



Equipping, Educating & Advocating...Since 1969



Our 57th Year

3050 Pioneer Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15226

412-531-9272
www.PCUC.org

E-Newsletter
Monthly Update for January, 2025



NEW YEAR'S GREETING FROM OUR PRESIDENT

By Greg Engelmeyer

Dear Friends of Life,

We have a lot to be thankful for and look forward to in the coming year. Foremost in my mind is that I no longer have a fear of being persecuted by our government for believing in the sanctity of life. While we must always obey the laws of the City of Pittsburgh when we advocate downtown and offer **real help** to young expectant mothers as they enter the doors of Planned Parenthood, I no longer have the fear that of being entrapped by the authorities for trying to save lives. If that is what might be holding you back from volunteering with the Sidewalk Advocates or 40 Days For life, please reconsider and offer up an hour or two of your week doing God's work and try to save a baby's life!

On December 16, Nikki, Meredith, and I along with spouses traveled to Harrisburg to participate in a Pennsylvania Pro-Life Leader Conference. Whenever I attend a workshop or conference, if I come away with a "nugget" or two that I can use and put to work to further my development or cause, I consider it time well spent. I'm happy to report that I gathered quite a *few nuggets to remember in my role with PCUC.* Here are some key points I gleaned from the following speakers to help in our Pro-Life efforts:

Sister Leonie Therese of the Sisters of Life of Philadelphia spoke about the power of prayer AND Fasting, which is required to cast out demons: PRAYER opens the heart of God, and FASTING

obtains what we ask for. (*We suffer out of love for others.*)

Professor Michael New of the Catholic University of America gave us the good news that the passing of the Heartbeat Bill in Texas has resulted in an additional 1,000-1,200 babies born each month! The other 14 states that have passed similar pro-life laws have also seen increases in births. On the other hand, the bad news is that a 2023 poll shows that 54% of the General Public now considers themselves Pro-Choice,. *But the most disheartening statistic is that 64% of young adults (age 18-35) now claim to be Pro-Choice, while only 29% say they are Pro-Life!*

Laura Echevarria of the National Right to Life gave us some good strategies to counter the Anti-life messaging, which seeks to hide the truth about what really happens in an abortion. Therefore, successful persuasion happens when we make people think (*such as with our billboards!*), and also by using personal stories to touch hearts.

This conference has made me realize more than ever that PCUC needs to be in the schools! In 2025 we need to recharge and focus our efforts on reaching the youth in 7th -8th grade and in the high schools. We must get to our youth BEFORE they're brainwashed by the Left and the Abortion Industry. We need to take to social media – Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Facebook and more.

In summation we can do more. *We need to do more.* God is calling us to save more babies.

Please pray for PCUC that we live up to God's calling. May God bless us in our efforts in 2025.



PCUC
People Concerned for the Unborn Child

Invites you to our annual

PRAYER BREAKFAST

Saturday, January 18th, 2025

Doors open at 9:00 am ~ Breakfast is at 10:00 am

Pittsburgh Marriott North, 100 Cranberry Woods Dr., Cranberry Twp. PA

His Excellency, Bishop William Waltersheid Speaking!



Having served as Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh since 2011, His Excellency, Bishop Waltersheid has been a hero to the pro-life movement of Pittsburgh. He has led countless Eucharistic Processions to Planned Parenthood and presided over dozens of 40 Days for Life closing Masses. He has been instrumental in bringing the "Walking With Moms in Need" program to parishes all around our diocese, and his "Why I am Pro-Life" manifesto remains published on our website to this day. His Excellency has a true heart for the unborn and we are very blessed to have his spiritual leadership here in Pittsburgh!

Contact Nikki for more information at Nikki@pcuc.org or call 412-926-9413

Detach this form and mail along with payment to: PCUC, 3050 Pioneer Ave., Pgh PA 15226

Or pay online at [Prayer Breakfast – PCUC | Pregnancy Resources and Information for Southwestern PA](#)

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

_____ I have enclosed \$ _____ for _____ breakfasts @ **\$32.00** each

_____ I cannot come to the breakfast, but I would like to make a donation. \$ _____

Are you coming with friends/family? Whose name will identify your table? _____



FROM OUR DIRECTOR

“Thank You for Praying at Planned Parenthood!”

By Nikki Bruni

These were the words that I heard as I was speaking to one of the beautiful Sisters of Life at the Harrisburg Pro-Life Working Group Conference on December 16th. I had introduced myself to the young Sister and told her that I was the director of 40 Days for Life in Pittsburgh, and of PCUC. But it was when I mentioned the fact that I go to Planned Parenthood weekly that her face lit up with a huge smile and said, “*Oh, thank you for praying at Planned Parenthood!*”.

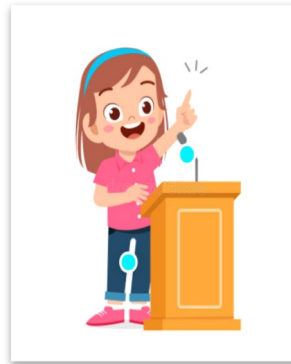
Later, as I was reflecting on her reaction, it struck me that she did not thank me for writing a pro-life newsletter and blog, or for organizing pro-life luncheons and events. She didn’t thank me for marching for life in Harrisburg or Washington DC...or for speaking to students about life, or for working on projects such as pro-life billboards. *She thanked me for doing something that just about anyone can do. She thanked me for PRAYING. At Planned Parenthood.*

I want to thank this young Sister for reminding me of the importance of this simple act of sacrifice, because it is the one thing we do that gets very little “glory”. It is the most thankless, discouraging, depressing and difficult thing that I do...but it is also the most simple.

Another speaker at the event in Harrisburg was Dr. Michael New, Professor at the Catholic University of Pittsburgh in Washington DC. *With degrees from Stanford and Dartmouth...he is what you would expect...a “brainiac”.* Although much of his talk went over my head, one thing he said really got my attention. *He told us that in addition to his job at the University, he also leads a 40 Days for Life campaign in front of an abortion clinic in Washington DC. He said, “It is the worst, and the best thing I do every day.”*

That is so true. It is the worst thing I do. And it is the best thing as well.

HELP US GET THE PRO-LIFE MESSAGE TO THE NEXT GENERATION!



PCUC is seeking opportunities to give pro-life presentations to youth groups, schools, churches and any events that will have us! Contact Nikki at Nikki@pcuc.org if you would like us to come and speak at your event!

JAN. 24 IS THE NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE IN WASHINGTON DC! WHY DO WE KEEP MARCHING?

Even with the wonderful blessing of *Roe v. Wade* being overturned, which allows more freedom at the state level to enact pro-life laws, the necessary work to build a culture of life in the United States of America is not finished. Rather, it is focused differently. Sadly, the number of abortions annually is still well over 900,000 each year, and that number is expected to decrease only by roughly 200,000 each year in a post-*Roe* America. Many national legislative battles loom, including even keeping longstanding Hyde protections, which limit government funding for abortion on annual appropriation bills. The Hyde Amendment has saved over 2 million lives and is arguably the most impactful pro-life policy in our nation’s history, but now cannot be taken for granted. Last, our most important work is changing hearts and minds. The goal of the national March for Life is to not only change laws at the state and federal level, but to change the culture to ultimately make abortion unthinkable.

With the role of the states being more important, we are also growing a strong state march for life initiative quickly, however, we will continue to march every January at the national level until a culture of life is restored in the United States of America.

Article from [National March for Life - March for Life](#)

See list of local bus captains on Page 8

NEWS FROM THE SIDEWALK

By Andrew McCauley, Director of Sidewalk Advocates for Life Pittsburgh



Merry Christmas! Over the last few months of 2024, the sidewalk presence at Planned Parenthood has experienced a number of victories. At least three babies were confirmed to be spared during this period, and based on strong indicators in other cases, there were undoubtedly a number of others saved as well! Besides these recent successes, a young woman recently shared with sidewalk volunteers that she spared her baby *seven years ago* because of the prayerful witness outside of Planned Parenthood! While even a single baby saved in a decade would make this work exceedingly worthwhile, we understand that *numerous* others are saved beyond even the many that we know of.

Given the *eternal impact* of saving a human life (and additionally sparing at least one soul the weight of a grave sin), I sincerely hope many *new faces* decide to join the ranks of the Sidewalk Advocates in 2025. If it has been on your heart to do something for the unborn, here is your chance. Given that very few people in our society defend these innocent children, I am convinced that God anticipates those who decide to do so with very great graces. You can do it!

The next Sidewalk Advocates training will be in February. Email me at AndrewSAFLpgh@protonmail.com if you are interested in attending! A blessed New Year to all!

BLESSING BAGS READY FOR THE SIDEWALK!



(From left) Marty, Sue, Bonnie, Gary, Andrew, Linda, Marc, Jen, Ann (Nikki, Joe, Peggy & Mary not pictured) had a blast packing the blessing bags on Dec. 6th!

There were 13 of us at the PCUC office to pack these adorable little blessing bags, to be handed out to abortion-bound couples as they enter PP.



We were all treated to Joe Bruni's homemade pizza before diving into the task. In all, 100 blessing bags were filled with items such as; lip balm, scented candles, hand cream, candy and a hand-written note of encouragement, to let abortion-bound women and men know that we are there to help them choose life for their babies.

When we were finished, we prayed over the completed bags, asking God to bless them and use them to change hearts and save lives and souls. Thanks to all who helped!

PCUC'S BILLBOARD PROJECT CONTINUES WITH A NEW JANUARY DESIGN!

Pray that many babies will get to celebrate their first birthdays in 2025 because of these billboards!



**Pittsburgh
Pregnancy.org**



JOAN NEWMAN WENT HOME TO THE LORD ON DEC. 22ND



I know we shouldn't presume that when someone passes away that they are immediately in Heaven, but I can't help but think that our dearly missed Bob Newman finally has his bride of 70 years Home with him in Heaven. I can just imagine Bob up there, telling her to

"Hurry up Joan!...what's taking you so long?!" Bob and Joan, along with Al & Sally Brunn...were such wonderful role models for so many (*myself included*)...and their faithful lives are something that we can all aspire to imitate, by God's grace. If we could all end up with an obituary half as beautiful as Joan's...we would have done well. Read it here: [Joan Newman Obituary | Dec 22, 2024 | Bethel Park, PA](#)

Rest in Peace Joan. Well done, good and faithful servant.



MONTHLY PRAYER & POT-LUCK EVENTS CONTINUE

PCUC continues to host a prayer meeting on the last Saturday of each month at the office in Brookline. Come, enjoy Christian fellowship over a nice meal, and help us to call down God's grace and mercy over all of our pro-life efforts in Pittsburgh.

Next meeting will be on **Saturday, January 25th** from 6-8 pm. RSVP to Nikki at Nikki@pcuc.org



BABY SHOWER FOR A MOM WHO CHOSE LIFE AT PP!



Thanks to one of our year-round 40 Days for Life 365/Sidewalk Advocates, *a young woman who showed up at Planned Parenthood for a scheduled abortion last fall chose life for her baby!*

Year-round sidewalk volunteers, Peggy, Cathy and Mary were there to offer love and support when she needed it the most!

Peggy has been walking alongside this woman to try to help her with the many struggles and difficulties that she is facing but she can't do it alone. She needs our help!

PCUC will be hosting a baby shower for her on Saturday, Feb 8th, to help welcome baby Myrick, who is due to be born on March 22nd.

If you would like to contribute, you may purchase a gift on her Amazon Baby Registry at [Amazon: Baby Registry](#)

If you are not able to attend the shower, you can have the gift shipped to the PCUC office at 3050 Pioneer Ave., Pittsburgh 15226.

"SHRINE PROJECT" CONTINUES TO SEEK TO BRING ABOUT HEALING AND REPARATION FROM ABORTION



Fr. Jason Charron has established a foundation to raise funds to build a shrine on his Church property in Carnegie as a place of healing and reparation for abortion, and to thank God for His mercy following the overturning of Roe on June 24th, 2022. If you would like to learn more and possibly donate to this project, go to: [Holy Protection Shrine & Apostolate](#)

PRO-LIFE GROUPS GATHERED IN HARRISBURG FOR A DAY OF EDUCATION AND SPIRITUAL RENEWAL!



The Pittsburgh Contingent in Harrisburg: (From left) Nikki, Kathy, Joe, Amy Scheuring (Ex. Dir. Of Pittsburgh's Network of Life), Greg, Meredith & Frank.

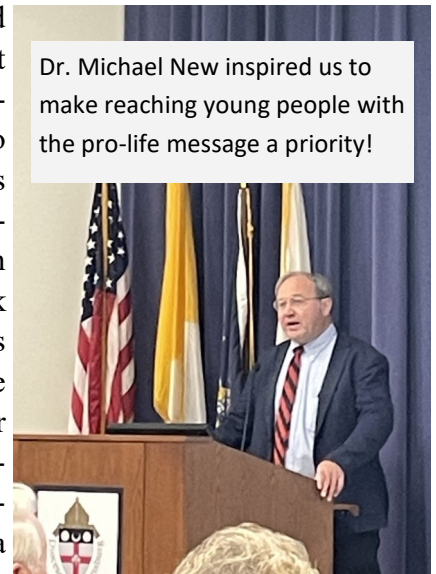
On Monday, December 16th, pro-life organizations from all across Pennsylvania gathered in Harrisburg for a day-long retreat and conference, sponsored by the Pro-Life Working Group. The day began with a Mass offered by Bishop Timothy Senior, followed by a time of spiritual reflection by the Sisters of Life. Worship music was provided by Robert Albino, who also shared his personal story of being saved from abortion by his grandmother.

Presenters included Sister Leonie Therese, who spoke about the especially urgent need for fasting right now...and mentioned that it could be possible that the fasting of a the faithful remnant could possibly be holding back the chastisement, and giving us more time to repent! I know she has encouraged me to take fasting more seriously!



Sister of Life, Sr. Leonie Therese reminded us of the need to fast and pray!

Also presenting was Dr. Michael New, who has his degrees from Stanford and Dartmouth, and who is a Professor at the Catholic University of America. He shared helpful information about abortion trends and statistics, and about the need for the pro-life movement to keep track of its own statistics, rather than relying on pro-abortion think tanks such as Guttmacher. The Charlotte Lozier Institute was founded for that very reason. The data shows that pro-life laws are indeed saving many lives from abortion, however, the recent polls unfortunately show that the youngest generation is more pro-abortion than in previous years. *We came away from Dr. New's talk more determined than ever to find ways to get into schools and youth groups, to try to educate the youth about the sanctity of life!*



Dr. Michael New inspired us to make reaching young people with the pro-life message a priority!

Other presenters included Director of Communications of the National Right to Life, Laura Echevarria and Rep. Stephen Friend (retired).

At the end of the day we were treated to presentations from many Pennsylvania prolife organizations such as: Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation (Maria Gallaher), Pennsylvania Family Institute (Tom Shaheen), Knights of Columbus (David Bloomer), Pennsylvania Pro-Life Coalition (Mike McMonagle), Pro-life Union of Greater Philadelphia (Ashley Garecht & Chris Pushaw), Pennsylvania Catholic Conference (Eric Failing), Pennsylvania Pregnancy Wellness Collaborative (Jill Hartman & Amy Scheuring), Students for Life (Rodney Hoppe), and best of all, we had the pleasure of having our very own Greg Engelmeyer and Meredith Parente present about PCUC and the Magee Project! Overall it was a very encouraging and worthwhile event. Kudos to Rep. Paul Schemel (retired) for organizing!



THE MAGEE PROJECT

Monthly update by Meredith

We continue to look for volunteers to write letters to the editor and to legislators as part of PCUC's Communication Committee. This is an

opportunity for us to educate our neighbors and legislators about the pro-life position on those things that come up in the news. Help us to create a culture of life in Western Pennsylvania.

Our next meeting will be virtual on January 10, at 6:30pm. Email TheMageeProject@gmail.com. Or Kathy Laslow kathlaslow@yahoo.com

Our letter writing campaign to our new Senator. Dave Mc Cormick continues. We hope to inundate him with letters encouraging him to take action to protect human life. *Please contact him between January 3rd and January 24 (the March for Life) to urge him to support federal legislation to protect children before they are born.* Some suggested topics include voting for a Life at Conception Act; defunding Planned Parenthood; restoring conscience protections for medical workers ; no tax dollars for abortion; or encouraging the restoration of protections for women from chemical abortions.

Please let Kathy know when you write, so we can have an idea of the volume of response.

Contact Senator Dave McCormick:

The Honorable David McCormick, United States Senator, United States Senate, Wash. DC 20510

You can also call the US Senate switchboard at 202-224- 3121. When you call after January 3, say his name, and you will automatically be connected to his office.

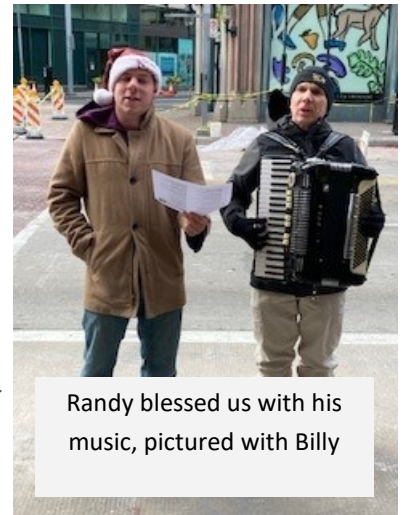
The Magee Project continues to have prayer walks at Magee during the winter months on the 4th Sunday of the month from 4-5pm. We'll meet at the corner of Halket & the Blvd of the Allies, January 26, February 23, and March 23. We're planning a second Stations of the Cross prayer walk for April.

JOYFUL CAROLING AT PP!



Approximately 30 people joined in the Christmas Caroling in front of PP on December 7th!

(From Tim): **We had a wonderful joy filled morning filled with song and Randy on his accordion.** The weather cooperated and construction didn't hamper us. We sang almost every song on the sheets and mixed in scripture. We truly brought His light and love to that dark place. Very few women went in, well below a normal Saturday.



Randy blessed us with his music, pictured with Billy



Tim & Jeannie organized a wonderful caroling event!

Jeannie, ever energized, provided head wear, set up a treat table while we sang. Afterwards, we went inside Little Lamb to warm up, eat sweets and enjoy some fellowship. Overall It was wonderful. We spread peace, love, hope and joy.



LEGISLATION UPDATE...*FROM ANITA...*



U.S. SUPREME COURT HEARS CASE THAT COULD DEFUND PLANNED PARENTHOOD!

This is the biggest abortion case since Dobbs, breaking right at the end of the year, and we're moving lightning fast to prepare our vital amicus brief.

Several states defunded Planned Parenthood after it was caught selling aborted babies' body parts. This was a direct threat to the abortion giant's diabolical business model of killing babies, flooding the courts with pro-abortion lawsuits, and taking over half a billion of our tax dollars to pad its exorbitant record profits.

Planned Parenthood rushed to court. Now the Supreme Court has just agreed to hear the case to determine if states can defund the abortion industry.

LEGISLATION FOR 2025-26— HEARTBEAT BILL (former HB 320)

(Representative Stephanie Borowicz):

In the near future, I intend to reintroduce legislation which will shift our focus on abortion and abortion law to focus on protecting the baby. My legislation has been recognized nationally as the Heartbeat Bill. States all over the country are looking at abortion. The Pennsylvania Legislature has previously considered changing the limit on abortion to 20 weeks. While this is still a significant move in the right direction, the fact is that even at 20 weeks abortion stops a baby's beating heart. With my legislation, a beating heart will stop abortion. My legislation will require all physicians, before proceeding with an abortion, to determine whether the baby has a heartbeat. If the baby has a heartbeat, then the abortion cannot be performed. This will eliminate the need to set a gestational age in legislation and will honor the science which shows that more than 90 percent of all pregnancies are viable in which a heartbeat is detected.

Friday, Jan. 24th—52nd National March for Life Bus Captain List:

ALLEGHENY COUNTY

ASPINWALL *Christ the King/ St Scholastica*
Cathy Zuza 412-551-3204

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

NATRONA HEIGHTS *Harvest Baptist Church*
Staci Gainor 724-295-0607 x 201

PITTSBURGH *Divine Mercy/Epiphany Church*
Lauren Shovlin 412-996-6346

PITTSBURGH *Triumph of the Holy Cross/St Elizabeth of Hungary* Mary Grassi 412-526-9332

SEWICKLEY *Sewickley Area* will leave from
St. James Elsie Rothfus 412-944-8922

BUTLER COUNTY

BUTLER *All Saints Parish* Ray Ferguson 724-822-8041 will leave from St Conrads and stop at Holy Sepulcher.

VALENCIA *Gospel Fellowship Church* Glenn and Donna Goss 412-965-6328

INDIANA COUNTY

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

WESTMORELAND COUNTY

MURRYSVILLE *Mother of Sorrows*
Barb Koury 412-480-6490

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

Contact Anita Theiss for more info: 412-728-3647

HONORS & MEMORIALS

In Thanksgiving for Joe Bruni
From Milan, Rose & Mark Liptak
In Thanksgiving for Carolyn & Terry Martin
From Milan, Rose & Mark Liptak
In Thanksgiving for Dave & Marlene Wohleber
From Milan, Rose & Mark Liptak
In Honor of all faithful priests. God bless you and Mary keep you!
From Julie & Michael Roytas
In Honor of Helen Cindrich
From Milan, Rose & Mark Liptak
In Honor of Helen Cindrich
From Celia Jayakumar
In Honor of Mary Cole
From Brian and Carol Cole
In Honor of Mary Lou Gartner
From Jim & Patricia Gartner
In Honor of Ed & Amber Jackson
From Milan, Rose & Mark Liptak
In Honor of Jesus, Our Savior, Healer, Creator and our Greatest Gift! From Regina Liermann
In Honor of PA Pro-Life Federation
From Michael & Peggy Ciccocioppo
In Honor of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Randazzo
From Anthony & Barbara Randazzo
In Honor of Ann & Mirko Stankovic
From Rose Marie Profozich
In Memory of Harvey Bower
From George Ann Bower
In Memory of Al & Sally Brunn
From Nelson & Susan Caro
In Memory of Bob & Maureen (Maloney) Costello
From Seamus & Marita Maloney
In Memory of Joan Derrick, From Rose, Milan & Mark Liptak
In Memory of the Ferraz Family
From Marie Mankos
In Memory of Ann Francis
From Paul Francis
In Memory of Dorothy Gillen
From Sue Means
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. James Hanna
From Mr. and Mrs. Bill Oleyar
In Memory of Agnes Henry
From Monica Henry
In Memory of John Kassack
From Sandy & Don Strong
In Memory of Jim McGraw
From Anthony & Barbara McGraw
In Memory of Patricia A. McGrady

From Joe & Mary Lou McKenna
In Memory of Bob & Joan Newman
From Sue Means
In Memory of Joan Newman
From the Ryan Family
In Memory of Joan & Bob Newman
From Milan, Rose & Mark Liptak
In Memory of Joan Newman
From Angela & Douglas Marvin
In Memory of Bob & Joan Newman
From John Gaetano
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Mike Oleyar
From Mr. & Mrs. Bill Oleyar
In Memory of Fr. John O'Shea
From Anonymous
In Memory of Dolores Patterson
From Rev. and Mrs. John Patterson
In Memory of Joseph Profozich
From Rose Marie Profozich
In Memory of Carol Putnam
From Sandy & Don Strong
In Memory of Eileen & Andrew Ragan
From Vicki & Dennis Ragan
In Memory of Madonna Roney, from **CMF/St. Joseph the Worker Parish members, including:**
Ted Novak
Arelene & William Gross
John & Judith Jakiela
Fred Mendicino
Thomas Anderson
Lawrence Trasky
Kenneth Holleran
Many others (anonymous)
In Memory of Madonna Roney
From Frances & Patrick Fulkerson
In Memory of Madonna Roney
From John & Joan Kearns
In Memory of Diane Slagle
From John Slagle

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://pcuc.org)

Or by mailing a check to:

PCUC, 3050 Pioneer Ave., Pittsburgh PA 15226

Thank you for your support!