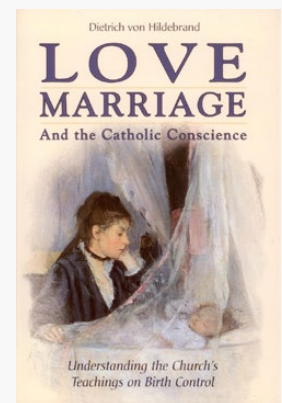
Fr. Shenan J. Boquet  
President, Human Life International

## DONATE \$53 OR MORE TO HLI THIS MONTH AND GET OUR LATEST PRO-LIFE RESOURCE!

This month, when you donate \$53 or more to support HLI's life-saving mission, you'll receive the book, *Love, Marriage, and the Catholic Conscience - Understanding the Church's Teachings on Birth Control* by Dietrich von Hildebrand.

Finally, you can learn the full truth about contraception and why the Catholic Church regards it as intrinsically immoral and a grave sin against conjugal chastity and the integrity of marital love itself. Hildebrand's exceptional explanation assists the reader to understand why this teaching is so important, as well as better appreciate why the Church rigorously defends the Sacrament of Matrimony: "The matrimonial covenant, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole of life, is by its nature ordered toward the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring; this covenant between baptized persons has been raised by Christ the Lord to the dignity of a sacrament." (CCC, No. 1601)

**Please send your gift of \$53 or more to HLI today,** and we'll ship this pro-life resource today!



***Love, Marriage, and the Catholic Conscience* is this month's pro-life educational resource.**