No. 456 Apr. 2023

A PUBLICATION OF HUMAN LIFE INTERNATIONAL

## You're Reversing India's Anti-Child Culture

Thanks to you, Indian couples embrace many children. These families are a beautiful witness to their communities.

"You have how many kids?!"

"You need an abortion. You already have too many children."

"That's so irresponsible! You ought to get rid of it."

These were the kinds of comments Esmee faced when she was pregnant with her fourth child.

In India, large families have two children. Most families have one. Or none. Having many children is seen as irresponsible. Planned Parenthood has told women for years that they

Continued, page 2...



Many large families attended your conference in India. Because of you, these couples joyfully welcomed life.

Dear Friends in Christ,

Spring is the time of hope!

Here in Virginia, flowers are in bloom. And we're weeks away from

celebrating the Resurrection of Our Lord. Thanks be to God!

Your commitment to this mission brings me hope. Which is why I'm excited to share with you a special matching gift:



Fr. Shenan J. Boquet President

When you give before April 30th, you will double your impact! A generous donor has agreed to match your gift, up to \$25,000.

Don't miss this life-giving opportunity! In the spring, nature welcomes new life. Your gift today will help families all around the world to embrace new life as well. Thank you for being a part of this mission.

Please pray for me. Be assured of my prayers for you.

Father Shenan J. Boquet



## "Because of you, young people in India will see children as blessings. They'll long for the happy, holy life that these families model so well."

have a moral duty to limit their family size.

Sadly, these anti-family lies have created a culture where large families are unheard of. Young people grow up thinking small families are normal. When these young couples eventually get married, they never consider having more than two children.

Thankfully, you're changing this anti-child culture—one family at a time.

### YOUR CONFERENCES TRANSFORM LIVES. THANKS TO YOU, ESMEE'S FAMILY HAS WELCOMED 4 CHILDREN

Recently, your missionaries hosted a conference in Goa, India. This conference revealed the fruit of your work throughout the years.

Esmee was one of the attendees. Her father, Milagres, used to believe anti-family lies. But because of you, Milagres learned the truth. He and his wife chose to be open to life. Esmee and her four siblings grew up knowing that children are blessings from God.

Because of this example, Esmee and her husband have already welcomed four children. Thanks to you, they're helping the next generation see family life as a beautiful blessing.

# YOU HELPED ROSA DISCOVER THE BEAUTY OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

For many families, the conference in Goa wasn't their first HLI event. Many of these couples attended HLI missions when they were younger. Your missionaries inspired these families to welcome many children.

This year, these couples brought their families to your conference. Many now have six (or more!) children. These children are a living example of

#### your impact.

For example, Rosa attended one of your conferences years ago. At the time, she and her boyfriend were struggling in their relationship. Thanks to you, they learned about God's plan for marriage and the family. Today, they're married, and they've welcomed three children so far.



You're inspiring couples to live out God's plan for the family. Thanks to you, they'll encourage others to embrace life.

# BECAUSE OF YOU, THESE FAMILIES ARE ENCOURAGING YOUNG COUPLES TO EMBRACE LIFE.

Another couple who attended your conference currently has six children. Your missionary, Dr. Ligaya, told their story beautifully:

"One husband proudly came to me with his arms enveloping his wife's shoulders – 'Dr. Ligaya', he said proudly and sincerely, 'look at my wife – with every child she bears, she becomes more and more beautiful. Now, as you can see, we already have six children. We're looking forward to more!"

This is the impact your gifts have. Thanks to you, families throughout Goa are welcoming more and more children. These families are full of joy. **Because of you, young people in India will see children as blessings.** They'll long for the happy, holy life that these families model so well.



Three generations of this family have attended your conferences. This is the fruit of your generosity!

### LIVING A CULTURE OF LIFE PODCAST



- ✓ Lively discussions on life and family issues!
- ✓ Weekly episodes on YouTube and Rumble!
- ✓ Latest developments in the global fight for life!

Visit HLI.org/podcast

### Thanks to You, Fr. Weismann is Helping Doctors Provide Ethical Care

Fr. Weismann used your bioethics library to address a crisis in medical practice.

Anna was inches from death. Another patient needed a heart transplant. Anna's heart could save the other patient's life.

Dr. Schmidt killed Anna. He thought the other patient's life justified Anna's death.

Thankfully, Dr. Schmidt and Anna aren't real people. But this situation is a real threat.

You're helping address this threat, by supporting HLI Rome's bioethics library. The information at this library can help doctors provide ethical care for their patients.

Fr. Weismann is very thankful for your library. He realized that many doctors don't study Catholic bioethics. This can be fatal for patients. So, he de-



Fr. Weismann used texts from your bioethics library to write his book. Here, he and Fr. Boquet discuss the challenges of ethical medical care.

cided to write a book titled, *Bioethical Challenges at the End of Life*. This book will help patients receive life-affirming end-of-life care.

# YOU PROVIDED FR. WEISMANN WITH CUTTING-EDGE BIOETHICAL RESOURCES

Fr. Weismann needed access to the most up-todate religious and scientific information.

Thanks to generous donors like you, HLI Rome has one of the most extensive bioethics libraries in the world. It has books and articles with recent scientific and medical studies, as well as in-depth ethical information.

You provided Fr. Weismann with the resources he needed. He had access to texts that most university libraries don't have. He studied the most current articles about brain death. Thanks to you, his book is well researched and covers timely issues.

# FR. WEISMANN'S BOOK HELPS DOCTORS NAVIGATE ETHICAL CHALLENGES IN MEDICINE

Fr. Weismann talked to many doctors in Europe. Not a single one studied bioethics in medical school. But many end-of-life problems involve ethical questions. Do the ends justify the means? What is the moment of death?

These were some of the questions that Fr. Ralph Weismann wanted to answer. He saw that doctors needed guidance.

His book goes through different challenges facing doctors and patients. Using Church teaching, Father explains the ethical principles for each situation. Fr. Weismann hopes his book will encourage doctors to give their patients the best care possible.

Because of you, doctors have a clear and reliable ethical guide to help them make the right choice.

### YOU'RE HELPING PRIESTS OFFER FAITHFUL GUIDANCE ON END-OF-LIFE ISSUES

Fr. Weismann's book will also help priests mentor their parishioners. Often, people turn to their parish priests with bioethical questions. Since priests aren't medical experts, they need well-researched Catholic resources to turn to.

Thanks to you, priests can rely on Fr. Weismann's

book. If someone has a question about caring for their elderly relative, these priests will offer sound, Catholic advice. They'll help families navigate stressful, emotional situations.

This is the impact you have through the bioethics library. Thanks to you, lay people and priests have access to a plethora of bioethical texts, all for free! These materials will help them go on to guide others. Thank you for your generosity.

# Your Missionaries Helped Sarah Heal from Grief and Find the Courage to Choose Life Again

Your generosity ensures that mothers get the financial and spiritual help they need.

"Let us not be satisfied with just giving money... they need your hearts to love them. So, spread your love everywhere you go." —Mother Teresa

This quote beautifully sums up your generosity. Compassionate people like you provide spiritual and financial support for families all over the world.

When your missionaries reach out to struggling mothers, they offer so much more than just material help. Often, these women also need spiritual and emotional help as well.

For instance, consider Sarah's story:

## SARAH WANTED HER CHILD. BUT SHE COULDN'T AFFORD TO GIVE BIRTH

Monica and Veronica first met Sarah by the side of the road in Zimbabwe.

They were driving by when they noticed a young woman selling vegetables. Sarah was very pregnant, and her troubled expression caught Monica and Veronica's attention. They pulled over to talk to her.

Sarah explained that she was close to giving birth. But she couldn't raise enough money selling vegetables to cover birthing expenses. She could barely cover the cost of meals! The young woman didn't know what to do.

When Monica and Veronica heard about Sarah's situation, they knew they needed to help.



Thanks to you, Sarah received the support she needed. Your missionary, Veronica, helped her welcome baby Anenyasha.

## YOU HELPED SARAH PROVIDE FOR HER DAUGHTER

Your missionaries reassured Sarah. They would help her financially. She wasn't alone.

Monica and Veronica provided this young mother with baby clothes. And they helped her pay for her medical expenses. Sarah was incredibly thankful for the help. Because of you, she didn't need to worry about the cost of birth or providing for her daughter.

But Monica and Veronica could tell that Sarah was still troubled by her pregnancy. It wasn't only financial worries. Something else was bothering her.

#### YOUR MISSIONARIES HELPED SARAH HEAL FROM HER FIRST CHILD'S DEATH

Eventually, Sarah opened up to Monica and Veronica. She was terrified of losing her child.

This wasn't Sarah's first child. She'd given birth once before. Tragically, her first baby died in infancy.

Because she'd lost her first child, Sarah was afraid of giving birth a second time. She didn't want to face the trauma of losing another child. The fear was tearing her apart.

Thanks to you, Monica and Veronica helped

**Sarah find healing**. They prayed with Sarah. And they talked with her about God and His mercy. She could trust Him.

Your missionaries also encouraged Sarah to live chastely. Her old lifestyle was hurting her, physically and spiritually. Living a chaste life would help her heal.

Your missionaries' prayers reassured Sarah. Because of you, she knows that God loves her and both of her children.

#### GENEROUS PEOPLE LIKE YOU HELP WOMEN, SPIRITUALLY AND MATERIALLY

Sarah's story is a wonderful example of the support you provide for women.

Sarah needed your financial help. But you did so much more for her. Your missionaries helped Sarah heal from her past hurt. And they encouraged her to live chastely. Thanks to you, Sarah learned to trust God.

Sarah's daughter was born safe and healthy. Her name is Anenyasha. **Because of your support, Sarah** and Anenyasha can live a blessed, joy filled life together.

### THANK YOU for making change possible!

Every story you read in Mission Report is a snapshot of your impact. Your gifts are saving lives and souls all over the world. None of this amazing work would be possible without you.

Thank you for building a pro-life world. Please pray for the mission. I'll be praying for you.

Fr. Shenan J. Boquet