



HUMAN LIFE PROTECTION SOCIETY INC

NEWSLETTER: EASTER ISSUE 4

MARCH 2026

Website: <https://www.hlpstas.com.au>



PRESIDENT'S EASTER MESSAGE: Welcome to our first edition of the HLPS Newsletter for 2026. I hope you and your loved ones enjoyed a safe and meaningful end to 2025, a joyful Australia Day, and a positive start to the new year. It wasn't that long ago that I was writing my Christmas Message, and here we are already in the Lenten season, preparing for the

holiest day in the Christian Calendar, Easter. Lent is a time for deep reflection on how we have been doing things and how we can do things better, in our personal lives as well as within HLPS. As we prepare for Easter, let us not forget that prayer is a vital part of our work, regardless of our denomination. It doesn't take any longer to remember our unborn, the frail and the dying in our community, in our daily prayer.

Let us continue to build on the passion burning within us to protect the most vulnerable in our society. Don't be afraid to talk about Abortion or Euthanasia with our families or friends, in our churches. If we don't talk about these issues, nothing will change. We are called to take bold action and to be heard. Let us be there for the more defenceless in our society, such as the disabled, the frail and the terminally ill. Give people a hand as you see them struggle. Be that lending ear for someone to talk to. We need more people to give a bit more of themselves, to be that person.

As we continue, I look forward to another exciting year in 2026. If you have any ideas you would like to put to the committee, please don't hesitate to contact me via email president@hlpstas.com.au

Please keep our committee in your prayers as we move forward and implement the ideas presented at last year's conference.

I wish you and your families a very Blessed and Holy Easter. If you are travelling over the Easter break, enjoy, but most importantly, please stay safe.

Anne Sherston



The Masses for the unborn this year will continue to be celebrated three monthly at Our Lady of Victories Shrine, 12 Ashbolt Cres, Lutana, Tasmania 7009.

Our first Mass for 2026 will be on March 21st, then on June 20th, and September 19th, 2026. I encourage all of us to attend if at all possible. We need to keep pushing on, and the only way to do this is through prayer and action. For evil to triumph, is for good people to do nothing. So let's storm heaven with our daily prayer and also by getting together

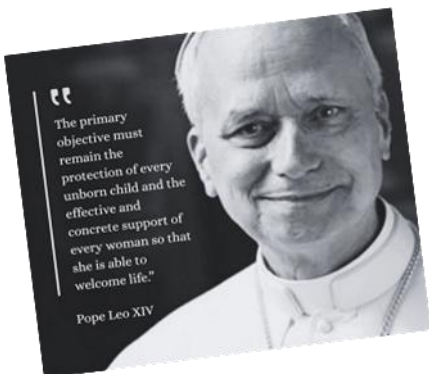
for Mass on the dates above.

PROLIFE NEWS



We remember Margaret Tighe at this time. Margaret was a very prominent figure in the pro-Life world. Margaret passed away on Feb 15th 2026. She was 94 years old and was involved with the prolife movement for 60years. We send our deepest sympathies to all her family. I hope Margaret's life can be an inspiration for all of us now and into the future.

A Mass will be offered for her on Saturday March 21st at Our Lady Of Victories Shrine Lutana in conjunction with the Mass for the Unborn at Midday.



Pope Leo IV has dedicated every month in 2026 for specific intentions.
Respect for human life is the intention for July:
"Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all it's stages, recognising it as a gift from God"

THE SOCIETY at WORK

LETTERS:

On Dec 31st 2025, there was an article in The Mercury that made front page news. It was titled "Access in Jeopardy" This article was written in concern about women being denied access to abortion after Hobart Private Hospital was purchased by Calvary.

The committee of HLPS jumped on this and worked on a letter to respond. The letter was written and published on Feb 5th 2026.

Our response:

As President of the Human Life Protection Society in Tasmania, I am writing in response to the article "Access in Jeopardy," by Judy Augustine, published in The Mercury on December 31, 2025.

Kelly Bruce, CEO of Women's Health Tasmania, expressed concerns about women's reproductive health in Tasmania, particularly the reduction of support for surgical terminations. This raises an important question: Why is abortion considered part of "reproductive health," when the term "reproductive" means producing new life?

What are people actually fearing? Is it that abortion is not going to be as easily accessible? Why are people so eager to make a human being so disposable?

CEO Kelly Bruce stated, "In practice, public hospitals really only provide surgical terminations up to 14 weeks, though there are some exceptions." Babies have been known to survive even after being born at 16 weeks; there should be no reason a baby needs to be aborted in a late-term pregnancy; a caesarean needs to be the only option in these circumstances.

The fact that Calvary is a Catholic organisation would help uphold the values we should all hold dear. If Calvary is forced into allowing abortions, this would go against religious freedom.

Who are we to say who lives or dies when it comes to an unexpected pregnancy, or, for that matter, for someone who is near death? Not one person has the right to interfere with that. Regarding Voluntary Assisted Dying, there is no evidence that the existing safeguards are sufficient to prevent abuse.

When a woman has had an abortion, not only does the unborn baby die, but the woman's spirit dies as well. This creates a list of numerous other issues and problems, starting with the mental health of the woman.

Family Planning Tasmania CEO Marcus Di Martino commented that "Pregnancy choices and empowering women to have control of their sexual and reproductive health are really important." This being so important to women, more education needs to be provided to allow women to be completely informed of the choices they can be provided with, such as keeping the baby or putting it up for adoption. The baby is innocent and the most vulnerable in this issue, and does not need to be aborted. An unborn baby, in fact, has "No Choice"

We have enough babies being lost to abortion; we don't need another facility to join the ranks.

Response by Keith Anderson – Mercury Tue Feb 10th

"As President of the Human Life Protection Society, it is natural Anne Sherston would write to reassure us all will be well after the purchase of Hobart Private Hospital by Calvary Hospital. She asks many questions and makes many assertions, warning Calvary is a Catholic organisation, and its staff will make medical decisions based on religious dogma, not medical criteria. I think she has documented rather thoroughly why we should be worried."

Rally in Brisbane to overturn Gag Order:

Letter written to QLD Politicians:

As an Australian voter and the President of the Human Life Protection Society, Tasmania, I am writing to strongly urge you to take immediate action to overturn the gag order placed on pro-life members in the Queensland Parliament, twelve months ago. Although our organisation is based in Tasmania, this gag order affects all Australians.

Politicians need to be reminded that they have been elected to their positions by the Australian people. Politicians need to listen to all views and need to be able to discuss them in parliament freely. There should be no exceptions. If exceptions are being made, Australians are being denied from expressing their democratic values and rights. It is denying us free speech.

The Australian public needs all our Members of Parliament to be able to speak freely about this critical issue and not fear repercussions.

The current restrictions are silencing a significant portion of the community in enabling them to express their beliefs and engage in a civil debate. I urge you to support Robbie Katter in overturning this gag order and allow freedom of speech.

Your action can pave the way for a more open discussion on life-affirming measures in Queensland and the rest of Australia. For a further response from Amanda Stoker to our letter, please go <https://www.hlpstas.com.au/articles/>



NATIONAL AND LOCAL NEWS

News from the Disability Commissioner, Tasmania:

Hello everyone, we are well and truly moving into 2026 as I pen this message to you.

I hope you will have noticed that expressions of interest have opened for the Disability Inclusion Advisory Council, which we sometimes refer to as 'the Council'. Although it is not the first Tasmanian advisory council for disability, it is the first council to be established through the *Disability Rights, Inclusion and Safeguarding Act 2024* (Tas) (the Act).



Many people have asked me what sort of person should apply to be on the Council. My answer is, if you are a Tasmanian with disability or a Tasmanian connected to the disability community, have a vision for a more accessible and inclusive Tasmania, want to work with others to achieve this, then you should absolutely apply. My hope is for our Council to represent the Tasmanian community and disability community. We welcome applications from people with diverse experiences and backgrounds no matter where in Tasmania you might live, or whether or not you have served on a council before. If you need help applying, you will find more information in this newsletter about how to link in with our Council's recruitment partner, Disability Voices Tasmania. For more information, please go <https://www.hlpstas.com.au/articles/>

FOI [Freedom of Information] Request Reveals Neonatal Deaths Are On The Rise In The ACT:

Extracts – Life Issues written by Minny Jackson

“According to data drawn from a combined analysis of the Maternal & Perinatal Dataset Collection and the Perinatal Deaths Dataset, the number of neonatal deaths following termination of pregnancy in the Australian Capital Territory has increased steadily over the past decade.”

“To be clear, neonatal death refers to the death of a baby after birth, typically within the first month of life. When such deaths occur following a termination of pregnancy, it means the child was born alive after an abortion. This reality alone should prompt careful scrutiny, as it exposes the pitfalls of modern medicine, which is not infallible.”

“If a baby is born alive following a termination, that child is no longer hyperthetical or abstract. That baby is a person before the law, and therefore a patient. He or She is a human being entitled to care, dignity, and protection, under the law. Any system that allows ambiguity around this reality risks eroding the most basic ethical principles of medicine.”

“Neonatal deaths following termination sit at the intersection of law, medicine and morality. They challenge us to consider whether current frameworks genuinely reflect community values or whether they prioritise ideological convenience over human dignity – and if so, what can be done to halt the descent of society into dystopian norms?” For the full article please go

<https://www.hlpstas.com.au/more-act-babies-born-alive-after-abortion/>

The Voluntary Assisted Dying Legislation: A review of the Voluntary Assisted Dying Legislation is being conducted over the next 12 months. A panel is being selected and will take submissions early this year. The HLPS is registered as a participant in the review. The Society will be contacted early this year.

Can we ask each of you to think about the review, especially those whose background is in Law? It is an opportunity to have the prolife objectives of the HLPS presented to the Review Panel.

Please email any responses to Anne Sherston, president@hlpstas.com.au

Proposed Submission written by Wayne Williams

The Euthanasia legalisation is a form of killing which has traditionally been prohibited by the great world religions. It is now becoming increasingly routine and validated by contemporary cultural doctrine.

From a traditional standpoint, killing oneself is still killing a human being and is forbidden as such. Nor is it only self-killing, for in the legislation, there is the provision for the doctor to kill the patient if the patient cannot do it alone. As for the medical profession itself, euthanasia negates the well-known affirmation of the traditional Hippocratic oath, “First do no harm”

The doctor cannot annihilate if he is truly to heal.

Euthanasia, moreover, damages the doctor-patient relationship. Once the doctor is “licensed to kill”, the patients' trust in the authenticity of a doctor’s professional commitment to their well-being will almost certainly be undermined. Follow the link to read the full article:

<https://www.hlpstas.com.au/euthanasia-in-tasmania/>

SOCIAL MEDIA

We congratulate Kathy Clubb who is HLPS's Virtual Assistant, in being chosen by Endeavor Forum to attend the UN in New York from March 9th -13th 2026. Kathy will be attending as an observer to the Commission on the Status of Women, as Endeavour Forum is one of the few pro-life organisations with UN observer status. Kathy's role is to sit in on some of the sessions during that time, as well as attend some of the parallel pro-life events, which are aimed at countering the prevailing pro-abortion rhetoric of the UN.

We wish you all the very best Kathy, and look forward to hearing more about your visit to the UN.

Since our build up last year promoting the conference around Australia and internationally, our website and social media pages continue to gain interest in HLPS. Help us continue spreading the word by sharing this newsletter.

WEBSITE: The website continues to be updated and continues to grow with more information from around the world. Providing international news on the three main areas of focus for the Human Life Protection Society, with links that are published each day, helps all of us to keep abreast of the pro-life news from around the world. Please go to <https://www.hlpstas.com.au/pro-life-news-from-around-the-world/>



FACEBOOK and Social Media platforms continue to gain interest. This is always a good sign that our message is getting out there. We continue to bring you the current Pro-life issues through Facebook and Instagram. Like our page by going to [HERE:](#)



DATES FOR 2026

Feb 02nd – First Committee mtg for the year

March 02nd – General Mtg – Guest Speaker Heather Kent

March 21st – Mass for the Unborn at Our Lady of Victories, Lutana, Time: Midday

April 13th – Committee Mtg

May 04th – Committee Mtg

June 01st – Committee Mtg

June 20th – Mass for the Unborn at Our Lady of Victories, Lutana, Time: Midday

July 06th – Committee Mtg

Aug 03rd – **AGM**

Sept 07th – Committee Mtg

Sept 19th – Mass for the Unborn at Our Lady of Victories, Lutana, Time: Midday

Oct 05th – Committee Mtg

Nov 02nd – Committee Mtg

Dec 07th – Final Committee Mtg for 2026

Dec 12th – Mass for the Feast of Guadalupe



Memorial of Mercy for babies lost through abortion

Catholic Women's League Tasmania Inc. (CWL) represent Catholic women across the state of Tasmania. As a pro-life group, the League has found abortion to be a divisive, polarizing, emotive



and moral issue but they have continued to lobby and educate politicians, write submissions, publish letters in newspapers and voice their concern in the community.

In December 2015, Pope Francis declared 2016 to be a *Jubilee Year of Mercy*. CWL responded by submitting a proposal to Archbishop Julian Porteous to establish a memorial to unborn babies lost through abortion. The location selected was consecrated land at St John's Church, Richmond Tasmania.

Local sculptor Ben Tolhurst was commissioned to shape and form the memorial in marble and granite. CWL set the parameters; a newborn baby wrapped in a blanket that cascaded down the front of a plinth, with its tiny head resting comfortably on a pillow and eyes gently closed. This sculpture represents a baby – secure, loved and resting in peace in God's care.

An unexpected outcome of the memorial was the donation of money to purchase two locally built seats, one in memory of Margaret Sykes and the other Senator Brian Harradine, both tireless pro-life advocates.

The Memorial is built on church grounds accessible to anyone of any faith or no faith who is experiencing grief from a termination. They come to pray, contemplate, reflect and find peace and healing.

On July 3 2017, the memorial was blessed by Rev Father Micheal Tate accompanied by St John's Parish Priest, Father Terry Rush.

Prayer cards are available in St John's Church, Richmond. An image of the Memorial graces the cover with the words:

In memory of children lost to us through abortion now in God's care.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

<https://www.hlpstas.com.au/pro-life-news-from-around-the-world/>



US/WORLD: THE EPSTEIN FILES CONTAIN MANY INCIDENCES OF FORCED ABORTION, INCLUDING ON UNDERAGED GIRLS, WHO WERE TRAFFICKED BY EPSTEIN AND MAXWELL. INCLUDED IN THE FILES ARE JOURNAL ACCOUNTS BY SCHOOLGRILS OF THE HORRIFIC SUFFERING THEY EXPERIENCED AFTER HAVING THEIR BABIES ABORTED.

<https://www.hlpstas.com.au/pro-life-news-from-around-the-world/>



CANADA: The family of a man denied assisted suicide in a Catholic hospital is on a crusade to force faith-based hospitals to provide the service. Proponents of euthanasia say Catholic and other faith-based hospitals must provide assisted suicide to their patients despite their long-held commitment to protect life. <https://www.hlpstas.com.au/pro-life-news-from-around-the-world/>



Pro-abortion professor withdraws controversial appointment at Catholic university

Published on [4 March 2026](#) by [hlps australia](#)

The radical pro-abortion Professor Susan Ostermann has turned down a controversial appointment that sparked protests all around the United States, by students and pro-life activists alike. Professor Osterman was originally appointed as head of the Liu Institute for Asia and Asian Studies at the Catholic Notre Dame University in South Bend, Indiana, but the backlash from many quarters has led to her rejecting the position.

From [LifeNews](#)

Radical pro-abortion Professor Susan Ostermann has declined the controversial appointment that has generated protests nationwide.

Ostermann has decided not to move forward as director of the Liu Institute for Asia and Asian Studies at the University of Notre Dame, Keough School Dean Mary Gallagher announced in an email.

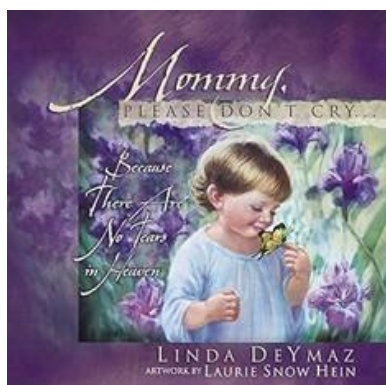
The decision came after mounting criticism for Ostermann's [abortion](#) advocacy.

In a statement, Ostermann said: "At present, the focus on my appointment risks overshadowing the vital work the Institute performs, which should be allowed to continue without undue distraction."

Read the rest at [LifeNews.com](#)

<https://www.hlpstas.com.au/pro-abortion-professor-withdraws-controversial-appointment-at-catholic-university/>

RESOURCES



MOMMY, PLEASE DON'T CRY: THERE ARE NO TEARS IN HEAVEN BY LINDA DEY MAZ

“MOMMY, PLEASE DON'T CRY”

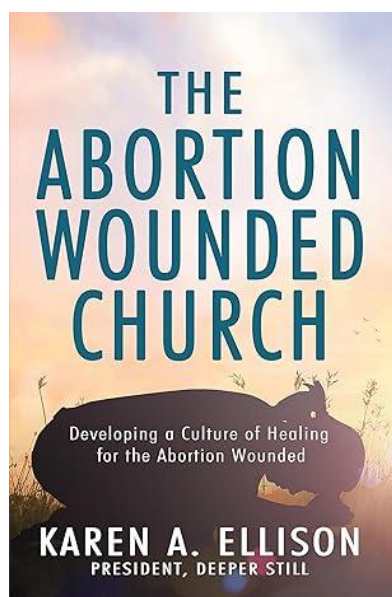
“Is a book of love and comfort for mothers who have experienced the deep sorrow of losing a child. Serene illustrations frame gentle words that describe heaven from a child's perspective. With room for the reader's personal reflections at the end of the book, every page is a poignant gift of hope and healing. "our stories are all different, but our pain is the same," writes Linda. "We are mothers who will forever grieve the loss of our children. And yet, there is hope for our troubled souls."

click here to purchase the book: <https://a.co/d/0bcvdw4p>

THE ABORTION WOUNDED CHURCH: A book that was recommended to me soon after the conference, was, ‘The Abortion Wounded Church’. I found this to be a very insightful read. It will help our Priests, religious and all of us to tap into the “hidden sin” that so many are afraid to speak of. I highly recommend this book to everyone. It is a very short book and easy but not confronting reading.

“A study released by LifeWay Research in November 2015 revealed that 70% of American women who have abortions identify themselves as Christian.

What does that mean for you and your church? How many women sitting in your pews, joining in your small groups, or serving on your hospitality team fit into that statistic? And what about the men who helped get them there?



These are the abortion-wounded. And Karen Ellison was one of them. But thanks to the grace of God and the healing power of the blood of Jesus, Karen now walks in freedom, healed from shame and self-hatred.

In The Abortion-Wounded Church, Karen seeks to equip and empower pastors and church leaders to help bring freedom to others like her. In this easy-to-read booklet, you will:

- Discover how often abortions occur within the Church
- Define abortion fatigue
- Learn about the value of teaching a theology of life
- Receive steps to change silence and apathy into action
- Be encouraged about your role as a shepherd

The abortion-wounded are everywhere in churches. Are you prepared to help walk them into healing and freedom?”

Available through AMAZON

Is abortion ever the right choice?

Published on [2 March 2026](#) by [HLPS Australia](#)

The successful pro-life organisation, Live Action has produced a downloadable e-book aimed at educating the public about the issue of abortion. Here is what Live Action has to say about the e-book:



Listen to the Stories of the Women Who've Been There

There are few issues as politically charged as the debate over abortion. As our nation considers the impact of reversing Roe v. Wade and allowing states to determine their own abortion restrictions, many are asking critical questions about the difficult cases pregnant women can face.

What about pregnancy resulting from sexual assault? How about women who are in a life-threatening pregnancy? Should abortion really be illegal in these situations?

Questions like these can be hard to answer, especially in the divisive climate of social media. However, there are answers out there. Especially when we take time to listen to the stories of the women who've been there and the doctors who've cared for them.

*That's why we took incredible stories from women and their doctors and compiled them together into this exclusive free eBook, *Is Abortion Ever the Right "Choice."**

In it, you will hear unforgettable stories of courageous women and dedicated medical professionals. These stories will give you a clear-eyed understanding of abortion and its impact on everyone involved.

If you'd like a copy, please [click here](#) to go to the Live Action website and follow the instructions.

Concerned about your pregnancy or hurting after an abortion? Go to our [pro-life supports page](#) to find the help you need.

MEMBERSHIPS AND DONATIONS

We would like to invite anyone with the same views as the Human Life Protection Society to consider joining us. You may go to www.hlpstas.com.au/memberships or if you would prefer, contact our President, Anne Sherston, for more information directly, you can email at president@hlpstas.com.au or call 0407704539.

If you wish to make a one-off donation or you would like to make a regular donation, please go to our website, www.hlpstas.com.au/support

Wishing you and your families a very Holy and Blessed Easter

May the divine peace of our Lord Jesus Christ fill your heart and home with serenity and love this Christmas season. As we celebrate the birth of our Savior, may His light guide you, His love envelop you, and His joy uplift your spirit.

Corrie Ten Boom