

St. Patrick Parishioners for Life, January 2021 Monthly Newsletter and more...



Dear pro-life friends and brothers and sisters in the body of Christ,

Happy and Blessed New Year and Merry Christmas as the Christmas season continues to the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, Sunday, January 10th (for Catholics)!

Unfortunately, the New Year brings about the solemn anniversary of Roe vs Wade (January 22) and the loss of more than 61 million unborn babies in the USA since 1973. As you may know, abortion is the leading cause of death worldwide with the killing of 45 million innocent babies annually. However, it is also an occasion for us to increase our resolve to fight for the legal protection of the unborn and of all life. May Christ's merciful love move us in 2021 to share in word and action the joyful truth that every life is worth living. To that end, please keep reading the many ways/events that we all can participate in helping take a stand for Life.

PCRTL Annual Memorial Service for the Victims of Abortion, Saturday, January 23, Noon, Porter County court house, Valparaiso. Contact Al Raffin at 219-926-4179

Annual March for Life's (MFL): This year's theme is '*Together Strong: Life Unites*'. Even though many marches have been modified due to the pandemic, we still need to be participate the best we can and be that voice for the voiceless. When we stand together, we are strong.

- MFL Chicago Midwest tour, visit www.marchforlifechicago.org for locations and dates. Please share this promotional video <https://fb.watch/2HasCShKvi/> with others
- MFL NWI, likely 1/29, Car parades for Life, contact local your Knight of Columbus for details as of this writing the locations and time (likely Noon CST) were not firm.
- MFL Washington D.C., 1/29, Pre-Rally Concert: 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Rally Program: 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM. March: 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM (all in EST). Virtual participation plans are in the works, www.marchforlife.org. Also EWTN will be televising the march live starting at 8:30 AM CST and later at 9 PM CST, www.ewtn.com/tv/schedule

Why do we March? We march to memorialize the lives lost to abortion since that day in 1973, and show a peaceful, public protest against the deadly procedure and horrific abortion industry. Abortion is the most important issue of our time... 2,363 babies are killed every single day. Peaceful protests and marches are an essential part of our regular activism in the pro-life movement. These innocent children have no voice but ours - we need to show up for these kinds of events to let our leaders know we will accept nothing less than full protection for the most vulnerable.

January Pro-life Materials: For the latest initiatives, ideas, and ready-to-go tools for marking January pro-life events visit www.usccb.org/resources/parish-webinar-january-how

Also, in honor of the 25th anniversary of *Evangelium vitae* (The Gospel of Life), the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities has developed resources and tools for use at www.respectlife.org/2020

COVID Vaccine: With the COVID-19 vaccine becoming available, many are asking for a well-reasoned and thorough examination of the morality or ethics of the COVID-19 vaccines. Here are some recent resources that I found helpful.

By Dr. Janet Smith, a retired professor of moral theology who speaks and writes on life issues. (In case you did know, Janet founded the Women's Care Centers in 1984 while at ND) www.ncregister.com/commentaries/the-morality-of-the-covid-19-vaccines

By Catholic Answers: A two part (point-counterpoint) regarding the morality of Catholics' receiving the currently available COVID-19 vaccines. www.catholic.com/magazine/online-edition/point-the-current-covid-vaccines-are-problematic-but-permissible
www.catholic.com/magazine/online-edition/counterpoint-we-should-reject-abortion-tainted-vaccines

By Personhood Alliance, a confederation of 28 independent pro-life organizations. www.personhood.org/media/press-releases/personhood-alliance-responds-to-dismissals-of-covid-vaccine-abortion-link/

Federal Executions: Did you know that the federal government has resumed executions here in our State of Indiana. There has been little news account of the ten executions this past year or the three others planned before the end of the current presidential term. Please read the attached flier from the Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC) or visit www.indianacc.org on why we should be promoting a culture of life, not of death/execution. Also write to your US Senators and US Representative to abolish capital punishment.

Indiana Attorney General Curtis Hill: A must read editorial by Curtis on a lawsuit by an Indiana abortionist on the humane disposal of the unborn which by the way was upheld by the SCOTUS https://www.indystar.com/story/opinion/2020/12/30/curtis-hill-lawsuit-latest-attempt-deny-unborns-humanity/4061566001/?fbclid=IwAR23ogqwEM3Wb3ni7KnHFoHcuTP-_R6ke7vyNXjOzCSAr1q17dq1VLxJMb0

Good News for Indiana Unborn: A significant drop in abortions is expected in the New Year as a result of Indiana's 18-hour ultrasound law going back in effect on January 1. The action is the result of Indiana's largest abortion business, Planned Parenthood, dropping its suit against the law in August 2020.

The ultrasound law, part of the 2016 Dignity for the Unborn Act signed by then-Gov. Mike Pence, requires that women considering abortion be provided the opportunity to view a fetal ultrasound at least 18 hours prior to an abortion.

The Celebration of Abortion: Unlike her predecessors, the new president of Planned Parenthood has embraced its role in the abortion industry. “We are a proud abortion provider,” Alexis McGill Johnson said. Previous leaders of the country's largest abortion provider sought to downplay the group's role in abortion, but McGill Johnson said it's “stigmatizing” to downplay abortion. Many prayers and sacrifices are needed for Alexis!

Quote for the month: “You can't be a Catholic, at least not an authentic one, and be ‘pro-abortion’ or ‘pro-choice’” Bishop Thomas Tobin

New Year's Prayer: Our Father in heaven, we thank You for a year of successes and of growth. We thank You for babies saved from abortion, for baby boxes that have provided a safe place for newborns to be rescued, and for the fine work done by pro-life legislators, RTL employees and volunteers, sidewalk counselors, and other servants of your who actively oppose abortion in our country. We ask that You would teach us from our challenges how to follow You in serving our tiny unborn neighbors in the year ahead.

Parishioners for Life (PFL) meeting: Thursday, January 14 at 6:00 PM (every 2nd Thursday of the month). This month will be meeting at Alex and Paulette Rodriguez's home, 751 Long Bridge Drive, Chesterton. Everyone is welcomed, encouraged to attend and to bring a friend too. Please RSVP to Paulette at 219-331-3302.

You can read PFL's 1/2 page weekly bulletin columns on-line where we inform and educate fellow parishioners on pro-life issues and events. Present and recent past articles can be found at <http://discovermass.com/church/st-patrick-chesterton-in/#bulletins>

Other upcoming activities to participate in/spread the word about:

- January 8, “For Real” a human trafficking event, 6 PM, Living Stones Church, Crown Point. 219-525-4335 for tickets
- January 21 - 29, 9-days for Life novena for the protection of human life, www.9daysforlife.com or see attached flier
- January 22, 47th anniversary of Roe v Wade legalizing abortion resulting in over 61 million innocent children lives lost. It is a day of prayer and penance for the legal protection of unborn children. Lord have mercy on us!
- February 17 – March 28, 40-days for Life spring campaign, www.40daysforlife.com
- March 25 - Mar 25, 2021, Walking with Moms in Need: A year of Service, www.usccb.org/moms-in-need

On-going activities that need your help:

- Pro-life witness at Merrillville Planned Parenthood, most Saturdays, 10 to 11 AM, Text Lynne at 219-306-0956
- Pro-life witness at Merrillville Planned Parenthood, every 1st & 3rd Thursday, 11 AM to 1 PM, Pat at 219-246-3763
- Pro-life witness at Valparaiso Courthouse, every Tuesday, Noon to 1 PM, Contact Pat at 219-246-3763
- Pro-life witness at Hwy 6 & Willowcreek Rd, Portage, Contact Ron at 219-945-6384 for more info

Pro-life Prayer References:

- USCCB's pro-life monthly Word of Life, Prayer for Life or People of Life, www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities
- Prayer 5 AT 5 PM for Life, Join Pray Five At Five INDIANA To subscribe via text messaging: Text pray5at5 to 55222

Lord, we ask for the strength, courage, wisdom and stamina to carry out this pro-life ministry according to Your will. Amen.

Questions, directions, comments, just e-mail or call

Clark, 219-680-0901, ycdi_now@hotmail.com (there is an underscore between 'ycdi' and 'now')

Life is a gift from God - respect, protect, love and serve *all* human life, born and unborn!