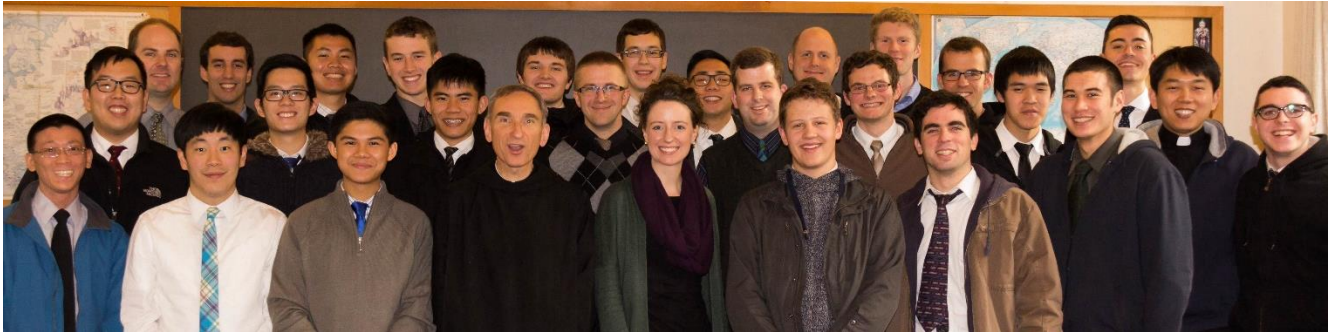


LOVE unleashes life

January-February 2015

Dear Friends,

*As I sit on an airplane flying from San Francisco back home to Vancouver, I'm bursting with excitement to share with you highlights from the past month. I couldn't be on the front lines having the impact I am if it weren't for your financial support, so thank you! May you be encouraged by my **top 10 list for the start of 2015:***



1. **Spent a week teaching (for 17 hours!) at the Seminary of Christ the King/Westminster Abbey** and spoke to the alumni priests (which included a bishop), monks, and minor as well as major seminarians. I spent most of my time with the latter group (above)—our future shepherds—and was encouraged by their feedback. When asked how useful they thought the training was for a priestly vocation they wrote comments such as “essential,” “very much so,” and “extremely useful.”

Another said, “*This workshop has really grounded my call to [the] priesthood*” and “*you have equipped us with many essential pastoral tips and wisdom which will encompass all sorts of aspects of our ministry.*”

2. **Provided assistance to Pastor Ken Shigematsu of Tenth Church in Vancouver** who preached on abortion and sent me his sermon draft in advance to give feedback on. I'm working with him and other Vancouver-area Christian leaders to reach out to better equip people of faith to think and act pro-life.
3. **Lead a grade 10 retreat to over 100 students at Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School**, giving a motivational presentation on core values to live our lives by, as well as a talk on sexual ethics. Afterwards, one student wrote, “*I found her advice helpful,*” and

another said, “*I found the speaker very captivating and made a bland and repetitive subject VERY interesting.*”

When asked in what ways the presentation influenced how the students think and behave, one wrote, “*Always do the right things, even if it's hard*” and another said, “*It makes me think about those who inspire us to do better [and it] also makes me think about my perspective on sexual morality.*”

4. **Spoke to 800 teenagers in grades 8-12 at Holy Cross Secondary School** and spent the rest of the day answering questions in classrooms. I'm awaiting the students' surveys but organizing teacher Josh Palmarin said there were “*very positive reviews from staff and students.*”
5. **Started blogging for Dynamic Women of Faith**, a wonderful ministry started by my friend Dorothy Pilarski who I met when I lived in Toronto. Learn more at www.dynamicwomenfaith.com.
6. **Spent an evening catching up with my dear sisters in Christ, and fellow pro-life leaders, Lila Rose of Live Action and Cristina Barba of The Culture Project (over).** We have known each other for the past 7 to 12 years and have connected with a

deep friendship over our similar journeys in the movement. Our conversation was a time of great encouragement and consolation.



7. **Spoke to 1,400 teenagers in Washington, DC, at the Louisiana Right to Life Geaux Forth Conference.**

This was a new talk I developed called “Love Unleashes Life.” A student came up to me afterwards, in tears, expressing that **she’d been going through some doubts in her faith journey but as a result of the presentation she was reminded to stay on the right, and narrow, path.** Another audience member sought my counsel about how to help her teenage friend who is post-abortive. And I had a chance to talk with yet another student, who was seeking advice about vocation and career choices to best serve the pro-life movement with the skills she’s been given. As much as I love serving the Lord in speaking, there is something special and so fulfilling about the one-on-one encounters afterwards. Perhaps it’s because it draws out the feminine heart, the maternal instinct to nurture and guide. Either way, it is a blessing to be able to serve in this way.

8. **Spoke to 2,800 university students at the Students for Life of America East and West Coast conferences** (yes, it was a whirlwind of flying!). A student approached me and said **she decided to devote her life to the pro-life movement because of the presentation.** It was reminiscent of the Holy Spirit moving in

my heart that way when I heard Scott Klusendorf speak when I was 18! Praise the Lord!

9. **Ran into Sister Veronica of the Sisters of Life.**

When I discerned with them 11 years ago she was the vocations director. Although I discerned it was not my



call, I have nonetheless been attracted to the message of beauty and human dignity that the sisters so powerfully communicate and I look for ways to spread their philosophy in my presentations and teaching!

10. **Going to begin partnering with the Catholic Independent Schools of the Vancouver Archdiocese, along with Signal Hill, and give presentations at their parent support meetings.** This means I will be providing formation to elementary school parents, and in particular the grade 6 parents, which is a way to help parents inoculate their children against the Culture of Death.

I have many more presentations coming up and will be doing more writing, both on my own blog and that of others, so stay tuned to www.stephaniegray.info.

And as you’re able, **please consider a donation this month** to help support my full-time work in influencing the influencers. Donations can be made online at www.stephaniegray.info or via cheque to the address below. Thank you!

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*Please make cheques payable to “Love Unleashes Life” and mailed to
PO Box 173, Maple Ridge, BC, V2X 7G1*