



*Published six times a year by People Concerned for the Unborn Child  
Since 1969 – Pennsylvania's oldest and largest grass roots pro life organization*

3050 Pioneer Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15226



www.pcuc.org  
Office: 412-531-9272  
Editor: nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com

January-February 2024

Vol. 56 No. 1

## GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a joyful time of the year! As we commemorate and celebrate the birth of our Lord, simultaneously we ask for the same Lord to protect and save the countless unborn babies who are in or will be in their mother's wombs waiting for the moment when they can take their first breath and have what we all appreciate right now, life in the world. So many people who have the opportunity to live an abundant life do not realize that because their mothers chose life for them, they are here right now. To quote Ronald Reagan, "I've noticed that everyone who is for abortion has already been born." I would ask the abortion minded people, especially expectant mothers, to contemplate what that quote really says about the most important decision in a pregnant woman's life. Since our mothers chose life for all of us, how can expectant mothers not choose life for these precious, unborn gifts from the Lord!? Pro-lifers know the truth about good vs. evil, which boils down to God vs. Satan.

We cannot thank you, good and faithful servants of the Lord, enough for all you do for the unborn by way of your generosity to PCUC. Your selfless and continuous support means the world to us. PCUC would and could not continue to flourish without your loving support. Please keep us and our civil authorities in your prayers as we do the same for all of you

May this Nativity Season and the approaching new year bring you a renewed strength and faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Christ is born! Glorify Him!

Always in Him, Michael Siyufi, PCUC President

## PRAYER BREAKFAST JAN 13 MAKE RESERVATIONS NOW!



Pastors Jay and Tiffany Gilbert will be speaking about their wonderful pro-life ministry, Voices for the Unborn in East Liberty, Pittsburgh. Pastor Jay serves as the President of East Liberty Women's Care

Center, and Pastor Tiffany serves as the Executive Director. Pastor Jay is also the president of Another Level Bible Institute and works closely with Cornerstone Television Network, where he is on the panel of Hard Questions.

If you were in Harrisburg for the Pennsylvania March for Life, you may remember seeing Pastor Jay, as he was the Emcee for the event!

**We will welcome them on Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 10 am at The Chadwick, located in Wexford. (Contact Rose at [rose.h.liptak@gmail.com](mailto:rose.h.liptak@gmail.com) to register).**

Fr. Joe Luisi will offer our invocation and benediction and Deacon Bill Strathman and his musicians will provide the worship music. *Please bring a non-perishable food item to donate for a local food pantry.*

**PLEASE NOTE:** No walk-ins will be permitted (they will be turned away). Attendees must be pre-registered.

# 51<sup>st</sup> NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE

Friday, January 19th, 2024 in Washington DC

## List of Bus Captains & Departures:

Call Anita Theiss at 412-728-3647 with questions

### ALLEGHENY COUNTY

**ASPINWALL** St Scholastica:  
Cathy Zuza 412-551-3204

**BETHEL PARK** St Thomas More:  
Carolyn Sopher Martin 412- 860-9980

**PITTSBURGH** Epiphany Church:  
Lauren Shovlin 412-996-6346

**PLEASANT HILLS** Triumph of the Holy Cross/St  
Elizabeth of Hungary:  
Mary Pat Swauger 412-651-3093

**SEWICKLEY AREA** will leave from St. James:  
Elsie Rothfus 412-944-8922

**ROBINSON** Voices for the Unborn:  
Pastor Jay and Tiffany Gilbert 716-378-9281  
Leave from Robinson Market District. Pick up  
locations at Bob Evans in Harmar, Greater Works in  
Monroeville and Kohls in N. Huntingdon

**WEXFORD** St. Aidan:  
Christine Miller 724-935-4343 leave from St.  
Alphonsus.

### BEAVER COUNTY

**CHIPPEWA** St. Monica:  
Janet Pavlinch 724-846-7540

### BUTLER COUNTY

**BUTLER** All Saints Parish:  
Ray Ferguson 724-822-8041

**BUTLER** Sts. Francis/Clare of Assisi Parishes:  
Cecilia Love 724-822-0614. (Leave from St.  
Joseph in North Oakland and pick up at St. Mary's,  
Herman)

**VALENCIA** Gospel Fellowship Church:  
Bill Hohman 724-898-3322 **1 VAN**

### **INDIANA COUNTY**

**INDIANA/Strongstown** Indiana Area Churches:  
Bill Ager 724-465-4522

### **MERCER COUNTY**

**GROVE CITY** Beloved Disciple:  
Victoria Wagner 724-748-6700

### **WESTMORELAND COUNTY**

**DONEGAL** Christian Fam and Children Center:  
Dr. Merle Skinner 724-593-9200

### **COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS**

**PITTSBURGH** Seton-LaSalle Catholic HS  
Brian Klisavage 412-608-5027

## **CAN'T MAKE IT TO DC? JOIN A LOCAL MARCH FOR LIFE:**

Corpus Christi Pro-Life Group is once again planning Bridgeville March for Life the same day as National March for Life on Friday 1/19/24, alternative for those unable to make the trip to DC. This March for Life through streets of Bridgeville will follow noon Mass that day at Corpus Christi Parish, Holy Child Church, starting approximately 12:30 pm. Address for Holy Child Church is 212 Station St., Bridgeville, PA 15017. Adoration will also take place at Holy Child following Noon Mass until end of the March for Life for those unable to or prefer not to walk. Contact Jim Maochi with questions at [jmaochi@comcast.net](mailto:jmaochi@comcast.net)

## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE LENTEN CAMPAIGN KICKS ON FEB 13<sup>TH</sup>!



From Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> through Mar. 25 we will once again storm the gates of Hell with a peaceful, prayerful vigil in front of Planned Parenthood at 933 Liberty Ave.

**Help us to kick-off our 40 day prayer vigil by joining us at Divine Mercy Parish, Epiphany Church on Tuesday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm for a KICK-OFF MASS, FOLLOWED WITH A EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION TO PLANNED**

**PARENTHOOD!** Thanks to Fr. Chris Donley, Pastor of Divine Mercy Parish, for his courageous defense of our precious unborn brothers and sisters in Pittsburgh!

**Sign up to pray during these 40 days by going to [www.40daysforlife.com/pittsburgh](http://www.40daysforlife.com/pittsburgh), or contact Jen at [pghsaland365@gmail.com](mailto:pghsaland365@gmail.com) to get on our schedule.** When abortion-bound couples show up for their appointments, and are met with praying Christians and offers of help and hope...miracles can happen! Please join us!

Follow us on our blog at [www.40daysforlifepittsburgh.com](http://www.40daysforlifepittsburgh.com), and contact Nikki Bruni with any questions, at [nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com](mailto:nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com)

## PRAYER WALKS CONTINUE AROUND MAGEE HOSPITAL

In December, The Magee Project organized a campaign to send Christmas cards to the Board of Directors of Magee. The idea was to connect the board members to the truth that one baby, born in adversity, changed the world and that every child in their care has a sacred purpose.

*Through the winter months, we will prayer walk at Magee on the 4th Sunday of the month from 4-5pm. On April 28, we are planning a Stations of the Cross prayer walk. More details will follow!*

In the meantime, we continue to encourage everyone to send copies of the Dark Deeds brochure to their legislators. Contact Meredith for your copies. [TheMageeProject@gmail.com](mailto:TheMageeProject@gmail.com)

## NEW!!! PCUC SPEAKER'S BUREAU

PCUC seeks to bring the pro-life message to churches, men's & women's groups, youth groups, and any organization that will have us. If you know of a group that would benefit by having us give a short presentation about the many ways to combat the culture of death here in Pittsburgh, contact us to schedule a speaker at your next event!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO JEANNIE FRENCH'S "LITTLE LAMB RESALE" FOR BEING FEATURED IN THE DEC/JAN ISSUE OF THE PITTSBURGH CATHOLIC MAGAZINE!**



It is a blessing to have The Little Lamb as a pro-life oasis and refuge on Liberty Avenue! We store our sidewalk materials there, take breaks when needed...and recently one of our sidewalk advocates took an abortion bound woman and her friend there to counsel! **Jeannie has taken the personal responsibility of the monthly rent of the downtown storefront and is still in need of monthly donors to help her meet expenses.** If you are interested in joining her little "flock," contact her at [jwpg@msn.com](mailto:jwpg@msn.com).



## NIKKI BRUNI JOINS THE PCUC TEAM!



Following in the footsteps of our beloved Helen Cindrich is going to be a challenge, but Nikki is going to give it a try, as she assumes the role of Executive Director. Helen is staying on board to help with the transition and to add her wonderful pro-life legacy to PCUC's continued mission of educating and equipping pro-life activism in Pittsburgh!

### FROM NIKKI:

When Michael Siyufi (*current President of PCUC*) approached me this past summer to tell me that Helen was going to retire this winter, and wondered if I was interested in taking over for her, I impulsively said, “yes!” When I got home later that evening, fear of what I had just done set in. “*Oh no! How can I fit this into my already crammed life?*”

But when God calls us to something, He has a way to make it work. I am stepping out in faith and trusting Him that I will be able to be a good leader for PCUC...an organization that has played such an important role in my life.

*Truthfully, I don't even know if I would have ever gotten involved in pro-life activism if it hadn't been for PCUC.* Back in 2009, when God first broke my heart over abortion, I felt like I was on a lonely island. You could call it “Heart-Break Island.” I did not know another soul who was pro-life. There was no one to talk to about the tragedy of abortion, and no way that I could get involved with any sort of pro-life activity. Somehow I heard about PCUC. At the time, they were hosting public speakers prior to their monthly board meetings, and I began to attend. Through PCUC, I began to be educated and equipped to begin to lead the 40 Days for Life campaigns.

*I owe a huge debt of gratitude to PCUC and am thankful for the opportunity to lead. I promise to do my best. I appreciate your prayers!*

## THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING NEW

(a reflection by Helen)



One of the best things about being part of a good organization is that we never stand still. I wasn't around when PCUC started as WCUC. I didn't even know it existed until I got

involved in 1972. Thank God for Mary Winter, Rita Cunningham, Joan Derrick and the other brave, bold women who stepped up to stop abortion in Pittsburgh and everywhere.

One afternoon we all met at Lois' house to talk about a lady named Nellie Gray and how she planned a “March for Life” in Washington, DC, to protest the *Roe v. Wade* decision by the U. S. Supreme Court to legalize abortion. I don't remember all that was said that day, but I thought, “Gee! That's a really big proposition. I hope some people will go.”

The following January I was among the 10,000 or so people who “marched” around the Capitol. The people at the end of the line started their “march” as the folks who were at the front were completing their “march.” I was four months pregnant, and I heard that Eileen Vogel, one of our leaders, was also “expecting.” The thing that made Eileen's planning for the March extraordinary was that on one of her rides to and from DC to plan the March, she spent the night in her car on the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

There's so much more to tell you about being part of the pro-life movement. I should write a book, but for now I'll just say I don't regret any of it. I'll pray for PCUC every day, and I hope you will pray for me.

## JOY TO THE WORLD...AND PEACE TO THOSE TROUBLED SOULS ENTERING PP!

Dozens of faithful pro-lifers gathered on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> to sing Christmas carols and bring the joy of Jesus' birth to Planned Parenthood.



(Tim wrote): The morning was filled with joyful carols as we brought hope and Christ's light to the darkness of the abortion center. The carols even brought a few tears. Bishop **William Waltersheid** *said beautiful and inspiring opening and closing prayers and blessed all on the street this day.*

Randy K. led us on his accordion and knew every song in our booklet. He also covered over some of us not so good singers. While we spent most of our hour in song, we did intersperse bible readings to add meaning to our songs. We had several dozen carolers from all over western Pennsylvania, Eastern Ohio and Somerset County. During what is often the busiest day of the week at the abortion center, we saw very few abortion bound enter the clinic.

Afterwards we enjoyed fellowship, hot chocolate and a wide variety of baked goods at the Little Lamb store a few doors up the street. It was a joyful, hope filled and Merry morning.

Thanks to all who participated in making this great event happen.

God bless you all and Merry Christmas. Tim

## PITTSBURGH SIDEWALK ADVOCATES & 40 DAYS 365 ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

(From Greg Engelmeier, Program Director of SAFL)

2023 has been a tumultuous year. The good news is, that we have saved more lives on the Sidewalk, whose mothers had plans to abort them. In the last month alone, we've had a confirmed SAVE where a woman left the table as she was getting prepped for an abortion; a "HOPEFUL" where a Spanish speaking woman was redirected to Little Lamb, where she was counseled by two Sidewalk Advocates and given the Spanish language trifold brochure; and a young couple who came out and said they decided not to take the abortion pill!

I'm also proud to announce we have four newly trained Sidewalk Advocates to add to our numbers! A warm welcome goes to out Jim F., Michele K., Sam L., and Ethan S., who completed a full Saturday training session on December 9. And the good news is, I've seen all four of them for at least one shift downtown on the Sidewalk, working to save the babies!

The bad news is, that Planned Parenthood is now scheduling abortions on Mondays – a 6<sup>th</sup> day! That means hundreds more babies will potentially be killed before they have a chance to breathe one breath of fresh air on this earth. I bet many of you did not know that every year, according to their own state-reported statistics, over 3000 unborn children are killed every year behind the evil doors of Planned Parenthood. With Mondays now open, it may approach over 3500! 😞

We need your help! If you can't attend the training and volunteer to become a Sidewalk Advocate, or even come to pray while a sidewalk advocate is in need of a partner, *then at least consider a donation to PCUC.* Without PCUC, funding for Sidewalk Advocates for Life would become much more difficult. Thank you PCUC, for funding our annual charter fee, for paying for our training workbooks, for paying for the thousands of printed brochures we hand out every year, and for allowing us to use your office free of charge, for our training. PCUC is the funding mechanism for many pro-life groups around the city.

***I hope you consider making a Christmas gift donation in support of Life this Christmas season.***

*PS. Interested in training to become a Sidewalk Advocate? Email me at [grege@cmhec.com](mailto:grege@cmhec.com). I already have two people interested. If 2-3 more of you would sign up, I'll schedule a training session in January, instead in March, after the 40 Days For Life vigil is over.*

## **“CONSERVATIVE” ANNE COULTER ATTACKS PRO-LIFE LAW. RICK SANTORUM HAS AN AMAZING RESPONSE:**

Columnist Ann Coulter has long had a reputation as a fearless conservative firebrand. Which is why it's so surprising to see her continue to attack pro-lifers. After pro-lifers lost in Ohio, Coulter responded by saying: *“PRO-LIFERS ARE GOING TO WIPE OUT THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.”*

But now she's attacking pro-lifers because a Texas pro-life law wouldn't allow a mother to abort her child with Trisomy 18. She tweeted: *“The prolife movement has gone from compassion for the child to cruelty to the mother (and child). Trisomy 18 is not a condition that is compatible with life.”* But former Senator and pro-life stalwart Rick Santorum pushed back at Coulter.



*“Meet my incompatible w life daughter Bella. Her docs put her on hospice at 10 days old. Other countries have much higher survival rates than US because they treat the baby not the diagnosis. Every kid deserves a shot at life, not be brutally dismembered for not being perfect.”*

*Well said, Mr. Santorum! Thank you for being a champion for life!*

*Copied from The Catholic Vote, 12-12-23 ["Conservative" Ann Coulter Attacks Pro-life Law. Rick Santorum Has an Amazing Response - CatholicVote.org](#)*

## **YOU GOTTA BE ABLE TO TAKE A PUNCH By Eric Scheidler**

I'll never forget the day that my attorney, pro-life legal champion Tom Brejcha told me this:

*“You gotta be able to take a punch.”*

I had just lost a major court decision, and if it stuck, I'd have been on the hook to pay PP nearly \$500,000 in legal fees.

We ultimately won that case, and I never paid PP a dime. And in the end, that bad ruling actually helped us win the case on appeal.

## **OXFORD DOCTOR TELLS OF SAFETY OF ABORTION PILL REVERSAL**

*“An utter farce. Don't listen to them.”* This is a quote from Dr. Callum Miller's Twitter page. Dr. Miller is a medical doctor and a bioethicist at Oxford University. The “them” he refers to are those who, citing only one study of Abortion Pill Reversal (APR), claim that it is unsafe for the woman. He critiqued this study on LifeNews.com on November 17, 2023.

Dr. Miller's critique is very important, but there is not enough space to include it here. We will only repeat his conclusion: “Opponents of abortion pill reversal choice often say that it is dangerous. Their evidence for this is one single patient who had a very minor hemorrhage (as often happens during a medical abortion) and did not need any treatment at all. An utter farce.

If you are interested in reading more, go to LifeNews.com and type “Dr. Callum Miller” or “Abortion Pill Reversal” in order to find the article. Or send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: PHL Wyoming Valley Chapter, 31 Hanover St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702, and you will receive the analysis in the mail.

## **PP DOESN'T MAKE APPOINTMENTS FOR “INDECISION COUNSELING”**

PP in Minnesota (and probably in PA) does not make appointments for “indecision counseling” regarding pregnancy. The woman must make an appointment for a pregnancy test or abortion, and counseling would be included if desired. Or the woman can call one of two hotline numbers provided by PP: a hotline run by the national PP office or a hotline run by an abortion-supporting organization called All Options.

The bottom line is that if a woman tells you she is pregnant, but is just at PP for “counseling,” assume she is there for an already-scheduled abortion appointment even if, in reality, she is somewhat unsure about her decision (as many women are).



## PATIENTS IN PA AND DE SEEK TO CHANGE NJ RESIDENCE LAW

A Pennsylvania resident is seeking to change the aid-in-dying law in New Jersey.

If she lived in New Jersey, Andy Seal who was diagnosed with breast cancer, could host a funeral for herself where her family and friends could share their love for her before she takes her own life. But Andy does not live in New Jersey. She lives in Pennsylvania. New Jersey is one of 10 states that allow terminally ill patients to get a lethal dose of drugs to end their lives, but the law prohibits doctors from prescribing these medications to anyone who is not a resident of NJ. Oregon and Vermont have similar laws which first agreed to not allow out of state residents access to aid-in-dying, but these safeguards were later tossed.

Remember: Never has a law, once passed, been limited or overturned. Assisted suicide laws only become more lethal for more people.

## IT'S TIME TO DEFEND THE HYDE AMENDMENT

It's time to call on the conservative leadership in Congress to take a bold stand to DEFEND the Hyde Amendment. Since 1976, the Hyde Amendment has protected Americans from having to pay for abortions through our federal tax dollars.

Named for pro-life Congressman Henry Hyde (R-Ill), the Amendment was first passed in 1976, three years after the tragic *Roe v Wade* Supreme Court decision. And Congress has included it in every appropriations bill since. The Hyde Amendment was not an issue until now. If the pro-abortion lobby, their allies in Congress, and the White House have their way, that protection will be cut short—forcing you and me to pay for abortions through our federal tax dollars. In 2020, every Democratic candidate for president went on record for repealing the Hyde Amendment – including now-President Joe Biden, who voted for it as a senator in 1976 but flip-flopped as a candidate for president. President Biden has now repeatedly demonstrated his obsession with abortion, becoming the most pro-abortion president in U.S. history. It's up to us—

NOW—to write to our Republican lawmakers, telling them **NO TAXPAYER FUNDING OF ABORTION. Pro-Life Americans must not be**

**silent!** SOURCE: Tony Perkins, Chairman, FAMILY RESOURCE COUNCIL

## PRO-LIFE ARTIST PAINTS ULTRASOUND PICS TO SHOW THE BEAUTY OF LIFE!



From her website, [www.beholdyourchild.com](http://www.beholdyourchild.com) Caitlyn Solan is an artist who paints beautiful painting from ultrasound photos. She has been painting sonograms since 2015. The idea came from a deep desire to make a

difference through her art and point her work back to God. Her strong pro-life values inspired her to think of a way to boldly declare the truth that life begins at conception. Looking at a sonogram clearly reveals this truth.



To order a painting of YOUR child (or grandchild), or to purchase t-shirts and other items with her artwork on them, go to

[www.beholdyourchild.com](http://www.beholdyourchild.com).

# HONORS AND MEMORIALS

In honor of the McKenna – Foley and  
Libell Families from Joseph & Mary Lou McKenna

Memory of Mel Ackerman  
from Ronald & Tomasine Ackerman

Memory of Victor Carbin  
from Mary Carbin

Memory of Francis Richard Cortes  
from Kathy Perozzi

Memory of Francis Richard Cortes  
from Joe & Mary Lou McKenna

Memory of Richard Cortez  
from Marijule Grandinetti and family

Memory of Adam DiSabato from his  
Mom & Dad, Beverly and Bill

Memory of Bill DiSabato from  
His beloved wife, Beverly

Memory of Marianne Geier  
from John F. Geier

Memory of Patricia Antonik Gagliardi  
from Joe & Mary Lou McKenna

Memory of Kathleen C. Jacobs  
from Rick & Linda Zalupski

Memory of Lorraine Kasten and  
Caroline Wilhelm from Ron Cenminara

Memory of Kelly Kemp  
from Bob & Pat Eckenrod

Memory of Mark Lansinger  
from Jean Lansinger

Memory of Joseph McBurney  
from Mary Ann McBurney

Memory of Nell and Edward Misiewicz  
from Ronald Misiewicz

Memory of Fr. John O'Shea  
from Mary Clare Radcliffe

Memory of Dolores Patterson  
from Rev. John Patterson

Memory of Diane M. Slagle  
from John Slagle

Memory of Edward Springer  
from Joe & Mary Lou McKenna

Memory of Andrew Stickman (Age 3)  
from Cathy Huth

Memory of Colleen Sundo  
from William & Josephine Holland

Memory of Marion Way  
from Thomas H. Way

Memory of Lorraine, Kristen & Caroline Wilhelm  
from Ron Cerminara

Memory of Vic Vandewater  
from his wife Mary Ann

Congratulations to Helen Cindrich  
from Cecelia K Perz

*We truly appreciate your "honors" and  
"memorials" for family, friends and special people  
in your life. We publish their names in our latest  
newsletter and will add any special sentiments you  
would like to add.*

## Prayer Breakfast Registration Form

<https://www.pcuc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Prayer-Breakfast-for-Life-2024.pdf>



