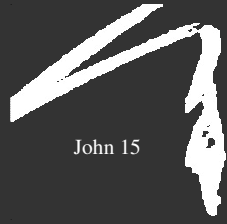


# BROKEN BRANCHES

Issue 80

Feb/Mar 2011



John 15

“Take courage! God has healing in store for you; so take courage” (Tb. 5:10)

## Dear Friends,

Welcome to a new year, 2011, the sixteenth year of this work and journey.

Another year has started and we in Australia are reeling from more disaster. In very recent years we had the devastating bush fires (2 years ago) which ravaged and burned much of Victoria and other states in Australia and this year we have floods of what the media has openly called “biblical proportions” and a cyclone raging with the fury of Hades and as I listened this very day we are waiting for the devastation this cyclone will bring, as it hits our so very beautiful state of Queensland with its courageous citizens and friends and families. Even here in Victoria, usually a hot state in summer, has given us weather unlike anything I have ever seen. Indeed a very wet summer. Today as I sit to write this newsletter it is 23deg Celsius in the middle of summer and flooding rains. I am not complaining because I don’t cope well with heat but it is not the normal and as I hear from friends and clients about the devastation the waters have done to their farms and homes and lives and the need to rebuild I am saddened beyond belief.

I hope that you have had a beautiful Christmas and also hope that the year ahead will bring with it good things for all of us and above all I hope that this year we might see the turning of the corner as we as a society begin to see that killing in utero children is not the way to go but indeed it is the way of death not only for the baby, its parents and family, but society as well.

You know, I recently had a strange thought. Several years ago my state of Victoria legalised abortion to full term and almost immediately we experienced the worst fires in our nation’s history and yet we do not connect dots. This past year the state of Queensland has been attempting to enact the same abortion laws and flooding of “biblical proportions” and a ferocious

cyclone the worst in 90 years and unlike any we have known in our recent history is experienced by their state and other parts of the nation. Is someone trying to tell us something?

Is nature rebelling at what is happening to the “image” of God? Because, as we know every child is created in the image and likeness of God (Gn 1:27) and every human being is the continuation of the creative works of God and every abortion is the continuation of the hatred against God.

I recently posed this same question at a small group of female friends (cake and coffee) and I must admit that it did bring a sort of silence to the room. At least I now know how to stop chatter, and whilst these beautiful friends are good people and faith people the thought that God might not be happy with what is going on in the world especially with the abortion and life issues, and that nature *might* also rebel in sympathy with its Creator, just as it did on that hour at Calvary, (Mt. 27:51-55) seemed to these dear friends as something akin to preposterous and monstrous.

How come it has become so “uncool” to connect dots? How come it has become “maudlin” (was a term used) to speak about such matters? Have we “sophisticated” ourselves unto death? If we as a society cannot see the “wrong” of abortion and we cannot grieve “floods of tears” for those (50,000,000 a year every year) infants dying alone and unwanted, why then do we find it hard to believe that nature is doing the weeping because we fail to do so?

Over the last fifty years we have seen much change in our society some for the better but much also not for the better. Today the “culture of death” seems to hold firm, yet if we wish to defeat this it must be because we have seen the “wrongness” of this and have begun to fight its stranglehold. Even if it means that we are considered “not cool” or even “nutty” or even “fruit loop” or heaven forbid “religious nut”

Today we have abortion to the extent that we have because we as a society didn’t fight when it openly and publically reared its ugly head about fifty years ago.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ P/C \_\_\_\_\_

Donation \_\_\_\_\_ I *would/would not* like to be on your mailing list.

Send to:

**Victims of Abortion, National Office**

PO Box 6094, Vermont South, Vic, 3133, Australia.

Email: [anne@victimsofabortion.com.au](mailto:anne@victimsofabortion.com.au)

We were polite and now we have to stop being polite and say enough, the infant in the womb has a right to its own life. It is a fully human being. It cannot be violently euthanized in the womb simply because someone doesn't want it. It is a human being with full rights of a human being.

The fight must begin or perhaps nature will have to continue fighting, weeping, rebelling on our behalf and just as the innocent infants die in the womb indiscriminately, nature also does not discriminate.

## **"Choice" the sin of the Garden**

Dear friends I am a little hesitant to write what I am going to write next because I know that I have some very good supporters and friends who do not have a religious belief and I do not want to upset them, but I need to write as I am prompted to do and I hope that I write with love and compassion and that those who do not have a belief will honour the words even if they feel they cannot believe them.

As I listened to one of my friends speaking to me (during that coffee afternoon) she kept using the term "women's choice" it occurred to me that again that term, that idea of "choice" is at the root of abortion and that "abortion" was first seen in the "Garden."

In the first instance we meet this idea of "choice." In the first three chapters of Genesis when God told Adam that they could have all except a particular fruit of a particular tree. Then the serpent came along and told them that they should have a "choice" and be able to choose between right and wrong and to do so without fear of retribution. Today it is the same, "make the choice and don't worry I've had an abortion and its OK. You won't even remember it" (said a pro abortion young miss to one of my girls who absolutely does remember it daily and with much pain). "It's your choice. It's your body don't let anyone tell you what to do with your body." There dear friends is that thought, concept and word "choice" again. Obedience or listening to the first Voice (God) was not to be considered but "choice" and "self determination" was to be the answer then and it seems the same now especially in life matters.

The battle was to be between "choice" and "obedience or better still "trust." With "choice" ultimately being chosen

then and with suffering being its gain or prize. Today, again we see that woman is demanding that "choice", and again its prize is suffering.

As I work with post abortive men and women I am always amazed at the nature of this grief. It is so unlike any other. The grief of the post abortive man or woman has written within it an echo of the horror of eons ago which had embedded within it "intentional death and guilt as part of it suffering" The same as the grief of "Adam" (Human male or female) as he/she looked back on "choice."

The body we give to the child is part of human work. Is part of our contribution and co operation with the continuing works of God, and when we abort the child there is an echo of failure on our side of the work. There is imprinted an echo of that first lie (abortion) that there would be no suffering and that the self would be "OK"

If indeed it is true that every child/creation is in the image of God, and so we believe (Gn 1:27) "God loves each human being uniquely and profoundly," (His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI said on Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> to members of the Pontifical Academy For Life) and thus brings into creation a continuation of that Divine image, then when we abort we are aborting a sacred image and if this is so why are we surprised that so much evil and wickedness exists in our times? So much pain. So much sorrow. So much confusion. So much confusion amongst the young. So much confusion about the sick and elderly. So much confusion about all matters pertaining to life?

If we abort a sacred image every time we abort a child then we abort a divinely creative work. Indeed we as humans give the child a body and through the body of the child when we abort we abort a new initiative designed by God for the good of all of us and our society. How much "good" have we as a society been deprived of because we have aborted the infinitely beautiful initiatives of God?

OH Lord how sinful and slow of thinking we have become.

Please help us and forgive us and heal us.

## Gender Selection

In a horror story which appeared in Australian newspapers recently there was a story of a couple who aborted their twin sons because they wanted a baby girl to replace one that had been stillborn.

What makes this story more horrifying is that the twins were brought into being via IVF. Twin boys beautifully created in the image and likeness of God and destroyed because they were the wrong gender.

Now of course the same couple are fighting for the “right” to have another attempt at IVF discarding more embryos (babies) until a girl is created. What wickedness.

This couple have taken their cause to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal to be given that right to select the gender of their IVF baby. An independent tribunal has rejected their request and the couple now want this decision by the tribunal overturned. “We think it’s our right to have a chance to do it” said the male partner....*Imagine!! it’s now a “RIGHT” to select the gender and when that gender is wrong then abortion.* The gates of Hades have indeed been flung open.

First we have demanded a “right” to have an abortion (for parents to kill their babies) and to terminate a pregnancy for any or no reason now up to 40 weeks gestation and now gender selection is demanded as a “right” and already the innocents are dying for this “right” (twins).

And how did we get to this? When we let down our guards about 50 years ago and started listening to some disenfranchised and disenchanting women speak utter horror and we others did not rebuke them. Indeed we gave them time and platform to spew forth their hatred of women and children.

We have reached this stage of demanding the right to “gender selection” and killing those which are of the not selected gender (twins) because we have dehumanised both the woman and the infant in her womb.

This dehumanisation is so deeply entrenched that even good men and women can entertain thoughts of “poor couple they have lost their baby girl and want another one. Be kind Anne”

In this “be kind Anne” and the couple’s desire for a baby girl

to replace one that sadly died, we are forgetting that other infants were intentionally killed. Infants who would have been loved by other couples who cannot have a child. Twin baby boys who would have been so loved by a couple of my dear friends who cannot have children. And I am supposed to be kind? Yeah right!

In one of the newspaper reports the woman is reported as having said that they had “made the decision to terminate the twin boys because they could not continue to have unlimited number of children” (they have three sons).

As I read these words in the paper I shuddered at the words used “twin boys” “children” so they knew that they were aborting children and not, tissue, cells, or products of conception. No they knew they were terminating the life of their sons and this was OK? Because they had enough sons and wanted a daughter.

The coldness of these words leaves me shuddering. How far down the slippery slope we have slipped. How far we have fallen that a mother can say that it’s OK to terminate the life of her twin boys because they are the wrong gender and they could not continue to have “unlimited” number of children. But they can have unlimited number of abortions till they get what they want?

And have this as a right? How sad I feel. I knew it was coming.

## Gestational Carrier!!

And the week didn’t get better!

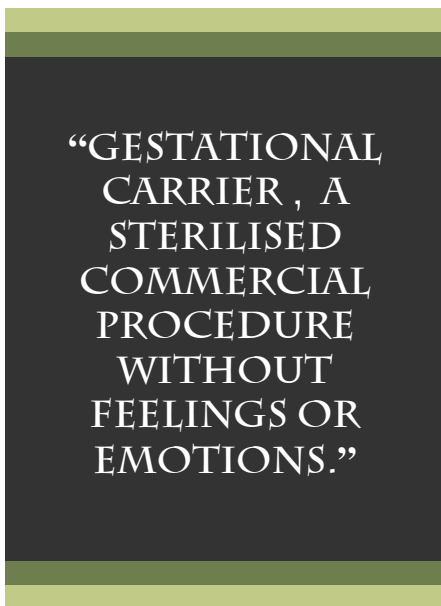
Belatedly I read an article sent to me by a reader of this newsletter and I shuddered

again.

Yes indeed it was marvellous to read that Nicole Kidman and her husband welcomed a new baby girl delivered for them by a surrogate mother or “gestational carrier” as Ms Kidman described her.

Listen to these words “gestational carrier” Not mother, not lady. Not woman. Not even surrogate mother with all its moral difficulties and issues (which was the way of delivery of this infant) but “gestational carrier”

This, dear friends, is how the slippery slope becomes more slippery. This, dear friends, is how the separation of woman and baby and infants and pregnancy becomes entrenched into our collective psyches and abortion or terminating the life of an infant in the womb becomes possible because of the separation of “mother” and “baby” into all kinds of euphemisms. This, dear friends, is what we are heading towards, “rent a womb” or more sanitised rent a “gestational



carrier". Nicely cold and devoid of all the emotions that go with pregnancy and motherhood.

A "gestational carrier," a sterilised commercial procedure and if it's a sterilised, cold, "gestational carrier", without feelings or emotions involved then of course "gestational carriers" or what were once called pregnant women or even infanticipating women can vacate that carrying facility (if the need be) without thought or rancour.

The first sentence written by the author of The Australian newspaper (28/1/2011) "the objectification of women's bodies and commodification of childbirth came together yesterday in a single antiseptic phrase contained in the announcement of a second child for actress Nicole Kidman and her musician husband Keith Urban" says it all.

Indeed in the two words uttered by Ms Kidman "gestational carrier" we see clearly the "objectification" of the woman's body and the making of infants as commodities to be bartered and bargained for. The two words which she no doubt thought intelligent and cool removed from the mother of the infant, the woman who shared her whole body, blood, emotions, and who fed, nurtured and caressed the infant for nine months, removed her humanity. These two words demoted the woman who carried the child to the status of nothing more than an available womb. A womb for sale. A wheelbarrow for carrying bricks, a shopping trolley. After all these things do the same function, that is, to "carry?"

These two words "gestational carrier" made void all the interaction, sharing, and psychological and emotional dialogue which went on between the mother and child for the duration of the pregnancy.

These two words attempt to dismantle and fracture the meaning of mother and motherhood. The meaning which has been understood from all time and all generations and all cultures to mean carrying and giving life to another. "Gestational carrier?" Might as well say barrow or shopping cart, after all these do the same work (carrying of items) and evoke the same emotions.

Again how have we got to this place? We have gotten here because high profile figures initiate the process.

A woman who never even had an abortion and who later regretted her action was goaded into beginning the process which led to *Roe v Wade* (1973) law in America which changed forever the laws protecting the life of the infant in the womb by declaring the life in the womb is not human. That was the official start to the open abortion situation we have today (approx 50,000,000 globally p.a) One woman set into motion the process which has led to the abortion mentality of today.

Likewise a comment like "gestational carrier" can signal the start of greater dehumanisation of woman and her unique and most beautiful role of "life bearer" and the utilitarianism which sees the infant as a commodity or consumer product, to be toyed with, bartered, sold and bought, disposed of, as in gender

selection where the ideal child is sought or abortion, for wrong gender, imperfect or disabled child and or any other reason where termination is wanted.

Dear friends, I think I understand why Ms Kidman would have made such a cold statement. I think that she wants to remove all traces of the birth mother beginning with media coverage of her story so that later in life if her child reads the announcements she would believe that Ms Kidman has been her only mother.

Or perhaps even that she wants the child to know only her as "mother."

But always there is the woman who fed the child, nurtured her, shared her body for nine months and shared their life together for nine months. Indeed the infant will always remember her mother's heartbeat because that is the only one she heard during the time of her formation.

It is this dialogue, this sharing of life, this sharing of nutrition, this sharing of emotions which indeed are the cause of post abortion grief or separation grief, or adoption grief, or abandonment grief. It is this intimate time between mother and her forming baby which bonds them for life and is the cause of much pain when separation occurs. Even when abortion is sought by the woman herself. Post abortion grief happens because of the continuing bonds between the woman and her infant.

Dear friends I believe that we have been made privy to an important moment in time when the slippery slope has slipped and sloped further. Please make loud comment whenever you encounter such dehumanisation let us not remain silent because we know where it can lead.

## **Abortion for foetal abnormality**

During my Christmas break I was called upon to speak to two young women seeking an abortion because their baby was found to have disability. One in particular was aborted because of Down syndrome.

Down Syndrome babies are routinely aborted, or are advised to be aborted and as this becomes acceptable and the mentality which this practice brings, it becomes difficult to draw a line. Should the next step be that we abort those suffering from dyslexia, autism, dwarfism, blindness or even because the person will be short, and/or not good looking? When the slippery slope is climbed upon the downhill slide is fast.

I did go into office and tried really hard to help the young woman to see the different side of the story and to help her to perhaps have love and Mercy for her baby and give him the chance to live and if she and her husband could not love it and keep it that there would be many who would love the child and bring him up. I tried but I failed.

She thanked me for the time but she wanted to abort as soon as possible so that she could get pregnant again and try again for a "healthy" baby. I felt such finality in those words. I knew

that I had failed to save the baby and I felt deep and lonely type of sadness. Perhaps I was feeling what the baby was feeling.

The second young woman (a friend of one of my former girls) came to speak with me because her friend "Marie" thought it would be a good idea to speak with me before she went ahead with the abortion. The infant had multiple disabilities and was not expected to survive the birth and her doctors thought it best to abort immediately rather than go through the pregnancy only to lose the child at birth.

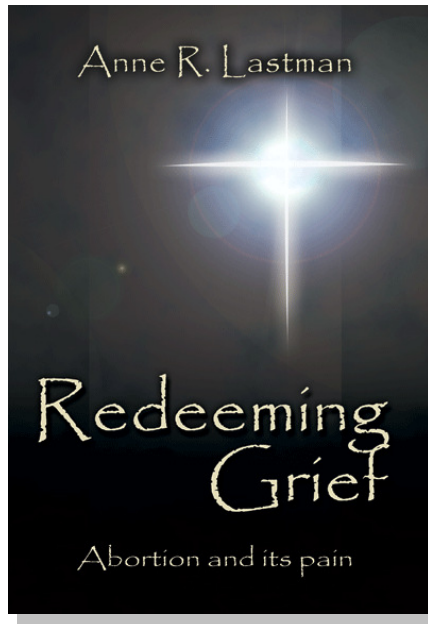
I have heard this so very many times. And yet we know that abortion for foetal abnormality leaves behind much grief because it is usually a wanted child. It is advanced in gestation, and significant dialogue has occurred between mother and child and father and child and there is so much guilt with the decision which they as parents feel (especially the male) that they have to make.

Abortion for foetal abnormality means that the parents have to decide the moment when their child dies. They have to decide that all the dreams, ideas, visions they had for that baby have to be terminated at a certain moment.

The woman (mother) goes into the hospital pregnant and leaves empty and alone. As "Sara" said to me about 2 years ago "after the abortion I kept holding my tummy and moving it and protecting it and hoping that my baby would still be in there" You see, they went in carrying a baby and hopes and a future and came out totally empty.

As I tried to talk to "Claire" about holding on to the baby and even if it was going to die she would get to hold him and name him and love him, and speak all the words of love that the child deserved to hear and finally give him a resting place in the presence of the rest of his family and then she would grieve for her loss but it would be the grief which accompanies the death of a loved one and not the grief which has attached to it guilt. It is the guilt which is corrosive. Grieving over a loss of loved one is a human response and good.

I tried these words with both "Clare" and "Pat" but neither of them was listening.



**Redeeming Grief** is a reflection of and study of abortion grief, which is experienced by some women who choose to undergo this elective procedure. These reflections are the result of listening to over 1000 personal stories and listening to the expressions used by the women as they spoke about their decision to abort the life of their child. These reflections then attempt to reconstruct the meaning that this procedure has had for the aborting woman and how this one procedure has been the catalyst for life changes.

**Redeeming Grief** looks at abortion trauma and grief from the spiritual and the psychological perspective. Its influences on the individuals involved and society. It is hoped that the language used is reader friendly and the concepts (both spiritual and psychological) are also reader friendly.

**AUD\$29.95 (inc GST)**

Plus postage and handling

To order your copy of *Redeeming Grief*, please complete this order form, detach, and send with Cash, Cheque or Money Order to:

Victims Of Abortion,  
PO Box 6094,  
Vermont South,  
Vic, 3133, Australia.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ P/C \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number of copies _____ @	AUD \$29.95 each
P+H (per book)	AUD \$3.45 (within Australia)
	OR AUD \$8.70 (Asia Pacific)
	OR AUD \$12.60 (Worldwide)

**Total AUD \$** \_\_\_\_\_

As I continued thinking about this and all abortion for foetal abnormality it occurred to me that as we abort disabled and remove these from our sight, we will lose our innate ability for empathy till eventually we cannot know how to empathise. How to feel for another. How to accept and love one that is not like “us.”

As we watch the disabled and their achievements and trials and triumphs (athletes/Olympians/sons/daughters) we can marvel at the human spirit and without this vision how can we know that it is the human spirit which is powerful and beautiful and whole and worthy of love and respect and not focus on outward appearances?

How can we know how to love in the dimension of the cross? Will the only love we become capable of be a love engendered by the senses? It is a frightening thought.

Whenever we read the story of Gethsemane we hear Jesus asking His three friends to wait and watch with Him (Mt: 26:38) and somehow, they don't. They drift into daze under some heavy emotional weight, some heaviness.

Jesus, I presume, had hoped that they might have stayed alert and prayed with Him, and kept Him company in that “hour” of aloneness, but again they couldn't. There was a sense of heaviness of heart and body which stopped this from happening. They couldn't be present to Him and for Him because they had a sense that something unspeakable was about to happen. (like abortion) Something which they could not even comprehend. They couldn't pray because, it was almost like they had been ‘prayed out.’ and when someone is ‘prayed out’ the most we can do is to rest, while someone else or others are praying for you.

Ostensibly it appears that His friends let Jesus down, and abandoned Him, and perhaps they did, (like friends do when they encourage abortion) but you know, whenever we stand and hold the hand of a dying person, whenever we wait hour after hour after hour with someone to turn the corner. Whenever, we spend hours sponging the dry lips of someone we love. Whenever we pray hour after hour, for healing if possible, but for God's will to be done at all times. Whenever, we close the eyes and catch the last breath of a human being who's leaving for home, then we fulfil the request of Jesus to wait with Him for an hour. (Mt 26:36-46).

The friends of Jesus have been harshly judged for ‘sleeping’ and yet we know how hard it is to wait and wait especially when the heart is heavy and the night appears long. We know how hard it is when we reach a stage that we cannot pray for someone anymore, and we have to then allow other friends and loved ones to hold us suffering ones in prayer. I suspect that the friends of Jesus (Peter, James & John) reached a stage where they couldn't pray or help any more. They could just drift. It has been said that the wine helped the sleep. Perhaps.

It helped to dull the aching pain of something different with that night. The beginning of the physical separation from their loved One, Jesus

Whenever we can wait hour after hour, whether praying or sighing or holding a hand or sponging dry lips, then we do it to Jesus “what ever you do to the least of my brothers you did it to me” (Mt 25: 31-46) and we do it for the friends of Jesus who had reached a stage where they could not do any it any more. We uphold them by praying for them.

As I reflect on the love and devotion of a family with a disabled son then I know we are doing it for Jerry and his family and also for Jesus and His friends who could no longer watch and wait (Mt. 26:41).

As we help a young woman to carry her child who is perhaps destined for a short time on earth (disabled) or even encourage a young woman to carry the child against all the advise that she is receiving, and we help and encourage this young and courageous mother and father, to love their child and bring it to birth, then we fulfil our human need to be our brother's keeper both for the child and his/her parents and the request to “watch and wait with me a while”

We fulfil the words of Jesus “whatsoever you did the least of mine you did it to me” and we fulfil the request of Jesus to wait awhile during suffering. Suffering is not something to be sought or even perhaps lauded but when it comes in whatever shape it comes, it has within it the power to ennoble and to change a world imploding on itself.

As we abort infants because they are considered “not quite right” we fail (all of us) the mandate to “wait with me while”.

## **Special Letter. A Personal Witness.**

*By Heather her story first appeared in issue 70.*

Hi my name is Heather and I have been a client of Anne Lastman for more than 2 years. I want to tell everyone about the difference that Anne has made to my life and what her help has meant to me personally.

### **This is my Story.**

I believe that in life some people are lucky enough to meet someone special, someone who is only too willing to help them to rise up again when they are down, just as if you had fallen and someone was there and out their hand to help you up. I am one of those lucky people who has been fortunate enough to meet someone like that, and her name is Anne Lastman.

When I first met Anne I was seriously thinking of wanting to die as I no longer had any interest in life. In my case when I

# Letters

Dear Anne,

Thank you for “Broken Branches” and the wonderful work that you do. May Jesus and Mary strengthen you and enable you to ‘get through’ to more and more people.  
Please accept my donation towards your work.  
Love and God’s blessings.

Kevin T. (Vic)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Anne,

Enjoy your break and come back refreshed  
I hope that you do take a good break otherwise your health will suffer. Merry Christmas dear Anne.

Sophie K.

*Dear Sophie thank you for your kind thoughts and words and yes I did get to Perth see my sons and their families. It was lovely.  
And you are right a health issue has arisen but I will be OK (I hope).  
Anne*

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Anne,

Thank you for all the work you put into those who suffer and thank you for educating us about this awful topic. Yours is the most informative and friendly newsletter I receive and I look forward to it every time.  
God bless you dear

Marie R (NSW)

*Thanks Marie.*

Dear Anne,

As I read all this year’s issues of the newsletter I was amazed at the amount of information you have shared with us readers. And they are all so different and so good to read.  
Have a good break and recover and I look forward to more reading next year (2011)  
Yours in Christ Jesus

Paul S (Vic)

*Thanks Paul and sorry for delay in sending this issue.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Anne,

As I read your summary of the past year (2010) I marvelled at the amount of work you and wonder how you keep up with it and of course your family commitments.  
Well done and congratulations on your successful year.

Blessings

John S. (Vic)

*Thanks John and thanks for your support in all the ways you have done so.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Anne

I just want to let you know how much I enjoy your newsletter. At times its very heavy reading and then it takes two or three goes at getting through it but when this happens I know its important reading so I take it slower. As an older person I take things slowly anyway.  
Enclosed a “widows mite”

A happy and Holy Christmas is wished for you and your family.

Kath S.

*Thanks Kath for “widows mite” glad you like it and I appreciate your care.*

first met Anne it was just after I had been raped and because of the rape it brought back memories of being sexually abused as a child from the age of 8, by 4 members of my immediate family. This included by raped by my grandfather when I was 20 years of age. Also at the time I met Anne I was dealing with had had an abortion when I was 18 years old.

In the more than 2 years that I have been seeing Anne I have been able to put my babies to rest, (I was pregnant with twins). Anne gave me the chance to be able to name my babies and give them an identity and a place to belong. She also helped me to realise that what happened to me as a child was not my fault, because I used to think I must have been to blame for it.

Anne, as far as I am concerned has given me a reason to want to live she has made me feel that life is worth living. If I had not met Anne chances are I would not be here now. I believe with all my heart and soul that I owe my life to Anne, because not only did she help me rise up from one of the darkest times in my life, Anne showed me how to focus on the present and on the future instead of dwelling in the past. She lifted me up and holds me up. Anne has done all of this for me without ever expecting anything in return and that is a rare quality to find in people these days.

I still have my moments of course but I know that Anne is only too willing to be there for me when I do. To me Anne is one of God's earthly angels who were put on this earth to help people who need it.

"Thank you" just doesn't seem enough but thank you Anne for what you have done and are still doing for me.

God Bless you Anne in this life and the next.  
**Heather.**

Dear Friends as I come to the end of this newsletter, I want to end on a positive note by telling you that even though I was not able to save the above two mentioned infants I did help to save one other. Please pray for Nancy as she continues with her pregnancy.

Also I would like thank all those dear friends who sent me Christmas cards and gifts, and donation for this work and those

who have prayed for me and this work.

Thank you especially to Marie-Odille (France) for lovely letter and card. Thanks also Cathy H. Vic and Paul and family (Syd) Fr John Sydney. Carol H Melb.

As we begin the New Year I ask you for prayers for me and the work. For me especially to be strong and courageous in the face of the many difficulties and much stress which come with this work. I am going to try and slow down a little which probably means only 3-4 days per week instead of at times 6 days per week and 2 mornings per week beginning 6.30am, and continuing till mid afternoon. I start so early so that I can see several of the girls before they go to work and I don't have to work in the evening in the city office. And this unrelenting pace is very exhausting and I don't seem to recover as quickly as I used to.

Also dear friends please let me know of change of address because it means that there won't be waste of stamps. If you don't wish to receive the newsletter just simply let me know. Recently I received a pack of 6 different newsletters sent to the same person at the address which I have, but the person had moved 15 months earlier. Remember I never remove anyone from newsletter list unless a specific request is made. Thank you I appreciate your care and thoughtfulness.

Please continue to pray for my people Juliet, Suzie, Heather, John, Josie, Matt, Stephanie, Charlene, Roger, Erica, Judy Diane, Anna, Monica, Marlene, Lynda, Patsy, Jacquie, Talia, Carol, Lin, Maggie, Rose, Bianca Nancy (Pat & Claire in this issue of newsletter, for a while)

May the Lord Bless and keep you in His care.



**Anne Lastman**

© Copyright Anne Lastman, VOA, 2011. No part of this publication may be reproduced without permission.

**BROKEN BRANCHES · BY EMAIL!**



Dear Friends,

In an effort to help reduce the costs and time put into preparing each newsletter, I am now able to email it out to you in Adobe Acrobat format (.PDF). So if you would prefer to receive Broken Branches electronically, please email me at [anne@victimsofabortion.com.au](mailto:anne@victimsofabortion.com.au) to be added to the email list.