

Broken Branches

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

ISSUE 145 – OCT/NOV 2021

A Very Special Letter

I have, after last newsletter, had half dozen cancellations due to "too much bad news" So I have decided to take note of that and maybe write something which isn't "too much bad news" Mind you my kind of work and charism doesn't lend itself to happy reporting, but then I spent a few days thinking about the words of my readers who said that they are leaving due "too much bad news" and I decided to try and make the next newsletter (this one) not too much "sad"

I thought about this and decided to share with you a letter I received about 2 months ago from a former client who went on to live a really happy, fulfilling and successful life both personally and career wise.

Her name is Susan, and Susan was with me for about 18-19 months coming every week and her issues were both abortion and sexual abuse.

When she first came and I listened to her story my heart broke at the amount of suffering she and her own little "inner self" had gone through alone.

As I often do, I asked permission to put aside her abortion issue as I knew that this was the outcome of her previous traumatic life experiences.

I remembered thinking how frail she looked. Making no excuses, blaming no one but herself for "killing my baby" (she came to me re abortion and I discovered early childhood sexual abuse as we went along)

Susan felt comfortable with me and I with her which is important if we deal sexual abuse issues because of our need to revisit the events and speak about intimate things so it's important to feel comfortable.

Over many weeks and months, she slowly opened up not only about her abuse but she began to see that her decisions were also made with past history influence and she was able to see her attraction to partners who would not be good for her and would hurt her. She chose partners who were similar to her abuser so that the abuse would continue.

As she slowly began to see her life with new vision, she could see that her self-esteem and lack of self-love contributed to her

wrong and painful decisions. Loss of esteem came as a result the abuse.

It was such a pleasure working with Sue and meeting her "inner child" who was so much wanting to heal from her pain of abuse and her isolation and sense of abandonment (because she was silenced and alone about what was happening.)

During these sessions with her "inner child" she experienced a deep healing and a recovery of her "self" and slow relearning of what it means to slowly and progressively develop.

In just over a year and half she felt confident to come for sessions as needed and within several months we both felt that she should try walking her journey without me but always if there was a need that I would be available to help.

I didn't hear from her again until recently when I received a letter from her and I was so happy and proud of her and her achievements since we last met. I told her so too!!

Herewith her letter:

Dearest Anne,

Hope that you well and continuing your very special work. I recently came across one of your newsletters at the back of my church and I was reminded of you and the work we did together and I wanted so much to let you know how much I have done since we last met.

If you remember I was going to Uni and was finding it difficult to concentrate and difficult actually studying but with your assurance and encouragement and my perseverance I got to the end.

After graduating I was able to get a job (design) which I love so much and not only that but met the love of my life. we married and we have a little girl. I remembered you saying that God doesn't punish by not letting me have another baby because of my aborting the previous one.

My husband Pete knows about my past and says he loves me all the more.

Anne I am so happy in my life and this thanks to you and your not giving up on me especially when I was difficult. Thank you.

I have grown to love my life and I wake up every morning being grateful for it very much. For my gorgeous husband and beautiful little girl. Sometimes I think I don't deserve it then I remember what you said that Jesus would never speak like that to me so I remember who it is and banish him and the thought,

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 6561, East Perth, WA, 6892, Australia.

Or email: anne@victimsofabortion.com.au

and say to myself yes, I do deserve to be happy because, as you said, I was made for joy and happiness.

We are hoping and trying for a second baby and know that in God's time it'll will happen.

Again, I want to thank you so much for all you did for me because today I really am happy and when those awful times come to mind, I am able to banish them immediately.

*Thank you, dear Anne,
And God bless you.*

*Love Susan P.
Enclosed a donation as I remember how you don't charge and work only with donations.*

I hope dear friends that this is a positive. For me it made my day and it helps to confirm my work especially as at times it becomes difficult and I question "what am I doing here? I should be playing lawn bowls or fashion parades. Love fashion. I, in another lifetime worked in the field"

When I receive such letters and know that the person I was able to help has gone on to love her life and achieve what she sets her heart on then I know that I have done well and am where I should be.

An Unusual Request

In the spirit of not writing much sad news I want to share with you an experience I had during recent school holiday and children home from school.

One day three of my nieces (not biological -love nieces) were visiting and asked me a most unusual question. Indeed, it nearly floored me.

"Auntie Anne you like reading the bible can you tell us what the Trinity is? It's hard to understand that there are three people in one God."

Well,!!! this Auntie spluttered and was cornered. One way or another I had to come up with an answer to a great mystery and it had to be an answer which would satisfy, otherwise I would

be like another person/teacher? who said things and kids didn't understand

It was going to be a challenge but as the children were sincere, it was both important that I try and explain it at young level (not debate) and perhaps even, like Jesus did, use everyday things so that they could understand.

In a moment of what we call a "lightbulb moment" I was led to do something very common to explain something really "uncommon and mysterious"

Taking the children into the kitchen, I went filled a kettle with water and put on stove to boil-fully. Then to refrigerator (in freezer) and took out about half dozen ice blocks and placed these in small glass container.

This was followed by getting a glass tumbler filled with beautiful clear water.

The stage was set for the discussion to begin. (Noting first that kettle was boiling away and steaming- (careful not to set off the alarm).

"OK young ladies let's see if I can help you a little bit to understand the Trinity". Taking the ice blocks and glass of water to where kettle was boiling, we started.

OK let's start with this glass its full of what? Water, came the reply. Good. Now let's pretend that this glass of water is God the Father. Remember this is pretend because God is not water but I am using this to show you how the Trinity might be like. Ok, next what am I holding. "Ice blocks" ok good again. Now what are ice blocks made from? Water came the reply. Excellent. But what's different about the water in the glass and the ice blocks? The ice blocks are hard and you can hold them in your hands and they are bit heavy. OK then how about we say that this represents Jesus because Jesus you could see, touch, hold, was heavy and was like a person. A real person but different from the glass of water. But still water.

OK. Now we come to the Holy Spirit the third person of the Trinity. It's called Trinity because why? Trinity means three. OK excellent.

Now I want you to look at the kettle and tell me what's coming out of the spout. "Steam" Ok great! steam is right. Now what is steam made of? "Water" came the reply. Ok! good. Now tell me something about steam. It's hot. You can't touch it but you

can see it a little bit and it's wispy. But it's real and it's a different kind of water.

Excellent!!! so, steam is what? Water. Great! But remember the Trinity is not water I'm just using this to explain to you how there can be three things in one (Water). Three different ways that the water can act but its water, and the ice blocks come from the water, and are different but still water, and steam also come from water (see the water in kettle-glass kettle) but it acts in a different way. Completely different from glass of water (God Father). Ice blocks (Jesus because you can touch the blocks. See the blocks. Feel the blocks.) Steam (Holy Spirit) because we can't touch the Holy Spirit but he is real because you can't touch him but we can see him bit.

OK. let's start from the beginning. We have a glass of Water who does this represent? God. Good girl. Next, we have Ice blocks. Still water but who do these represent? Jesus. Why? Because you can see and touch him and has weight. Excellent.

Next, we have Steam who does this represent? Holy Spirit came the reply. How do we know this? Because we can barely see it and we can't touch it but we know it's there because it's coming out. And it's like love. We can't see love but we know it's there. (Auntie Anne was stunned! Auntie Anne hadn't thought of this)

Excellent so what do we have?
Water. God
Ice blocks.... Jesus
Steam or love.... Holy Spirit

And now tell me what are all of these three things made from? Water
Yes, that's right but what's the difference between them?

"They all do different things."

Good!!!

Now tell me what does the Father do?
(Remember He is Water for us to understand but He isn't really water) well he shares his water and it becomes Ice and he shares more water and becomes steam but they are all made of the same water but are different and different kinds of work and look different.

Tell me. Does the water become less because it becomes Ice?
No. Does the water become less because its steam? No. Does the glass of water become less because it gives itself to become something different? It shares itself. No.

So, you can see I've used water to explain how the Trinity might be like. Remember, Trinity is not water but a way to explain how the three are one Water, Ice, Steam. (God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit- All one (like the water) but completely different and separate from one another, but none of them loses anything because they are different and the important thing is that the Father (water/love) is in the Son Jesus (ice blocks/love) and the Father and the Son (both water and love) are in the Holy Spirit. (steam/water/love) So, when Jesus said "The Father and I are one that's what he meant. And

when he said "when the comforter comes (Holy Spirit) He will speak about me" Why? because All are made of same stuff or same thing, or as we say in Church the same substance, in this case, I use "water" to explain, but when we speak about the Holy Trinity it's God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit their substance is holiness and love. Their makeup is holiness and love It's not water but holiness and Love. All three are divine. All three have same holiness. God's breath is so Holy that every time he breaths and speaks, he creates what he speaks and it's with love. His voice so powerful and strong that what he says is created immediately.

All the three persons in the Trinity, while they are different are each in the other. (Like the water is in glass, water is in the ice, and in the steam) And all three are covered with love. So always God the Father, God the Son (Jesus) and God the Holy Spirit (Love). Are the Holy Trinity. One God. Have I explained it to you well?

God the Father is Holy and he shares his full holiness with His Son Jesus, who is fully Holy and shares His full holiness with the Father and the Holy Spirit. So, three in One whole Holiness and love. Because we know that God is love. And I can show

you where it says that "God is love" (showed them Ps 103) Have I explained this OK for you?

After some silence which felt like hours, the middle young miss (13 yrs.) said "Auntie Anne why don't you teach religion? You make it sound good and easy to understand" And my heart sang. 😊

Caring for self and others during these Covid 19 days

Dear friends just a few ideas about taking care of your/our own mental health during these difficult times.

What we know is that these times have increased anxiety, depression, inner sadness, grief (over not being able to see family, friends) fear of the interminable isolation, social distancing, loss of person-to-person encounters causing depression. The human being is a social person and needs not only the presence and closeness of others but a meeting of spirit with spirit. This meeting is what keeps us always connected and we understand our relatedness. The human person needs the physical touch, and the need to be present to feel secure and connected. Disconnectedness is damaging and perhaps the area of health which has not been given much thought during these times is mental health effects and its consequences.

That there is a rise in teenage depression? Not surprising. Teenage years are the years where a young person learns life long relationship behaviours. How to make friendships. Navigate the nuances of relationships. The happy and not so happy times in relationships but always an important learning. The isolation is deeply damaging because this stage of development is also a learning for life. I have heard it said in past sessions "I don't know how to make and keep friends" This because the client in question was not permitted to engage in socialising during the teenage years just in case "she told about her abuse" Not only was she being abused but she missed out completely on that developmental stage and I suspect that

...We have been
given a time to stop
and look and see...

this is what leads to stunted development and being “stuck” at time of abuse and behaviours of adult at very young non mature level. We need to be careful and be on lookout for teenagers and their daydreaming.

Other stressors play into mental health pain
Unemployment and financial difficulties and other stressors.
So, be kind to yourself. Before everything else.
We can be there for one another and let’s be companions in this part of the journey.
I would suggest make for yourself a place to be “just me”
Support and encourage co-workers, family, and friends.
Become a positive person

Remember that in the light of all the sorrow, pain, loneliness, indecision, fear etc that we see, there will be times when we feel helpless. That’s OK. It’s those times that God comes in and does the rest and even sits with us. That’s those moments of absolute peace. That’s when we see a dimension of love unlike any other and we know...
Don’t do the same thing every day. Take a day to do nothing or just whatever. And if in lockdown make a deal with yourself to spend a day every week viewing the real comedy funny shows. Endorphins are great for mental health.

Recognise difference between real whining and need to offload. There is a world of difference.
At the end of the day review the day and find the pearl for that day. There is *always a pearl* even if it’s a very small one. And write down each day’s pearl. At the end there will be so many pearls persons which would have passed by unnoticed.

Learn to do something beautiful
(writing/painting/sewing/reading/ mindful colouring etc this really does work and brings a peace of heart and mind.)

Constantly talking about Covid 19 and vaccinations, lockdowns, quarantine, social distancing, hand sanitising, numbers of cases and new cases, numbers dead, more lockdowns become tedious and friends and relatives become distant because they are also in same situation and also have the same fears. There is another life outside of pandemic and the other life helps to keep our mental health in some sort of balance.

Set aside a time to be totally away from phone, work, colleagues even family (where children not small.) Just a short time to be “you” Be creative

KNOW when to say “NO I can’t do this now. I need to take a break from talking about the pandemic and isolations, and lockdowns, and quarantine. I don’t want to hear those words for a little while. I need to look at skies, and have a bit joy in my heart and know that this too will pass.”

There will be an end to this time of global suffering. Perhaps we have been given a time to stop and reflect on where we have arrived and how deeply wounded is our society. We could even say that we are given time to stand still and look and take stock of all around us and those in our life who for some reason or other have been placed aside for what is considered “more important” stuff like work. Living in lockdown we need to connect and see where our love is.

Safe Access Zones

Very recently in the State of West Australia, a law was passed which forbids prayer and offer of help to women entering into abortion facilities to abort their baby, and this help in order to help them not to abort. This help over the years has saved many babies who are today going to school and being loved by their mother or parents.

The Parliament of this state followed other states of Australia and enacted law which forbids helpers and prayers. What a great shame that the state of WA has fallen to the same state of other places in Australia and women and babies have been deprived of the only sure help which could have helped them both at a time most needed.

On Saturday 14/8 there was an article in our daily paper which made me so angry. One author was the psychologist from Victoria’s oldest and perhaps largest abortion facility (never call them clinics they are not clinics because clinics heal) and the author an associate legal director at the human rights law centre)

The article by Dr Susan Allanson and Ms Adrienne Walters “abortion safe zones a start” (*The West Opinion* 14/8) is an article written by two individuals who have convincingly mishandled the truth.

The language used by them, “protestors” “screamed at” “jostled” “misleading and graphic images” “harassment” “intimidation” “accosted” “shamed” and the list is endless of adjectives used to highlight a supposed violence by the “protestors” (Helpers of God’s Precious Infants and others) and their idea of the persuasive story they were telling. Their language is emotive and used to show that prayers and others outside of facility need to be removed so as not to upset those going in for an abortion. The safe access zones forbid anyone going to offer help. Safe for who?

However, the reality is that none of these terms are true. Those so called “protestors” whom they accuse of these behaviours were there to offer assistance to any woman going in if help was needed, in order to help her to save her child. If help wanted it was available to her. If the assistance was unwanted then they continued on their journey and those “protestors” prayed for her and for her peace.

There is, and has been a wickedness in these pro-abortion females, and untruths they tell. Placing such restrictions in front of facility ensures that at no time can the women be offered an alternative to their decision to abort. The only option that they can see is one to terminate the life of their child. Abortion is always situation specific. What is difficult at the time will be gone in the future and help offered when needed ensures that she has no future regret because of her decision.

Women very often face coercion from boyfriends, husbands, parents and even careers which does contribute to their decision, and help for these was always offered, and when rejected nothing further. They continued into the abortion facility. Dr Allanson conveniently trots out the “fanatic” who walked into the East Melbourne abortion facility (*where she is the psychologist who supposedly counsels prior to the procedure and supposedly offers all options, but from what I’ve been told*

by clients the counselling is always towards abortion) many many years ago with murderous intention and in the process killed the guard hired by the facility to protect the staff and establishment. However, what Dr Allanson does not say is that the man in question was not in any way associated with the group praying outside the place and this was later confirmed. Dr Allanson conveniently forgets this part of the story.

The two authors speak about “abortion care?” “Health care?” “Dignity?” “Privacy?”

But since when is pregnancy a health condition? Women have been pregnant since time immemorial, and since when is “abortion care” real care for the woman? and where is the “dignity” of woman and her child being aborted? Why is that “dignity” not important or taken into account?

Dr Allanson, has worked for many years to change laws which removed from in utero children any right to their life, and the work of Dr Allanson and her cohort has ensured that today Australia has abortion (killing of in utero babies) to full term and even where babies born alive following a failed abortion, are not given care needed for them to survive. Why? Because the woman (like Dr Allanson) has demanded a dead baby. (abortion).

This is not healthcare. This is legal and intentional killing of a small human being with rights which should be same as those of its mother and should also be protected like hers.

How interesting that those calling for and demanding rights to freely terminate the life of the child are themselves living. Their own mother protected this right for them.

Whether these two authors believe it or not the reality is that abortion actually harms rather than helps the woman. Immediately following the abortion there is usually a sigh of relief because whatever the issue has gone away, but no one remains in the moment of “relief” and as time passes triggers bring to mind a memory of the decision made. No one remains in the “today”

There are hundreds of thousands of suffering women and some men who have stories of regret to tell. Unlike the stories of Dr Allanson and her friends that abortion is carried out for women’s health and with their interest at heart.

How do I know? Personally, and having counselled several thousand women for over 25 years. Yes, I am a qualified counsellor and have specialised particularly in this area of loss and grief. It’s an area of grief which not too many professionals want to work in because of the fact that abortion is a feminist issue and “legal”

What the state governments around Australia have done is legalised the killing of in utero infants without even the possibility of their mothers being offered help. The so-called safe access zones are not safe at all. Indeed, they offer woman a free entry into a locked chamber of pain.

If the same laws were passed to do same brutality to animals there would be an uproar (rightly so). However, it’s sad that the same cannot be said or done for pre born infants and now post birth infants (born alive and left to die)
The abortion tentacles have reached from in the womb to now the outside of the womb. Infanticide comes to mind.

Safe access zones are another scheme by women who have turned against themselves and their infant and have listened to the voice of evil which whispers that “it’s not a baby but a product of conception, or bunch of cells or tissue” By thinking this manner the safe access zones ensures that the real truth will not be heard. That is, that their “product of conception” “tissue” “cells” is actually their son or daughter.

Something else greatly disturbs me about these “safe access zones” and that is that those who pray cannot and are not any longer allowed to be close to the infant as he/she dies. The baby dies alone because the abortionist and staff don’t care. The mother (at times father) cannot care at this moment and so baby dies alone. We would not leave our loved ones and even our pets to die alone and yet these women (pro aborts who have pushed for safe access zones) have ensured that all babies die alone.

I suspect that the aforementioned authors of the article have completely lost their feminine genius and a sterility of mind, heart and body accompanies them and it ensures a dulled conscience.

In one of my recent newsfeeds, I read the story of a woman whose husband forced her to have 8 abortions because he wanted a boy only. Imagine 8 abortions. Is this the gender selection abortions? And to follow on from the last story about the safe access zones here is the reason for the pro-life people be present so that this would not and could not have happened because those helpers would have noted what was going on and offered help in whatever way needed and wanted.

Probably the most important help which could be given is to explain to the husband that he himself determines the gender of the child and the wife can only carry what he has delivered to her, another X chromosome.

I’m sorry but again I was reminded of the story I read where the young wife killed by husband and mother-in-law because she delivered a baby girl. Both of these stories come from the same country.

The presence of Helpers at the last point before the abortion could have helped both women and these thoughtless women who demand freedom to abort without restrictions enable these atrocities to occur. We didn’t hear these two authors standing up for the two above mentioned women who were forced and one died, because they delivered a wrong gender baby.

Our two aforementioned authors ensconced in their glass and chrome offices were too busy plotting to notice.

The safe access zone laws are heartbreaking because real babies are killed and those who want to help are barred from offering help and those receiving help forbidden to accept.

The Simon of Cyrene couldn’t help because he wasn’t allowed to.

Letters

Dear Anne,

Many thanks for your response to my email and for offer to print my letter in your newsletter. By all means, if you think it will help/encourage readers. I trust this forwarded email of my letter to Community Newspaper can be reproduced clearly. I should have sent you this instead of the published copy. My heartfelt thanks and may God bless you for all your persistent research/publication on critical life issues.

Cheers and God bless,
Peter

Dear Editor,

*With current moves to abolish the Lower House seat of Keysborough in proposed state electoral boundary changes, I was intrigued to read reported comments by Cr Jim Memeti. He expressed his concern over the risk of pressure on surrounding local MPs: "especially to lose someone of Martin Pakula's calibre." He added: "If he can't find a seat locally, he would be a big loss to this region." (NO SEAT FOR MP, *DSJ July 6).*

If Cr Memeti refers to 'high calibre', he doesn't know Mr Pakula's record very well.

In the early hours of Friday 10 October 2008, Martin Pakula was one of the 23 members of the Victorian Legislative Council who passed the Abortion Law Reform Act (ALRA 2008) into the Victorian statute books. The direct result of this infamous legislation till now has been the cruel, deliberate elimination of approx. 234,000 innocent unborn humans in Victoria.

One reality that cannot be escaped (and yet is so often buried or suppressed) is the ongoing pain, trauma and regret experienced by their mothers that can linger for decades. Too many mothers are put under coercion, denied truly humane counselling. True 'Women's choice' is a myth.

Included in the tragic statistics are hundreds of confirmed late-term abortions (LTAs), i.e., after 20 weeks gestation (324 in 2017 according to an RMIT ABC Fact Check). More than one source affirms LTAs have increased 39% since the 2008 law was passed. Even many babies born alive after attempted LTAs are left to die, deprived of any care - ALL 'safe and legal' under the ALRA 2008. The next step will be proposed legalised infanticide - babies born alive left to die after failed LTAs is really the start.

It would be fair to assume a great many of these 234,000 innocent victims, if granted their basic right to live, would have become excellent lawyers, entertainers, footballers, doctors/medical carers or politicians with proven lives of HIGH CALIBRE that contribute, in the best of their capacity, to the happiness, welfare and fulfillment of ALL their fellow humans, free from discrimination.

Yours sincerely,
Peter Phillips, Springvale

Thank you, Peter. This copy is clearer/ the one which was in the paper was blurry when copied onto this. Peter is a prolific "letter to Ed" writer on abortion/life matters. Thanks Peter.

***Dandenong Star Journal**

Dear Anne,

Thank you for another inspiring *Broken Branches* You just wonder can it get any worse? Its very hard to live in these times, however, we are promised better times will come. You are a light in these times always informing us with the truth! The truth will set us free, even if we don't like it it has to be told, so thank you dear Anne for always sharing it with us. God bless you always.

Love and prayers

Trudy.

Ps small donation.

Dear Trudy, thank you for your kind words, encouragement and donation. I appreciate your care so much. And yes, it is an awful time that we live in. We have so much given to us yet we do the wrongs out of choice. Keep well and Covid safe.

Anne

Dear Anne

I'm sorry dear that you are experiencing difficult times with your ministry. These are difficult times for all of us especially with the insecurity of work and finances for family and other hardships which arrive courtesy of this pandemic.

I fear that this scourge won't leave us for a long time to come and our only hope is to get on our knees and pray very very hard and ask the Lord to have Mercy on all of us.

I am of the very old times and I never thought I would see these days. War days were bad enough but these days even though different nearly equal it.

Keep courageous dear and keep going as long as you can and I do hope that your epilepsy keeps at bay.

Thank you for your newsletter which comes out faithfully every 7-8 weeks and I enclose a small "widow's mite"

God bless you dear.

Ann K.
NSW

Thank you, dear Ann. I appreciate your "widow's mite" very much.

*Love and hugs.....Anne
Thanks for your call.*

Beautiful words from His Holiness Pope Francis please read.

For someone who is often accused of not saying much about abortion I think he says a lot. His words “we carry their suffering in our heart” Please hear the words he is saying. Please hear the words “we carry their suffering in our hearts” This means that the babies suffer. They suffer when they know (and they do) that their mother doesn’t want them. We carry their suffering in our hearts and in our society. Our society is mired with blood of innocents and we wonder why.....

**Pope Francis Mourns Millions of Babies Killed in Abortions, We Carry Their “Suffering” in Our Heart
Micaiah Bilger | Apr 1 2021 LifeNews:**

Pope Francis remembered the millions of innocent unborn babies who are killed in abortions Wednesday in his Holy Week message about Christ’s sacrifice on the cross.

During his daily message at the Vatican, the pope said Jesus’s crucifixion reminds him of the “sacrificed lambs” who are “crucified in our time,” including victims of war, dictatorships and abortion, the Catholic News Agency reports.

“By adoring the Cross, we will relive the journey of the innocent Lamb, sacrificed for our salvation,” Pope Francis said. “We will carry in our minds and hearts the sufferings of the sick, the poor, the rejected of this world; we will remember the ‘sacrificed lambs,’ the innocent victims of wars, dictatorships, everyday violence, abortions.”

He told Christians “not to forget today’s crucified ones” because “in them is Jesus.”

“Before the image of the crucified God, we will bring, in prayer, the many, the too many who are crucified in our time, who can only receive from Him the comfort and meaning of their suffering,” Pope Francis said.

Though the world is full of evil and darkness, the pope said Jesus brings hope.

“Let’s make a list of all the wars that are being fought right now, of all children who are dying of hunger, children who have no education, of entire peoples destroyed by wars, by terrorism,” he continued. Because “Jesus took upon himself the wounds of humanity and death itself, God’s love has irrigated these deserts of ours, he has enlightened our darkness.” Pope Francis said Christ’s resurrection on Easter demonstrates that good always triumphs over evil and life over death. He encouraged Christians to cling to that hope in the midst of troubles. “Dear brothers and sisters, this year too we will experience the Easter celebrations in the context of the pandemic,” he said. “In many situations of suffering, especially when people, families, and populations already tried by poverty, calamity or conflict suffer them, the Cross of Christ is like a beacon that indicates the port to ships still offshore in the stormy sea. “Christ’s Cross is a sign of the hope that does not disappoint; and it tells us that not even one tear, not one sigh is lost in God’s plan,” the pope concluded.

Pope Francis frequently mentions unborn babies and condemns abortions in his messages.

Earlier this year, he expressed pain at the growing push for legalized abortions across the world. Speaking to the ambassadors to the Holy See in Rome, the pope urged leaders to protect every human life, including unborn babies “from conception in the womb.”

In 2018, he caused outrage among abortion activists after comparing abortion to “hiring a hitman” to kill unborn babies. He frequently describes aborted babies as victims of a “throwaway culture” and encourages society to recognize their value.

Dear Friends as I come to the end of another newsletter, I have tried to make this issue “not so sad” but as you know it’s not so easy in my area of work.

Just a note to thank all who responded to the need to put something into the empty biscuit tin. Thank you it has a little in it and will completely cover newsletter and other up and coming expenses. I thank those who care for this work and I also thank so much those who cannot help \$\$\$\$ but pray for me and my clients. Sometimes I can really really feel prayers help me.

I’ve had 4 “girls” say this past week “Please don’t ever stop your work” Hmmmm. what can I say to that except only the Lord knows when the time has come. But words like these make me feel like I am doing something really well.

Thank you again and please continue prayers, during these difficult times I need them more than ever.

Please continue prayers for. Fran, Chris, Carmen, Belle, Melissa P, Sarah, Carol, Natalie, Stephanie, Thea, Sharyn, Alysha, (new) Elizabeth (new) Matthew, Tania. (old but returned S/A).

May the Lord Bless and keep you safe.



Anne Lastman

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Broken Branches – By email!

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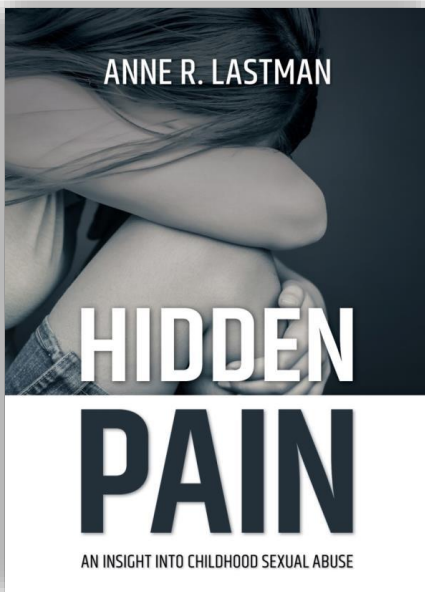
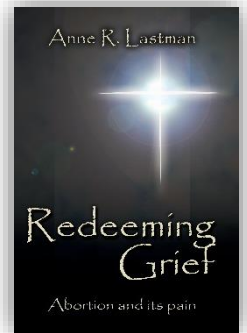
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There is a limited number of the first edition of Redeeming Grief to be cleared at a reduced priced of **\$10.00** including postage within Australia.
If you or anyone you know may be interested, please pass this on to help me clear them.

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HIDDEN PAIN is written about memories which are hidden and cannot be spoken out loud. It is a book about shame, pain, sorrow and lives which have gone wrong both for victims, families, and perpetrators. Sexual abuse of children is common in all communities, in all societies, and yet it's still one of the last remaining taboos. It is something which cannot be spoken about because it's so awful, so inappropriate that it cannot be discussed. Yet discussed it must be, because the children are crying and pleading to be helped.

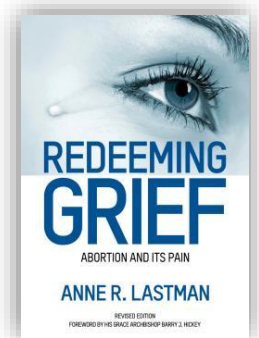
This is not a step by step guide to dealing with abuse. It is the result of my engagement with those who have come to me originally for post abortion counselling and on further investigation it was found that abuse (especially in cases of multiple abortions) existed in their history. It is my hope that **HIDDEN PAIN** can be of help to those who read it and more so be vigilant and not to turn away when a child is suffering.

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