



3050 Pioneer Ave.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15226

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[www.PCUC.org](http://www.PCUC.org)

E-Newsletter  
Monthly Update for July 2024



## FROM OUR DIRECTOR

### *“Going into Dark Places”*

By Nikki Bruni, Executive Director

Last night I watched Season 4, episode 2 of “*The Chosen*” with my parents. One particular scene struck me, which I feel prompted to write about.

*In this scene, Jesus is beginning to prepare His disciples for times of persecution and suffering. John the Baptist has just been beheaded by Herod, and in the midst of their period of mourning, Jesus brings them to a place of pagan debauchery; Caesarea Philippi. The temples there were dedicated to demons such as Molech and Baal. Child sacrifice and temple prostitutes were the order of the day.*

*In the scene I am describing, Jesus’ disciples were appalled that He would bring them to such a scandalous place...especially during their time of mourning John. They were horrified at the atrocity and offenses to their religion that were right in front of them. They were all covering their noses because of the stench. (I have literally done that while standing in front of PP when the stench of urine was so strong that I couldn’t stand it!)*

**Jesus explained to his confused disciples that if we are to follow Him, we need to be fearless...as John the Baptist was. We need to be willing to confront evil. Simon is given the new name, “Peter”, and Jesus tells them that from that moment on, they will have His Authority to fight against and to defeat evil. He would establish His Church upon the “Rock” of Peter, and the gates of Hell will not prevail!**

Even though *The Chosen* is a modern-day streaming series, based on the events of the Bible, and much artistic license is taken...(the scene I am describing here is not in the Bible)...Can there be any doubt that if Jesus walked on this earth in these times, that He would bring us to the places of modern day child sacrifice? Can’t

you just hear Him commanding us to be fearless in following Him?

**Even if we do nothing other than show up and pray, our prayers are like a battering ram against the gates of Hell! We need not fear the darkness, because we have the Light of Christ within us! When we all join together, our little lights become a blaze! Join us!**

**As September rapidly approaches, there are many opportunities for us to go into dark places, in order to bring the light of Christ. Mark your calendars to attend the following events:**

- **September 8th:** Abby Johnson’s brand-new documentary film, “*Un-Thinkable*” will be shown at the Oaks Theater at 2pm in Oakmont as a fundraiser for 40 Days for Life in Pittsburgh. To purchase tickets online, go to:

[UNTHINKABLE an Abby Johnson Film - Hosted by 40 Days for Life Pittsburgh \(ticketspice.com\)](https://www.ticketspice.com/Unthinkable-Abby-Johnson-Film-Hosted-by-40-Days-for-Life-Pittsburgh)

- **September 23th:** Pennsylvania March for Life is held in Harrisburg.
- **September 24th:** 40 Days for Life Kicks-off with a Mass & Eucharistic Procession to Planned Parenthood.
- **From September 25th through November 3rd:** 40 Days for Life prayer vigil will take place on the sidewalk in front of PP from 7:30am—5pm EVERY DAY FOR 40 DAYS!

*(See flyers with more information about all of these events in this newsletter.)*

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Greg Engelmeyer, PCUC President



Exciting News! Keep an eye out along your local thoroughfare. You will soon see digital billboards similar to the one attached below, at up to 4 separate locations along the Parkways East & West, Route 28, and other highly traveled highways

around Pittsburgh. These billboards are the result of the hard work of the PCUC Billboard Committee, who decided that our first message was to educate women about the perils of the abortion pill. Unfortunately, more than 62% of all abortions performed in America today, are chemical abortions. Maybe a baby's life will be saved because a mom thought twice about taking this pill. If you want to help us with the cost of this advertising, all donations will be gratefully accepted!



Consider getting involved! Are you an excellent writer? Then contact us to join our communications committee. Are you an excellent speaker, or do you know a group, school, or organization that would like to hear a talk espousing the value of Life? Then contact PCUC. Are you involved with your church's Pro-Life team? Does your church even have one? If not, contact PCUC to learn how to start one. Do want to help save a baby's life and become a Sidewalk Advocate, letting young expectant moms arriving for abortion appointments know that **they do have a choice** - a real choice, a choice for life! Do you have other special talents that God has given you, that can be used to help the lives of the unborn?

Remember the parable of the master with the three servants- God gave you a special talent, or maybe two talents or even three! Don't bury it in the ground and leave it unused. Use it to help others. God knows, even if it seems hard and perhaps scary, that He gave you what it takes to make a difference in this world. Isn't it about time you used it before it's too late?

May God bless all of his unborn little children, and their moms who choose Life!



## JEANNIE'S LITTLE LAMB RESALE IS VANDALIZED!

In the early hours of July 24th, a random act of vandalism resulted in the large plate glass window in the front of the shop being completely smashed. Video surveillance showed a passerby throwing a metal table through the window and then continuing on his way. The beautiful fetal model set that was displayed in the front window was also stolen. *Jeannie is thankful to sidewalk advocate/40 Days 365 volunteers, Peggy, Mary and Cathy, who discovered the vandalism when they showed up at PP for their 7:30am shift, and for staying on into the afternoon to help her to clean up the mess.* She is also grateful for the lovely pro-lifers that have already donated to help her purchase a new fetal model set, and she is pursuing insurance to cover the cost of the window, as well as looking into upgrading her security camera.

**We are grateful Little Lamb Resale is there to let vulnerable moms and dads know that there is love and assistance for them, as well as providing a haven for our pro-life volunteers.**

*If you would like to make a donation to Little Lamb Resale, checks can be mailed to "Little Lamb Project", National Womens Coalition for Life, 301 De Arment Parkway, Pittsburgh PA 15241*



## NEWS FROM THE SIDEWALK

*By Andrew McCauley, Director of Sidewalk Advocates for Life, Pittsburgh*



On July 27th, I had the pleasure of conducting my second training as director of downtown Pittsburgh's SAFL group. We had nine new trainees and one experienced advocate present for a refresher. I can truly

say that it was an honor to get to know this handful of people who have decided to take a stand against the greatest injustice of our time—an honor that challenges me to pursue the cause of life and even that of general holiness with greater zeal. However, the pro-life cause should not be a movement of the few that it sadly is. God saves babies and changes lives through the work of our selfless advocates! If there are opportunities to save lives and convert hearts, we must ask ourselves as Christians why we would turn them down. We are OBLIGATED to protect the innocent and convert the wayward. We must get involved ourselves, get our friends involved, and exhort our pastors to preach about the necessity of pro-life ministry. You don't need to be extraordinary or a saint to do this work. If that was required, no one would do it. But perhaps consider that you might need to do this work to become a saint.



Pictured above, brand new Sidewalk Advocate trainees: Amy, Mike, Kathy, Maureen, Ashley, Julie, Renai, Kim, Heather and Charlie.

## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE SYMPOSIUM DREW HUNDREDS OF LOCAL LEADERS!



On July 12th & 13th, approximately 400 local leaders gathered in Nashville for a time of learning, inspiration and fellowship. As you can see from this photo, the local leaders are YOUNG! I definitely felt very old in this group! But I am happy to feel old, because it is a sign that the pro-life movement is continuing to renew with each generation! Praise God that He is raising up young leaders all around our nation! It is always amazing to be with people who are fighting the same spiritual battle to end abortion, and facing the same challenges that we face here in Pittsburgh.



My husband Joe and I (far right), with Dan Miller and September, (leaders from Milwaukee), and Shawn Carney, President of 40 Days for Life

As iron sharpens iron, we were spiritually sharpened by the many speakers and national team members, as they taught and encouraged us. I am very grateful to Shawn Carney and 40 Days for Life's amazing leadership team, which so generously makes this yearly symposium a reality for us.

## LEGISLATION UPDATE...FROM ANITA...



### PA BAN ON MEDICAID FUNDING OF ABORTION IN DANGER!

Advocates for abortion are placing their hopes in the Commonwealth Court **revisiting** the *Allegheny Reproductive Health Center v. Pennsylvania Department of Human Services* case. Governor Josh Shapiro has just declared that he **will not fulfill his constitutional duty to “take care that the laws be faithfully executed” and instead is urging the court to overturn the ban on using Medicaid money for abortions.**

#### Some Background:

In 1985 the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania ruled that the Medicaid coverage ban enacted via the Abortion Control Act was constitutional in a case called *Fischer v. Department of Public Welfare*. However, on January 16, 2019 *Allegheny Reproductive Health Center v. Pennsylvania Department of Human Services* was filed in Commonwealth Court by Planned Parenthood and the Women’s Law Project. The goal was to get a court to overturn *Fischer* by ruling that the state’s Medicaid abortion coverage ban **violates** the Equal Rights Amendment and equal protection provisions of the Pennsylvania Constitution.”

On January 29, 2024, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court issued a ruling that overturned *Fischer v. Department of Public Welfare* and sent the case back to the Commonwealth Court. According to Planned Parenthood and the Women’s Law Project, “*Overturning Fischer represents a sea change in the legal framework for challenging abortion restrictions in Pennsylvania.*”

Last week the Shapiro Administration filed a notice with Commonwealth Court in the case of *Allegheny Reproductive Health Center v. Pennsylvania Department of Human Services*, pledging to

ensure equitable access to reproductive health care for all state residents, regardless of their economic status.

Shapiro said, “*My Administration looks forward to making our arguments in Court and urges the Court to strike down this ban that denies Pennsylvanians access to health care solely because of their sex and clearly runs counter to the recent Supreme Court ruling.*”

However, the first sentence in Article IV, Section 2 of the PA Constitution says, “The supreme executive power shall be vested in the Governor, who shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.” According to the attorney general’s website, “The Attorney General is Pennsylvania’s top law enforcement official.” So the law as enacted by the PA legislature is that Medicaid money **cannot be used for abortions**. The job of the governor is to execute the law and for Attorney General Michelle Henry to enforce the law.

Contact Governor Josh Shapiro’s office to let him know your thoughts on his decision not to carry out his constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed. You can call his office at 717-787-2500.

Also, contact your State Rep and State Senator and ask them to hold Governor Josh Shapiro and Attorney General Michelle Henry accountable. **Constitutionally, they do not have the authority to pick and choose which laws they will execute/enforce.**

If needing help identifying your State Rep and or State Senator, please contact me for more information. Anita Theiss 412-728-3647.

RESOURCE: Diane Gramley, American Family Association of PA



To purchase tickets online, go to: <https://mightyistributors.ticketspice.com/unthinkable-an-abby-johnson-film-hosted-by-40-days-for-life-pittsburgh> Tickets may also be purchased at the door, but seating is limited so buying online is recommended. Ticket cost is \$20. The Oaks Theater offers a bar with wine and beer, as well as snacks for purchase. Film will begin at 2:30.



TOGETHER,  
WE CAN MAKE  
ABORTION  
**UNTHINKABLE**



**ABBY JOHNSON**

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER

8

2:00PM

THE OAKS THEATER

310 Allegheny River Blvd,  
Oakmont, PA

## UNTHINKABLE

WITH ABBY JOHNSON

Is the shocking exposé of the abortion industry and its darkest secrets. After telling her story in the best-selling book *Unplanned* and the subsequent dramatic film of the same name, Abby wanted to dive deeper into her story of transformation from celebrated leader at Planned Parenthood to the outspoken pro-life leader who is now rescuing those with even more horrific experiences than her. Her message is one of bringing the Truth with a call to exemplify the heart of Christ as an army of radical PRO LIFE and PRO LOVE women and men who are called to have the grace and mercy of God even for the wicked.

SCAN TO BUY  
**TICKETS** →



To watch the trailer, visit:

**UNTHINKABLEDOC.COM**

THIS IS A FUND-RAISER FOR 40 DAYS FOR LIFE PITTSBURGH'S FALL VIGIL AT PP.  
WE ARE HOPING TO BE ABLE TO HIRE PROFESSIONAL SECURITY TO KEEP OUR  
VOLUNTEERS SAFE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

#WHYWEMARCH #PAMARCHFORLIFE | *WITH EVERY WOMAN, FOR EVERY CHILD*



# PENNSYLVANIA MARCH FOR LIFE



## SEPTEMBER 23, 2024

11:00 AM - RALLY

12:00 PM - MARCH FOR LIFE

FOR MORE  
INFORMATION, VISIT:

Pennsylvania State Capitol  
501 N 3rd St, Harrisburg, PA 17120

**PA.MARCHFORLIFE.ORG**

OR SCAN THE CODE BELOW

HOSTED BY:





# 4TH ANNUAL PA MARCH FOR LIFE

Monday, September 23rd, 2024 in Harrisburg, PA

## List of Bus Captains and Departures

### ALLEGHENY COUNTY

CASTLE SHANNON *St Paul of the Cross* Kathy Raimondi 412-344-9690 leave from Saint Anne's

GLENSHAW/ASPINWAL *Christ the King/St. Matthew* John McNavage 412-759-1807 or Cathy Zuza 412-551-3204 Pick up at St. Bonneventure and St. Scholastica

MONROEVILLE/ROBINSON *Voices for the Unborn* Tiffany Gilbert/ Teri Black 412-956-5433

Pick up from Greater Works in Monroeville and Cracker Barrel in New Stanton

NORTH SIDE *Most Precious Blood of Jesus* Jeanine Goelz 412-761-1508

UPPER SAINT CLAIR *St. Thomas More/ Resurrection Parish* Carolyn Sopher Martin 412-860-9980

WHITE OAK *Mary Mother of God* (St. Angela) Celeste Palcsey 412-302-6637

### BUTLER COUNTY

BUTLER *St. Mark the Evangelist* Gretchen Cararie 724-316-1185/ Ron Hartzel 724-796-4771 Pick up at St Andrews/Holy Sepulcher

### COLLEGES and SCHOOLS

BROOKLINE *Seton -LaSalle Catholic HS* Brian Klisavage 412-561-3583

If you know of any buses leaving from your area, please call Anita at 412-728-3647. Posting this information helps to notify folks looking for a bus leaving near them and it helps the bus captains fill their buses.

Thank you.



## Kick-Off Mass & Eucharistic Procession to Planned Parenthood

**Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6:30 pm**

**Mass at Divine Mercy Parish, Epiphany Church followed by  
a Candlelit Eucharistic Procession to Planned Parenthood!**

**Fr. Chris Donley, Main Celebrant ~ Homily by Fr. Sean Francis**

**Many priests will be participating! Join us as we bring the light of Christ to the darkest place in our city!**



*Let us honor Christ as our King and ask Him to bring our nation back to  
Him, especially during this turbulent election year!*

**For more information go to [40daysforlife.com/Pittsburgh](https://40daysforlife.com/Pittsburgh)**

**[nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com](mailto:nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com) or call 412-926-9413**





# September 25 - November 3 **40 DAYS FOR LIFE®**

## **HELP SAVE LIVES IN PITTSBURGH!**

**You can protect mothers and children** by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000+ volunteers!

**With God's help**, here are the proven results in 30 coordinated campaigns:

- Over **20,000 babies** saved from abortion
- Over **200 abortion** workers converted
- Over **100 abortion** centers closed

**Here's how to take part in 40 Days for Life in our community:**

**Vigil location:** Outside Planned Parenthood, 933 Liberty Ave., Pittsburgh

**Vigil hours:** 7:30 am to 5 pm daily

**Local contact:** Nikki Bruni,  
nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com

**Learn more ... get involved ... and sign up for prayer times by visiting our campaign at:** [www.40daysforlife.com/Pittsburgh!](http://www.40daysforlife.com/Pittsburgh!)

**Join us for a Kick-off Mass & Eucharistic Procession to Planned Parenthood on Tues., Sept. 24!**

Divine Mercy Parish, Epiphany Church. Mass begins at 6:30pm, Procession to PP immediately after. Fr. Chris Donley will offer the Mass.



## HONORS & MEMORIALS

In Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary

From Mary L. Cook

In Honor of new officers of PCUC

From Jim Maochi

In Honor of Nikki Bruni

From Mary Ann Mulkerin

In Honor of Helen Cindrich

From Randy Engel, US Coalition for Life

In Honor of Mary Winter

From Mary Ann Mulkerin

In Memory of the Cook Family Members

From Mary L. Cook

In Memory of Bill & Adam DiSabato

From Beverly DiSabato

In Memory of John & Michael Maimone

From Joan Maimone

In Memory of Mrs. Virginia Mae Martin

From Thomas Centa

In Memory of Joan Derrick

From Randy Engel, US Coalition for Life

In Memory of David Fennessy

Knights of Columbus Council 4925

In Memory of Linda Gentile

From Cathy Huth

In Memory of James & Thomas Hajdukiewicz

From Mom & Dad

In Memory of Charles & Dorothy Hogan

From Dr. Donald Hogan, DMD

In Memory of Thomas & Ann Jeletic

From David & Mary Ann Smyth

In Memory of Keith E. Lewis

From his wife, Shari Lewis

In Memory of Diane Marcella

From Mary Veres

In Memory of Robert Newman

From Joan Newman

In Memory of Kathy Park

From Ruth Murtha

In Memory of Josie Piper

From TJ Piper

In Memory of Louis & Emma Rosner

From Joan K. Rosner

In Memory of Lily Schlicht

From Cathy Huth

In Memory of Diane M. Slagle

From John Slagle

In Memory of Hugh & Helen Smyth

From David & Mary Ann Smyth

In Memory of George & Gary Stoker

From Margaret Stoker

In Memory of Vic Vanderwater

From Mary Ann Vanderwater

**If you would like to support the work of PCUC, please consider making a donation at:**

[Donate – People Concerned for the Unborn Child \(pcuc.org\)](https://www.pcuc.org)

Either online through PayPal at:

[Donate \(paypal.com\)](https://www.paypal.com)

Or by mailing a check to:

PCUC  
3050 Pioneer Ave.  
Pittsburgh PA 15226

**Thank you for your support!**

**Honor your loved one by sending a donation of any amount to:**

PCUC, 3050 Pioneer Ave., Pittsburgh PA 15226

*Be sure to include the name of the person to honor or memorialize, who it is from and to whom the acknowledgment is to be sent.*





Educating, Equipping & Advocating...since 1969

*Join us for our annual*

# Celebrate Life Luncheon

**Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**LeMont Restaurant, 1114 Grandview Ave., Pittsburgh**



Fr. Joe Freedy is the youngest of 5 children; he grew up in Pittsburgh, PA. Fr. Joe played football at the University at Buffalo where he was the starting quarterback for 3 years. After college he entered the seminary and was assigned to study in Rome at the Gregorian University and the John Paul II Institute. He was ordained a Priest in 2008. Fr. Joe served as the vocation director and assistant evangelization director and is currently the assistant at Divine Grace Parish in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. He is also a spiritual advisor for Dry Bones Ministries.

*Come and enjoy an afternoon with our pro-life family! Be inspired by Fr. Joe Freedy, as he shares his enthusiasm, energy and humor to help us continue the fight for the lives of our pre-born brothers and sisters!*

## AGENDA:

12:30 - 1:30 Reception (Music by Deacon Bill Strathmann)

1:30-2:30 - Lunch

2:30 - 3:30 Speaker

*We are pleased to announce that Fr. Chris Donley will be the recipient of this year's Founders Award!*



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make \_\_\_\_\_ reservations at \$65.00 each. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to place an ad in PCUC's Banquet Book & Resource Guide:**

Please attach your copy-ready ad or the wording you want and we will design your ad, or email to [nikki@pcuc.org](mailto:nikki@pcuc.org)

☐ Whole Page (\$150) ☐ Half Page (\$100) ☐ Quarter Page (\$50) ☐ Business Card (\$25)

**Make checks payable to PCUC and mail to:** PCUC, 3050 Pioneer Ave., Pittsburgh PA 15226 (Deadline Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>)

Call or text 412-926-9413 with questions

[www.pcuc.org](http://www.pcuc.org)