

# LIFE NEWS

## Life Network Foundation (Malta) Newsletter

### Welcome to our first Newsletter

Dear friends,

Life Network Foundation Malta is happy to welcome you to the first edition of Life News. This quarterly newsletter will update you on all current projects and ongoing life related issues. We urge you to send us your comments, suggestions and donations by visiting our website [www.lifenetnetwork.eu](http://www.lifenetnetwork.eu). We also invite you to join us on our Facebook page to keep updated on our events.



Chairman Intro  
Dr. Miriam Sciberras

### In this issue:

- Preparing for Crisis
- Fundraising Dinner
- Freshers Week
- FEMM Graduation
- Polish Encounter
- Pro-Life Week

This first issue is jam packed with recent activities and upcoming events. Pro-life awareness in the first week of December promises to be our next exciting event. We have guest speakers Rebecca Kiessling born from rape and Jennifer Christie, herself a mother by rape who will be giving their testimony in favour of life. In spite of the bitter events that shaped their lives, they show us that life should always be given a chance.

Rebecca and Jennifer will be our guests at the annual Candlelight March for Life on the 9th December. Join us at the march - the time to stand up and be counted has never been so urgent.

I want to thank our supporters and volunteers. Thank you for the supporting our work. On behalf of the Life Network Board Members I wish you and your loved ones a blessed Christmas and all the best for the New Year.

## Crisis Pregnancy Training

In September, I was blessed with the opportunity to accompany Dr Miriam Sciberras to Romania, where we attended a 4-day training seminar organised by Heartbeat International. In the course of the Seminar, we acquired some real and useful skills which we will direct towards helping women in Malta who may be experiencing a crisis with their pregnancies, a crisis that may arise at any time before, during or after pregnancy.



Maria Aquilina



Miriam, Maria and Romanian participants

*“ I pray that you will stand true to your Maltese values, bravely defending that which is most precious, defending life ... at every stage. ”*

*- Maria Aquilina*

We were taught simple yet powerful strategies in bringing healing and hope to women who may be feeling alone, abandoned and confused at a time in their lives that would normally be otherwise filled with love and support.

We witnessed the testimonies of many who have suffered deep wounding as a consequence of abortion; some, directly, having been persuaded it was necessary in the interests of their own health; others, indirectly, having been robbed of brothers or sisters.

One such testimony stood out in particular. It was that of a beautiful woman in her early twenties. She wept while she unburdened herself of a story that she had yet to share with anyone. She recalled, with painful clarity, the moment when her mother had asked her whether she wanted a baby brother or

a baby sister. She had only been four years old at the time but, today, she is still able to recall the joy with which she had received the news, her happiness at the anticipation of having a baby brother or a baby sister ... and the great sorrow when her mum later tried to explain to her that she would never get to greet her new brother or sister. S/he no longer existed. S/he had been willfully aborted.

She has since been unable to rid herself of the feelings of guilt that followed. She was only four years old but, nonetheless, blamed herself for failing to persuade her mother to choose life as the better option.

To this day, she mourns the sibling she never got to meet, to embrace and to protect.

I am Australian, of Maltese descent, and have always loved Malta, but those few days I spent in Romania, a country destroyed by abortion, led me to better understand how truly special Malta is. Today, I love this special country more deeply than ever!

This is a country where women are still protected and loved sincerely. Our laws shield women from the incalculable harm that abortion inflicts on their children and themselves.

I am now working on the management of Life Line - a chat/phone line service, where we seek to support pregnant mothers, mothers with negative prenatal diagnosis and provide post-abortive support to both women and men. I applaud the Maltese people for bearing witness to the entire world. I pray that you will stand true to your Maltese values, bravely defending that which is most precious, defending life ... at every stage. God Bless.



*Miriam and Maria with guest speakers*

## A Fundraising Dinner for Life

It was a beautiful calm evening on Saturday 30th September. In spite of the constant threat of rain on the day, the heavens held and Life Network Foundation held its first Fundraising Dinner in a beautiful garden full of flowers and fairy lights lent to us for this occasion.

The committee put in a lot of hard work to set the scene but were richly rewarded. Everybody had a great time. We all enjoyed the setting, the lovely



MaryHilda Camilleri



MaryHilda, husband Tony and guests

buffet, the music and the happy atmosphere that pervaded the evening. Our Chairman, Dr. Miriam Sciberras gave a very moving closing speech, having just returned from a training course to help women in crisis pregnancy and post-abortion in Romania where the abortion situation is absolutely dire.

She saw a lot of very sad and broken women there. The trauma of abortion effects all the family, missing siblings, lost fatherhood and motherhood and broken kinship bonds that create so much pain and mistrust in families over the years. The proceeds of the evening will go towards training skilled listeners to help women in crisis pregnancy crisis pregnancy here in Malta.



Maria, Miriam and Sara

Life Line will offer help and support to women in crisis pregnancy, women with difficult prenatal diagnosis and post abortion. Life Line will be supporting women and offering Life Affirming Choices. Malta has always been very pro-life and we want to help women to keep it that way. Children have a very special place at the heart of the family here in Malta.

*“ Children have a very special place at the heart of the family here in Malta. ”*

*MaryHilda*

Life Network Foundation Malta would like to thank everyone who came along and made it such a special evening. Special thanks also go to all who were involved in the organisation of this event and all who helped make this event possible. Let us hope that this will be the first of many such events in aid of a very worthy cause.



*Guests enjoying the evening*

# *Christmas Buffet Dinner*

in aid of  
Life Network Foundation Malta

with Guest Speakers  
Rebecca Kiessling & Jennifer Christie



Friday 8th December 2017 at 8pm  
at the Radisson Resort, St Julians

Adults: €30  
Children (5-12 years): €15

Glass of Free Wine / Free Parking / Grand Raffle / Dress Code: Lounge

For Bookings Phone: 99224043, 79442468  
or Email: [fundraisinglnm@gmail.com](mailto:fundraisinglnm@gmail.com)

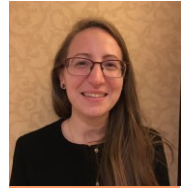
*Friday, 8th December from 8pm an exclusive Christmas Buffet Dinner with American special guests Rebecca Kiessling and Jennifer Christie. We will have an opportunity to hear their incredible testimonies of life, up close and personal. All proceeds will aid Life Network Foundation to launch the Crisis Pregnancy Centre / Life-Line that will be opened in December.*



## Freshers Week

Life Network participated in the Freshers Week from the 2nd till the 9th of October, having a two-stand space open for the students to discuss life issues and get to know more of the services we offer.

This was a brilliant opportunity to be more in touch with the pulse of university students, their thoughts, concerns and questions. The team set up an attractive stall and we got a large number of people putting their names on our mailing list while students were offered free pencils, hand bands, badges, stickers and leaflets.



Dr. Sara Portelli



*“Reactions to the stand ranged from enthusiasm to, expressed vague and mild interest, to openness for discussion and even dissent, however we can confidently say that our days at freshers’ were incredibly positive.”*

*- Dr. Sara Portelli*

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Maria with exhibits at the stand

*“ This was a brilliant opportunity to be more in touch with the pulse of university students, their thoughts, concerns and questions”.*

*- Dr. Sara Portelli*

We were able to engage in fruitful and interesting conversations with students from a huge variety of cultures and backgrounds on issues like abortion and euthanasia.

One of the great hits was the presentation of the LifeLine and FEMM initiatives, which got thumbs up from both pro-life and pro-choice students. These projects were viewed as proactive advances wherein the foundation is practical in its interest of being there for both the mother and the baby.

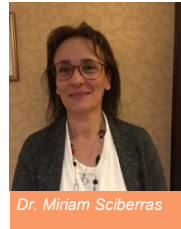
LifeNetwork stand was also approached by most of the members of parliament who were present at freshers' week, they congratulated us and encouraged us to keep working to protect life.

Life Network looks forward for the next freshers week Oct'18 and is excited to present to the students new projects and advances which will be very beneficial for them.



## FEMM Graduation

The first group of trained FEMM teachers for Malta have qualified. Two are doctors. This will give more ecological options to girls and women, particularly those with cycle problems and infertility. FEMM, offers a ground-breaking approach to women's health.



Dr. Miriam Sciberras

FEMM enables medical providers to diagnose and treat ovulatory dysfunction (symptoms of which include acne, pain, weight gain, depression, migraines, PMS), infertility and menopause, rather than manage or suppress symptoms.



FEMM graduation at the Excelsior Hotel

Ms Anna Halpine CEO of FEMM was in Malta to award the Certificates. The Vicar General, Rev Fr Joe Galea Curmi honoured us with his presence and delivered a speech for the occasion.

Team FEMM Malta is made up of Ms Mary Bezzina, Ms Mariella Catania, Dr Cynthia Grech Sammut and Dr Louise Gatt.

Interested parties can contact us on [femm.malta@gmail.com](mailto:femm.malta@gmail.com) to learn about FEMM, ask for lectures or be referred to a local FEMM physician.



Speakers at the graduation ceremony

*“FEMM enables medical providers to diagnose and treat ovulatory dysfunction, infertility and menopause, rather than manage or suppress symptoms.”*

*- Dr. Miriam Sciberras*

For more information please visit <https://femmhealth.org>

You can also download the FEMM app.

A screenshot of the FEMM website. The header features the FEMM logo, a 'DOWNLOAD APP' button, a 'DONATE' button, and social media icons. Below the header is a navigation bar with links: ABOUT US, OUR APP, EDUCATION, HEALTH CENTERS, RESEARCH, BLOG, and CONTACT. The main visual is a large banner image of three smiling women of diverse backgrounds. Below the banner, the text 'A Comprehensive Women's Health Program' is displayed. Underneath this text are four circular icons with corresponding labels: 'Learn About Your Body' (with a magnifying glass icon), 'Track Your Health' (with a calendar icon), 'Manage Your Fertility' (with a female figure icon), and 'Find a Health Center' (with a heart and stethoscope icon). The FEMM logo is centered at the bottom of the page.

## Polish Encounter

Sara and Miriam together with Anna Trabska, had the pleasure to meet up with Mr Kwasniak, who is the president of the Centre for Initiatives for Life and the Family in Poland ([www.czir.org](http://www.czir.org)). This Foundation organizes and coordinates the Marches for Life and Family in 140 Polish cities.



Sara, Miriam and Mr. Kwasniak

They also organize other events to defend and promote true marriage, family and the life of the unborn. The Foundation also co-operates with other organizations in Poland.

The meeting was of mutual benefit and we look forward to working together in the future.

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## Pro-Life Awareness Week

An adoration for Life is being organised on **Thursday 7th of December** at Santa Marija Church Birkirkara. (See adoration poster for more details).

This is in preparation for the March for Life being held **Saturday 9th December**. We invite you, family and friends to come along for both events. More details on March for Life can be found on the back page of this issue.

In aid of the foundation and its various activities a Christmas buffet dinner is being organised. This will be held on **Friday 8th December** at the Radisson, St. Julians. For further info please see information on page 6.





# CANDLELIGHT MARCH for Life

**SAVE THE DATE**

Saturday  
**9<sup>th</sup>** DECEMBER  
2017



GUEST SPEAKER  
**JENNIFER CHRISTIE**  
RAPE VICTIM MUM



ENDORSEING VALUE TO EVERY LIFE

[facebook.com/lifenetworkeu](https://facebook.com/lifenetworkeu)

**MEETING POINT**  
CASTILLE SQUARE  
**5.30PM**

[www.lifenetwork.eu](http://www.lifenetwork.eu)