

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom



Canada

"A" (spouse of "L", application to become a foster parent denied in [Ontario](#) in [October 2018](#), had been asked if they 'still' believed 'in some of the more outdated parts of the Bible' and if they believed homosexuality was a sin, told in writing 'the policies of our agency do not appear to fit with your values and beliefs')

Albert Felicitas (parochial high school religious teacher, reported on [June 20, 2016](#) to have been 'temporarily' removed from his position in [Edmonton, Alberta](#) after the children of homosexual parents complained of his statements citing church teaching)

Andre Schutten (met with Members of Parliament in [Ottawa](#) on [March 26, 2015](#) to describe growing attacks on religious freedom and to call for the creation of an Office of Religious Freedom, said that "a radical religious secularism...[a] new religion [is running things] and even a lot of so-called Christians don't realize they are actually living their lives in this world view")

Pastor Artur Pawlowski (garage damaged in a [May 14, 2021](#) arson attack, has had stones, feces, and nails thrown at his [Calgary](#) home)

Beena Ruparelia (said of the [February 4, 2016](#) decision by the [Toronto, Ontario](#) government to permit a Christian event "We can now say the name of Jesus in the public square")

Bill Prankard (met with Members of Parliament in [Ottawa](#) on [March 26, 2015](#) to describe growing attacks on religious freedom and to call for the creation of an Office of Religious Freedom, said "We believe it is the government's duty to protect our religious rights under the Charter. But it is also the duty of every Christian to speak up in defence of our values and rights. Too many have been silent and complacent")

Bill Whatcott (aged 51, bus driver, arrested in [Calgary](#) on [June 22, 2018](#) and charged with 'willful promotion of hatred against an identifiable group, namely the gay community' after he handed out 'Jesus Saves' pamphlets at a 2016 Toronto gay pride parade, faces 2 years' imprisonment if convicted, denied food and medicine for 24 hours in custody, fired from his job)

Blaise Alleyne (assaulted by pro-abortion demonstrators in [Toronto](#) on [October 1, 2018](#))

Archbishop Brendan O'Brien (marched in the [May 10, 2018](#) March for Life in [Ottawa](#), which was re-routed due to illegal counter-demonstrators)

Pastor Brian Coldwell (church operated schools in [Edmonton, Alberta](#) threatened with closure by the provincial government as of [September 21, 2016](#), had previously said "...I wouldn't put anything past this government. This is about ideology for them. They won't be satisfied until they have gay-straight alliances and the rainbow ideology in every Christian school")

Bruce Clemenger (Trinity Western University law school president, applauded an appellate court's [November 1, 2016](#) denial of an attempt to strip the school of its accreditation over its Christian beliefs, stated "The EFC is delighted that the religious liberties of all Canadians have been upheld, including evangelical Christians. Evangelicals contribute to all aspects of Canadian society, including law. This judgment is a strong affirmation of Canada's religious diversity and the right of everyone to contribute to Canadian society without compromising their religious beliefs")

Chantal Gauthier-Vaillancourt (expectant mother in [Quebec](#), has decided to have her entire right eye removed on [June 11, 2014](#) in an effort to prevent her cancer or any other treatment from hurting her unborn child)

Charles McVety (criticized city officials in [Toronto, Ontario province](#) for cancelling an annual Christian parade on [August 22, 2014](#) without offering an alternative route;

met with Members of Parliament in [Ottawa](#) on [March 26, 2015](#) to describe growing attacks on religious freedom and to call for the creation of an Office of Religious Freedom)

Archbishop Christian Lepine (marched in the [May 10, 2018](#) March for Life in [Ottawa](#), which was re-routed due to illegal counter-demonstrators)

Fr Claude Grou (repeatedly stabbed while presiding at a [March 22, 2019](#) Mass in [Montreal, Quebec](#), hospitalized with minor injuries in stable condition)

Rev David Lynn (street preacher, founder of Christian Positive Space & Stop Bullying Christians Now, as of [September 30, 2014](#) has been cited by police under the busking law for using an amplifier in Yonge-Dundas Square in [Toronto](#), others doing the same were not cited, court hearing scheduled for October 16, 2014;

charges dropped on [April 6, 2015](#);

reported on [October 29, 2015](#) to have called the [Toronto, Ontario](#) government's refusal to grant a permit for a Christian event because the event included songs that contained the name of Jesus and thus violated the city's anti-proselytizing policy "blatant discrimination" against Christians, said "How's a Christian at a Christian event not to say the name of Jesus in their songs?";

arrested on [June 4, 2019](#) for street preaching in a heavily pro-LGBTQ neighborhood in [Church-Wellesley Village, Toronto, Ottawa](#))

David McLoone (LifeSiteNews writer, reported on [January 19, 2021](#) that LifeSiteNews had been banned from Twitter for stating "Biden names transgender 'woman' as Assistant Secretary of Health. 'Rachel' Levine is a father of two who divorced his wife in 2013 after 30 years of marriage")

Deanna Margel (Christian school official in [Camrose, Alberta](#), ordered by the local government school board on [June 15, 2017](#) to not allow the use of 'offensive' Biblical passages in her school, said "We're talking about freedom of religion, but we're [also] talking about freedom of expression. We need every single word there to challenge us, to call us to greater understanding. It's just so important")

Msgr Denis Belanger (reported on the [September 11, 2019](#) theft of a reliquary containing items that had belonged to several Canadian saints in [Quebec City](#))

Derek Baars (husband of Frances Baars, fired as a foster parent in [Hamilton, Ontario](#) after he refused an order to tell the children in their care that the Easter Bunny was real, filed suit in

- [April 2017](#) against the agency to remove the negative reference from his file;
the court found on [March 6, 2018](#) that the agency had violated his religious and other freedoms, ordered the agency to disclose the court's ruling to other agencies when he sought a reference)
- Bishop Douglas Crosby (condemned the government's [March 8, 2017](#) announcement to advance abortions in other countries, wrote “Such a policy is a reprehensible example of Western cultural imperialism and an attempt to impose misplaced but so-called Canadian ‘values’ on other nations and people...It exploits women when they are most in need of care and support and tragically subverts true prenatal health care”)
- Douglas Farrow (professor of theology, condemned a [June 15, 2018](#) Supreme Court decision that allowed law societies [bar associations] to reject graduates from a Christian law school “evolving moral values [will become] for the rest of us devolving, indeed disappearing, rights...This is not the rule of law but rather the ruin of law”)
- Eric Brubacher (street missionary, witnessed the [August 14, 2015](#) stabbing of a fellow missionary in [Ottawa, Ontario](#) by a pro-homosexual activist, the missionary was hospitalized and released)
- Faye Arellano (aged late 40's, hit with a water bottle, slammed to the ground and beaten during an [October 7, 2013](#) pro-life demonstration in [Toronto, Ontario](#), threatened with a knife, hospitalized with a concussion and released)
- Faytene Grasseschi (met with Members of Parliament in [Ottawa](#) on [March 26, 2015](#) to describe growing attacks on religious freedom and to call for the creation of an Office of Religious Freedom, said “We were catalyzed by the persecution of Trinity Western University by the Bank of Montreal and the law societies” under which the bank successfully pressured the societies to prevent the Christian university's law school graduates from joining the bar)
- Frances Baars (wife of Derek Baars, fired as a foster parent in [Hamilton, Ontario](#) after she refused an order to tell the children in their care that the Easter Bunny was real, filed suit in [April 2017](#) against the agency to remove the negative reference from her file;
the court found on [March 6, 2018](#) that the agency had violated her religious and other freedoms, ordered the agency to disclose the court's ruling to other agencies when she sought a reference)
- Cardinal Gerald Lacroix (attacked at a [May 8, 2014](#) National March for Life rally in [Ottawa, Ontario](#) by two topless Femen members, protected by RCMP officers;
marched in the [May 10, 2018](#) March for Life in [Ottawa](#), which was re-routed due to illegal counter-demonstrators)
- Deacon Gilles Ouellette (said on [January 21, 2018](#) that his diocese [[Toronto, Ontario](#)] would not sign the attestation supporting abortion and transgenderism)
- Iain Benson (law professor, condemned a [June 15, 2018](#) Supreme Court decision that allowed law societies [bar associations] to reject graduates from a Christian law school, wrote the decision means “law is in free-fall...You will see things now unwind. How quickly is hard to say, but the illiberal direction is clear”)
- Archbishop J Michael Miller (wrote from [Vancouver, British Columbia](#) on or before [November 8, 2016](#) against government pressure to force Catholic hospitals to perform euthanasia;

said in [Vancouver, British Columbia](#) on [January 22, 2018](#) regarding the new government requirement that any entity doing business with the government sign an attestation supporting abortion and transgender rights “The government is exceeding its authority in trying to compel groups and individuals to endorse a position [on abortion and transgenderism] that they ethically oppose, and one which has no bearing whatsoever on the job for which they are seeking funding. The Trudeau government needs to rethink this overly politicized approach to the Summer Jobs Program and revise its application so that it judges the matter on its merits and not something on which there is widespread disagreement in the public”)

Jacques Attalla (of [Montreal](#), indicted by the Egyptian prosecutor general for involvement in the 'blasphemous' film trailer on the internet, as of [September 22, 2012](#) he denies any involvement and says this was done in response to his work with persecuted Copts)

Rev Jay Brown (told by the [Cambridge, Ontario](#) city council on [September 11, 2012](#) that she would either have to officiate at same sex marriage ceremonies or lose her position with the city)

Jeff Gunnarson (organizer of the [May 10, 2018](#) March for Life in [Ottawa](#), the twenty-two thousand anti-abortion demonstrators were forced by police to re-route their march to Parliament Hill when the route was blocked by up to 100 pro-abortion demonstrators, said “Instead of the cops doing their duty and clearing the streets for us, and making it safe for us, they allowed the pro-abort protestors to be a presence in such a way that they were forced to reroute our march, and so thereby really giving them a sort of victory. I just can’t help but think that why do peaceful protesters have to be diverted? Why not take the ones that are causing the trouble and getting them moved away? That’s just common sense to me. And the fact that we have a permit, they don’t, so they’re in our space, and yet we have to be diverted to avoid them...The police should do everything they can to avoid any kind of disturbance or violence. You certainly don’t get violence coming from our side. But I think they should clear the pro-abortion protestors out. ‘You’re not allowed to be here. These people have a permit.’ I mean, can you imagine if we all decided to lie down on the streets in front of the Gay Pride Parade to protest their actions within the parade? We would be pepper sprayed and handcuffed and picked up”)

Jim Hughes (organizer of the [May 10, 2018](#) March for Life in [Ottawa](#), the twenty-two thousand anti-abortion demonstrators were forced by police to re-route their march to Parliament Hill when the route was blocked by up to 100 pro-abortion demonstrators, said some marchers were angry that the police did not clear the counter-protestors from the permitted route)

John-Henry Westen (LifeSiteNews web site Editor-in-Chief, reported on [July 31, 2019](#) that after a week of operation Apple News had deleted his news organization presumably for its positions favoring traditional Christian morality, said he would appeal; reinstated on [August 6, 2019](#))

Jonathan Bradley (aged 21, journalism student, fired from a [Ryerson University, Toronto, Ontario](#) newspaper in [June 2020](#) for past acknowledgments of Christian teachings on sexuality; reported on [January 29, 2021](#) to have filed a discrimination complaint with the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal)

Josue Gauran (aged 60, factory worker, Knight of Columbus, stabbed in the hand on [October 7,](#)

2013 in [Toronto, Ontario](#) while trying to protect Faye Arellano from her attacker)

Katie Somers (assaulted by pro-abortion demonstrators in [Toronto](#) on [October 1, 2018](#))

"L" (spouse of "A", application to become a foster parent denied in [Ontario](#) in [October 2018](#), had been asked if they 'still' believed 'in some of the more outdated parts of the Bible' and if they believed homosexuality was a sin, told in writing 'the policies of our agency do not appear to fit with your values and beliefs')

Deacon Larry Worthen (said on [August 17, 2017](#) "I think that conscientious objection in Canada, unfortunately, hangs by a thread. There are many of us fighting for this right, but the concern is that in a society where killing a patient is seen to be a compassionate and merciful act, then those who refuse to do it are by definition uncompassionate and uncharitable. When you legalize euthanasia, and killing becomes moral, then that quickly becomes the norm, and those who deviate from that are seen to be outliers and unprofessional in their approach")

Leye Oyelani (Christian event coordinator, reported on [October 29, 2015](#) to have been denied a permit by the [Toronto, Ontario](#) government for 2016 because the event included songs that contained the name of Jesus and thus violated the city's anti-proselytizing policy;
reported on [February 4, 2016](#) that the municipal agency has agreed to allow the Christian event to proceed)

Lia Milousis (met with Members of Parliament in [Ottawa](#) on [March 26, 2015](#) to describe growing attacks on religious freedom and to call for the creation of an Office of Religious Freedom, said "I myself have been a victim of bullying in my high school because of my Christian faith and have sat in classes where it is mocked at university. This type of persecution is wrong and alarming. If this creeping barrage continues Canada will become a nation far removed from the values that have made it great")

Linda Gibbons (arrested on [August 7, 2014](#) for violating an injunction against protesting at a [Toronto](#) abortion clinic;
arrested on [March 24, 2015](#) at an [east York](#) abortion clinic)

Majed El Shafie (Egyptian refugee, met with Members of Parliament in [Ottawa](#) on [March 26, 2015](#) to describe growing attacks on religious freedom and to call for the creation of an Office of Religious Freedom, said "Within our schools, within our churches even, we are being told what to think and what to say...It is not so bad now compared to other parts of the world. But over the next 10 or 20 years, it will affect us all, step by step, little by little, unless we do something...I don't blame the people who are doing this. I blame the Christians who are silent about it. In the absence of light, the darkness rules")

Marci Millette (Saskatchewan Pro-Life Association president, said of the [April 10, 2014](#) detention of Peter LaBarbera "Are these tyrants going to detain Christian priests and pastors next? They preach the same Gospel messages")

Fr Marcin Mironiuk OMI (assaulted after a [March 13, 2019](#) Mass in [Edmonton, Alberta province](#) by a man who reeked of alcohol, thrown to the ground and choked, elderly parishioners beat off the attacker with their canes)

Marie-Claire Bissonnette (aged 26, assaulted by a pro-abortion counter-demonstrator in [Toronto](#) on [September 30, 2018](#), news account rejected by major media outlets)

Mary Wagner (released from jail in [Toronto, Ontario](#) on [June 12, 2014](#), had been held for almost

two years on a probation violation because she refused to agree to not demonstrate in front of abortion clinics, said that 80% of the women in jail with her had had abortions and that 90% had regrets;

arrested on [December 24, 2014](#) for demonstrating at an abortion clinic;

convicted on [April 16, 2015](#) in [Toronto](#) of breaching a probation order and of criminal mischief for entering an abortion clinic and counseling clients to not proceed with abortion;

arrested in [Toronto](#) on [December 12, 2016](#) after entering the waiting room of an abortion clinic in an effort to persuade the clients to leave, refused to agree to bail conditions that required her to avoid entering abortion clinics;

convicted of mischief and breach of probation on [August 15, 2017](#);

released on [September 12, 2017](#) with time served, read letters to the court including one thanking her from a woman who she had persuaded to keep her baby on the day of her arrest;

arrested on [December 8, 2017](#) for entering a [Toronto, Ontario](#) abortion clinic waiting room and handing out roses and pro-life literature;

released on bail on [March 7, 2018](#))

Maurice Vellacott (Saskatchewan member of parliament, supported Peter LaBarbera's appeal against his [April 10, 2014](#) detention)

Maureen Sullivan (grandmother, automobile with pro-life stickers vandalized in [August 2013](#) in [Calgary, Alberta](#) with \$10,000 in damages which included the scrawl "Too bad you weren't aborted", said she is not angry with the perpetrators)

Fr Michael Bechard (Campus Ministry director at [King's University College, London, Ontario](#), attacked in a [January 15, 2020](#) letter by 43 faculty members for showing the anti-abortion film *Unplanned*)

Bishop Michael Mulhall (on [October 11, 2012](#) challenged plans of the [Ontario](#) provincial government to force Catholic schools to teach that abortion is not wrong under new anti-bullying legislation)

Michael Shea (president of the Catholic Alliance for Canada, as of [November 8, 2016](#) defended Catholic hospitals from attempts to force them to euthanize patients "Life is sacred and the dignity of the person is important. These organizations neither prolong dying nor hasten death, and that's a pretty fundamental value for them")

Nader Fawzy (of [Ottawa](#), indicted by the Egyptian prosecutor general for involvement in the 'blasphemous' film trailer on the internet, as of [September 22, 2012](#) he denies any involvement and says this was done in response to his work with persecuted Copts)

Dr Nazir S Bhatti (from [Karachi, Pakistan](#) criticized the closure of the government's Commission on Religious Freedom, which had been dedicated to the assassinated Pakistani Christian Shahbaz Bhatti, said on [April 6, 2016](#) "The persecuted communities around globe have no objection if Prime Minister Justin Trudeau personally welcomes Syrian Muslim refugees or wears Pakistani dress to join Muslim prayers or to secure his Muslim vote bank arranges Iftar Parties for them but he must not downplay with human right values which land of Canada upholds from decades that he will turn his back on Religious freedom which is fundamental part of Universal Declaration of Human Rights by member states of United

Nation”)

Neil McCarthy (diocesan communications director, wrote on [January 21, 2018](#) regarding the new government requirement that any entity doing business with the government sign an attestation supporting abortion and transgender rights “We have essentially indicated to our parishes that the attestation cannot be checked off. We are in the process of gathering data to determine just how many parishes/groups are impacted within the Archdiocese of Toronto. Some groups may follow the paper copy example but the government has clearly stated they will not consider these to be completed applications. It is, however, a way to track those who cannot sign the attestation”)

Paul Donovan (principal of Loyola High School in [Montreal, Quebec](#), announced on [February 4, 2013](#) that the school will appeal a decision prohibiting it from teaching Christian ethics to the Canadian Supreme Court, saying that the provincial Attorney General has stated that freedom of religion applies only to individuals and not to corporate entities such as schools)

Peter LaBarbera (U.S. citizen, detained by Canadian Border Services on [April 10, 2014](#) for having the potential to violate "hate propaganda" laws by upholding traditional Christian moral views, detention overturned on appeal)

Peter Paresh (Christian event coordinator, reported on [October 29, 2015](#) to have been denied a permit by the [Toronto, Ontario](#) government for 2016 because the event included songs that contained the name of Jesus and thus violated the city's anti-proselytizing policy)

Peter Ruparelia (said of the [February 4, 2016](#) decision by the [Toronto, Ontario](#) government to permit a Christian event in a public square “I believe it’s a victory for all Christians”)

Archbishop Pierre-André Fournier (on [December 21, 2012](#) protested a [Quebec](#) court decision to require a Catholic school to cease teaching its religion courses and to adopt a “secular” and “neutral” Ethics and Religious Culture course provided by the provincial government)

Fr Raymond Fenech Gonzi (reported on church buildings in [Welland, Ontario](#) vandalized on [October 29, 2015](#) with anti-Christian and pro-abortion graffiti)

Fr Raymond J de Souza (wrote on [May 31, 2012](#) in [Toronto](#) against the Ontario provincial government's mandate that Catholic schools create 'gay-straight alliances' to counter bullying: “[I]t is simply intolerant to say that Catholic schools must in this regard teach something contrary to the Catholic faith, namely that there is no moral difference between homosexual acts and heterosexual acts”)

Robert Hoogland (postal worker, arrested and jailed in [Vancouver, British Columbia](#) on [March 19, 2021](#) on a charge of family violence after he refused to refer to his 14 year old daughter with male pronouns and for defying a court ban on publicly describing her gender transition, including the identity of her doctors [which were publicly acknowledged in earlier court documents] and the fact that one doctor had advised his patients to claim suicidal feelings to secure medical and legal institutional support for their transitions, had earlier said “I had a perfectly healthy child a year ago, and that perfectly healthy child has been altered and destroyed for absolutely no good reason...What kind of father would I be if, let’s say in 5, 10 years my daughter is detransitioning, and she turns to me and says...‘Why did none of you do anything to stop this? I was a child. None of you stuck your neck out for me back then. You just let me do it because I was a...immature kid, thinking this was something great.’ When my daughter asks me that question, I’ll say...‘I did

everything that I possibly could.’...Whatever happens to me pales in comparison to what’s already happened to my daughter”, said just prior to his arrest "pray - anybody can pray...Educate people. Tell people what’s going on...talk to your neighbor and say, ‘Hey, this is what’s going on in the world’...To even do a simple thing like that...that’s commendable, that’s courage to me. To even do a simple thing like that”;

pled guilty to contempt of court charges in a plea bargain on [April 13, 2021](#), judge accepted the plea but rejected the plea bargain, the Crown prosecutor apparently had prior knowledge of this maneuver and began to present evidence in favor of a harsher sentence than that agreed upon in the plea bargain;

sentenced to 6 month's imprisonment and fined CAN\$30,000 [US\$23,912] on [April 15, 2021](#);

sentence reported on [May 7, 2021](#) to have been overturned on appeal, released from prison, contempt conviction still in effect)

Brother Ronald Brown (church sponsored teen conference on sexuality reported on [July 13, 2018](#) to have been cancelled by the [New Westminster \[British Columbia\]](#)-owned civic center after objections were raised to the speaker list and the conference name 'LGBT: Let God Be True', said the controversy over the name “shows that something is amiss in society...Is there a patent on that acronym?...Our teaching is based on the word of God, and whatever the word of God says, that’s what we’re going to be expounding...We see ourselves, the church, as a hospital, right? That’s where people who are sick and in need of help come”, has threatened a lawsuit if the cancellation is not reversed)

Bishop Ronald Peter Fabbro CSB (criticized on or before [November 8, 2016](#) from [London, Ontario](#) the legal requirement that Christian doctors must refer patients to doctors who will perform euthanasia after one Catholic and four Evangelical doctors came under 'extremely aggressive cross-examination' about their religious beliefs by the College of Physicians and Surgeons, which could revoke their medical licenses;

said in [Ottawa](#) on [March 24, 2017](#) “We strongly encourage you to include in Bill 84 adequate protection for freedom of conscience and freedom of religion. It’s essential”;

wrote to his parishes on [February 4, 2018](#) that the [London, Ontario](#) diocese will not accept summer job grants from the government due to the requirement that it profess support of abortion: “I believe that we need to take a stand against the position of the government of Canada and say that we will not be bullied into even the appearance of collusion on this issue. While others may take an alternative path, we can make a powerful statement by saying ‘no’ to the conditions as set down by the government...Ironically, expecting such an attestation to get a job grant is in violation of some of the rights that are actually found in the Charter, while some of the contentious positions espoused by the Government are not”)

Pastor Stephen Boissin (Alberta Appeals Court in [October 2012](#) upheld his right to publicly express his views on sexual behavior, overturning his previous conviction on hate speech charges)

Stephen Woodworth (Member of Parliament, in [September 2012](#) has introduced a pro-life measure in Parliament;

speech at a [May 14, 2015](#) pro-life rally attended by 25,000 on [Parliament Hill, Ottawa](#) interrupted by five FEMEN counter-protesters)

Steve Jalsevac (publisher of LifeSiteNews, web site host company gave notice of suspension of

service on [October 27, 2018](#) after a convicted U.S. child molester alleged that LifeSiteNews had slandered him when it had reported on his previous takedowns of other Christian sites, the convicted molester also alleged that LifeSiteNews had violated his copyright when it used his police mugshot)

Suresh Dominic (described on [November 29, 2012](#) the sixth vandalizing of a [Toronto, Ontario](#) creche in five years)

Archbishop Terrence Prendergast (wrote in [Toronto, Ontario](#) on [January 21, 2018](#) regarding the new government requirement that any entity doing business with the government sign an attestation supporting abortion and transgender rights “This attestation excludes any Catholic parish or charity from funding for hiring a summer student. We cannot affirm that we support a [non-existent] right to abortion, which is what the euphemism ‘reproductive rights’ means. Further upsetting many is the prime minister’s confused personal comments regarding the logically impossible co-existence of his identity as a Roman Catholic and his support of abortion....Apparently, Canadians have the freedom to hold only the beliefs and opinions approved by the current government”;

marched in the [May 10, 2018](#) March for Life in [Ottawa](#), which was re-routed due to illegal counter-demonstrators)

Cardinal Thomas Collins (issued a letter on [May 28, 2012](#) in [Toronto](#) noting that Catholic schools are committed to Gospel principles that ensure respect for all persons, and so characterized the Ontario government's mandate for 'gay-straight alliances' to be "micromanagement" and troubling for parents who wish their children to receive a Christian education;

spoke after the attempted Femen attack on Cardinal Gerald Lacroix at the [May 8, 2014](#) National March for Life rally in [Ottawa, Ontario](#), said “Sometimes we face angry people who are very, very troubled by the message which we proclaim, but it is a message that brings peace. It is based upon the reality that is the treasure of each person. Each person is not an object to be treated with disdain, but a person to be loved from the first moment of existence until natural death, and as they come into the home of the heavenly Father. So we pray for them”;

wrote a letter in [Toronto](#) on [May 29, 2014](#) to Liberal Party leader Justin Trudeau asking him to reconsider his statement that the Party would require all of its candidates to be pro-abortion;

said in a video played in all parishes around [Toronto](#) on [March 6, 2016](#) that the proposed new euthanasia law which included provisions to euthanize children and to prevent Christian doctors and hospitals from avoiding involvement in euthanasia should “shock us to the core”;

condemned the government's [March 8, 2017](#) announcement to advance abortions in other countries, wrote in [Toronto](#) “It is praiseworthy to offer international aid, it is arrogant for powerful, wealthy nations to dictate what priorities developing countries should embrace...Money spent on promoting abortion and contraception could be spent on vaccinating millions of women and girls against malaria or other diseases”;

spoke before a Parliamentary committee in [Ottawa](#) on [March 24, 2017](#) “It is sad that I and others need to come before you today to urge you to protect these devoted healers from the punishment which they face if they refuse either to administer a lethal injection to their patients or, in effective referral, to arrange for that injection to be administered”;

marched in the [May 10, 2018](#) March for Life in [Ottawa](#), the twenty-two thousand anti-abortion demonstrators were forced by police to re-route their march to Parliament Hill when the route was blocked by up to 100 pro-abortion demonstrators, told the pro-life marchers “Soon you will come upon people yelling and screaming...There is great power in silence. [Make this a] silent pilgrimage of deep prayer. Only in that disposition will we see the way in which these great evils will be overcome”;

said in [Toronto](#) on [November 8, 2018](#) “The time for review of the federal euthanasia law is upon us, and there is great pressure to eliminate the so-called ‘safeguards’ which made it seem to be not so terrible. One such safeguard is that euthanasia is to be only for adults. Now we hear arguments made that the concept of ‘adult’ is to be made so elastic that even minors are to be eligible for euthanasia, even without the consent of their parents. The cold shadow of euthanasia is spreading further in our land”)

William Swinimer (suspended from school on [May 5, 2012](#) in [Forest Heights, Nova Scotia](#) for wearing a religious T-shirt)