

# Central Illinois Life News

## Pastors Speak Out

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he Kamba women of Kenya, like many other rural women in the country have an average of 6 to 8 children. The local culture teaches that children are a gift from God. It is believed that if one is strong enough and able to care for another child, it is good to have another child. Historically, the culture sees children as wealth. This is still generally true and the Western practice of having smaller families is an idea that is having a hard time penetrating Kamba society.

Even if one has much material wealth, if there were no children, the culture views that person as poor and in need of help. This was one of the justifications of polygamy in the past, to ensure children in the family. There is not too much worry about providing for children because the people believe that since God gives each child to us, God will provide the means to raise and care for that child.

The practice of abortion has no place in a culture such as this. However, it is being fostered on the people by foreign governments who promote abortion and birth control as the means of reducing poverty by reducing population growth. Foreign aid is often offered with these practices as strings attached. Because many African governments are very poor, they force their people into these practices in order to receive the aid money from wealthy Western countries.

While it makes sense not to have more children than can be cared for, it is disingenuous for the developed countries to focus on reducing the population in countries like Kenya when the natural resources of the country are more than adequate for an even larger population if they could be used more efficiently. Since only a small percentage of the resources of Kenya have been prospected and exploited, the West should be helping Kenya increase her ability to care for her people instead of trying to eliminate much of the next generation.

*Father Francis—Kitui, Kenya*



## Coming Events

During Sanctity of Human Life week, January 15 - January 22, 2006, the following events are scheduled:

**Washington, DC Bus Trip to the annual March for Life** will leave on January 22, 2006 and return on January 24th. Total cost is \$150 per rider with two meals included. See the enclosed flyer or call Sondra McEnroe at 673-4833 for more information.

**Forty Hour Prayer Vigil**, January 16 - January 19, 2006, in front of the abortion center on North University Street in Peoria. Call Dan Smith at 691-3611 to volunteer to stand for an hour of prayer.

**Family Resources Center Open House**, Thursday, January 19, 2006 from 5:30 - 6:30 PM, 321 Main Street, Peoria, before the Walk and Sanctity of Human Life Rally.

**Walk for Life**, 6:30 PM on Thursday, January 19, 2006 at the Peoria County Courthouse. After prayer we will walk together to the Rally carrying signs showing our support for the sanctity of all innocent human life.

**Sanctity of Human Life Rally**, 7:00 PM on Thursday, January 19, 2006 at Riverside Community Church. The rally will feature special music and prayer along with reports on local Pro Life efforts. Bishop Keith L. Ackerman of the Episcopal Diocese of Quincy will give the keynote address.

*Central Illinois Right To Life, Inc.*

*Presents*

*The Annual Sanctity of Human Life*

# **Walk and Rally**

**Thursday, January 19, 2006**

*with the following events included*

*Open House at the Family Resources Center*

**321 Main Street in Peoria, IL**

**5:30 pm to 6:30 pm**

*Walk for Life*

**Peoria County Courthouse**

**6:30 pm**

Prayer, singing, and walk to the Church for the Rally to follow

*Sanctity of Human Life Rally*

**Riverside Community Church**

**7:00 pm**

*Key Note Speaker* : **Bishop Keith L. Ackerman of the  
Episcopal Diocese of Quincy**

**HELP!!!**

Single? Children Grown? Semi-retired? WE NEED YOU!!! Do you have an hour or two now & then to help Central Illinois Right to Life's board members with a project? Can we put you on a list of prospective volunteers to contact in the future. Remember, the "Pro-Choice" i.e. the pro-abortion

crowd has countless workers and millions of dollars. We operate on a bare-bones budget and are dependent on willing volunteers. If you could help a little in any way, it would be greatly appreciated and immensely gratifying. Please fill out the coupon on page 4 and mark the box next to volunteer help. Thank you and have a blessed year in 2006!

**Heart of Illinois Life Chain Impacts Peoria Again**

Prolife members of many of the churches in the Peoria area gathered to form the fourteenth annual human life chain which stretched almost four miles in Peoria on Sunday, October 2, 2005. The Life Chain is the largest nationwide prolife event. American Christians gathered in more than 800 cities and towns during this hour of prayer. This year Life Chain participants displayed signs with the message, Pray to End Abortion. Several other messages were displayed as well.

Again this year we were especially mindful of the message on other signs: Life – The First Inalienable Right. At our nation's conception 229 years ago, the Declaration of Independence proclaimed that Life is the first inalienable right, given by God, our creator, to each of us at our creation, not just after birth. Our founding fathers held this conviction not as mere opinion, but rather as self-evident truth. An attack on innocent life, wherever situated, is an attack on our freedom everywhere.

The continuing war on terror and the Iraq war remind us that for our nation to survive, we must likewise hold the truth that life is an inalienable right and constitute our government to secure the right to life to all, born and preborn. Preborn children depend upon us for their safety and protection. As they grow up, we will depend on them for our safety and protection too. They will become the citizens and soldiers, firefighters and peacekeepers who safeguard us. In solidarity, we, born and unborn, are interdependent.

Plans for next year's Life Chain on Sunday, October 1 , 2006 are already underway. To help promote the Life Chain, contact Dan Smith at 691-3611.

***Central Illinois Right to Life: Membership and Volunteer Drive***

If you would like to help defend life in Central Illinois, become a member of Central Illinois Right to Life and continue receiving our quarterly newsletter by returning this form and enclosing the annual dues of \$10.00.

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

City : \_\_\_\_\_

State : \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code : \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone : \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER DUES : \$10\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

DONATION : \$5\_\_ \$10\_\_ \$15\_\_ \$25\_\_ Other\_\_\_\_\_ Thank You!

VOLUNTEER HELP : Please put my name on your list of volunteers.

*Central Illinois Right To Life, Inc.  
is planning again this year*

# **A 40 Hour Prayer Vigil**

**to be held in front of the abortion center  
at 7405 North University Street  
In Peoria, Illinois**

**The Prayer Vigil will be held over 4 days  
during the annual Sanctity of Human Life week  
from January 16, 2006 to January 19, 2006**

**Call CIRTL board member, Dan Smith  
at (309) 691-3611  
to volunteer to join this effort**

**If every Church could be represented there - for  
just one hour, the testimony for life to our  
community would be overwhelming!**

*... could you not watch with me one hour?*

Matt. 26:40b

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**“ Be Pro Life, Both In Words And In Actions”**

*Peoria Dining Tour coupon books are available again this year from Central Illinois Right to Life, Inc. The cost is \$35. The book contains over 300, two for one coupons for use at local restaurants and other businesses. The coupons are good till November 2006. Contact Sondra McEnroe at 673-4833 or the CIRTL office for more information. All net proceeds will go to support Pro Life work.*

**Sanctity Of Human Life Sunday**, January 22, 2006 is the Sunday on which Churches in our nation make a special effort to remember unborn children and women in difficult pregnancies. Let each of us encourage the leadership of our church not to “shrink from boldly declaring all of God’s message” on this special Sunday and throughout the year.

*Unity on the essentials of the Sanctity of Human Life is our objective. We are not seeking uniformity of opinion on all matters.. Therefore, some ideas advocated by the authors of articles in Central Illinois Life News or on the Central Illinois Right To Life website may not necessarily reflect the the personal views of all the members and officers of Central Illinois Right To Life, Inc.*

**Central Illinois Right to Life, Inc.**  
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