

FATHER TED COLLETON  
A brief biographical background

There are many heroes and heroines among those devoted to winning back respect for all human life and obtaining proper legislative protection for the right to life of all human beings whether the unborn, the disabled or the elderly. Father Edward (Ted) Colleton has been waging the good fight for more than six decades as he enters his 63rd year of serving as an ordained priest.

Father Ted was born in Dublin, Ireland in 1913, the only boy in a family of five children. He joined the Holy Ghost Fathers in 1932 and was ordained in 1940. Shortly thereafter he was assigned to serve in Kenya. Father Ted spent 30 years in Kenya as a missionary, until expelled from that nation in 1971 over a matter of principle, on which he would not yield.

He was reassigned to Canada. Here too he would make a mark serving ordinary people in need. Whereas the word abortion did not even exist in the language of Kenya, in Canada Father Ted found a modern nation embarking on the dangerous experiment to liberalize abortion services. Father Ted joined the pro-life movement to try and educate the public and especially his beloved young people about the evil and tragedy of abortion and the growing disrespect for human life.

Father Ted has now devoted thirty years to pro-life issues here in Canada. He has been a prolific writer, compelling speaker, gentle teacher, committed activist, raconteur par excellence. He has spoken to hundreds of thousands of people of all ages, at banquets, annual meetings, classrooms, youth and retreat groups. He has been arrested and jailed for witnessing against the evil of abortion.

Most importantly, Father Ted has been a true disciple of the Lord, a friend to people, a compassionate but highly principled man, kind and generous, full of humour and mirth. He deeply believes in prayer as the most important action of human beings in winning the great struggle for the right to life for the unborn generations present and to come. Father Ted recognizes that the pro-life cause is just, but that it will take generations to gain real victory.

Father Ted is fond of Edmund Burke's statement that "All evil needs to flourish is that good men do nothing". Father Ted knows from his travels and classroom visits that there are many, many good young people out there. They are asked to do something. God calls them to do good.

His has been an exemplary life of Christian service and dedication to the needs of others. His witnessing to the truth is worthy of emulation.

The Father Ted Colleton Scholarship is intended to celebrate his lifetime of service to God's human family and to inspire young people in particular to learn more about the cause so dear to his heart.

To learn more about Father Ted Colleton read his books: Yes, I'm a Radical, or Yes, I'd do it Again, or his most recent publication, I'm Still a Radical.