



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 May 2025

We are excited to announce that registration is open for our fall fundraising banquet! Seats are limited, so sign up today! [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE](#) or print and mail this form to the address listed below:

Celebrate Life Luncheon

Sunday, August 31st, 2025

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Pittsburgh—Green Tree, 500 Mansfield Ave., Pittsburgh 15205

Featuring TWO Dynamic Speakers!



Pearl Corbin is one of the founding members of The Life Team, NY, a collaborative pro-life work of Christians from both Evangelical and Catholic traditions. She is actively involved in sharing the message of life, particularly among fellow evangelical pastors and believers. Ms. Corbin believes that one of the greatest reasons death and destruction run rampant throughout our land is a direct result of our nation's practice of shedding innocent blood in the womb. Ms. Corbin, a native New Yorker, spent 16 years in Asia, conducting leadership and discipleship training among house churches in the Peoples Republic of China and throughout southeast Asia. Sister Pearl is sought after as a keynote speaker in conferences & training seminars across the US and internationally.

SCHEDULE:

12:00 - Reception
12:30 - Lunch
1:15 - Announcements
1:30 - Pearl Corbin
2:15 - Bishop Strickland
3:00 - Closing remarks

His Excellency, Bishop Joseph Strickland is an outspoken defender of the sanctity of human life and Christian morality. He was ordained to the episcopacy in 2012 by His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI and served as the bishop of Tyler Texas until 2023. His humility and steadfastness to the truths of the Catholic faith are an example for us all to follow. We are blessed to have this true shepherd to come and encourage our pro-life flock here in Pittsburgh!



NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

Please make _____ reservations at \$75.00 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

☐ 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

Call or text 412-926-9413 with questions

www.pcuc.org



FROM OUR DIRECTOR

By Nikki Bruni

Going to Extremes...

If you were about to lose someone who was the most important person in your life...*to what extremes would you be willing to go in order to keep them?*

Most of the time, in ordinary life, we live in relative moderation. We sleep, we wake, we have our coffee, go to work, spend time with family...*you know...the regular routine.* It's not often that we do something that the world would consider "extreme".

But what if our "regular routine" consisted of all the things mentioned above, with one other addition...*driving to an abortion center and praying for an hour?* Would you call that "extreme"? I don't think it is...but the world certainly must, because hardly anyone does it! Even among the most faithful Christians, very few have ever prayed in front of an abortion clinic. In our Pittsburgh Diocese, (according to Wikipedia), there are over 625,000 Catholics. In order to take into consideration that many of those people may be too old or too young, or too busy with family and work commitments to make witnessing for the unborn child a priority...do you think we could safely say that ten percent of Catholics in Pittsburgh should be able to fit an hour of prayer on the sidewalk into their weekly schedule? *Would that seem fair?* If that's the case, we should have about 6,250 weekly volunteers in front of Planned Parenthood or Allegheny Reproductive. **We have 50.**

I began this reflection by asking a question. ***To what extremes would you go to in order to hold on to someone that you love?*** This question came to me yesterday, as I was reading the Gospel from John 21. It was the story of Peter jumping out of his fishing boat into the sea, in order to get to the Risen Jesus. *Peter loved Jesus so much that he just couldn't wait until they rowed the boat to shore, even though it was only 50 yards away!* As I read this verse yesterday, I pondered the sort of passion that would lead someone to such an extreme show of love as demonstrated by Saint Peter. **It occurred**

to me that there are two things that probably played into the desperation for Jesus that Peter had: First of all, Peter knew how special Jesus was. He had witnessed Jesus' miracles first hand! *And secondly...Peter knew what it was like to lose Jesus.* He saw Him in the grave. To have something that you love, and then to lose it...that will make you desperate.

That made me think back to March 30, 2013... when I first received Jesus in Holy Communion. Although I had already come to know and love Him through reading Sacred Scripture, *it was the first time that I actually met Him in the **Flesh**.* The experience was especially precious to me because I realized that I came very close to never meeting Him in that most intimate way. *I became desperate for Him because I knew how special He was, and because I almost lost Him.*

We pray at abortion clinics because we recognize how precious every human life is, and our witness shows the world that life is worth defending. *Those poor mothers and fathers who walk past us to enter those terrible doors do not know the value of the life they are destroying, and they don't realize the grief that they will endure because of their loss.*

Peter would probably not have followed Jesus if others weren't already crowding around Him to hear His preaching. He would not have left his old life behind if he hadn't witnessed the miracle of the catch of fish. *Similarly, if there are no Christians praying in front of abortion clinics, how are these poor, uninformed parents supposed to realize the value of the life they are carrying?*

If no one cares enough to come out to pray and witness for the sanctity of human life, then human life must not be all that important after all.

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!

NEWS FROM THE SIDEWALK

By Andrew McCauley, Director of Sidewalk Advocates for Life Pittsburgh



Happy Easter, everyone! It has been a little over a year since I took over as program director for our SAFL location. Thank you all so much for being so encouraging and helpful in this past year, and for all your prayers, which I very much appreciate! I have one prayer request to make of the group for this coming year: ***Please pray that I can get more people to come down regularly to the sidewalk.*** Greg was excellent at the recruiting aspect of the director role, and I feel I need to be doing better in that area. Thanks, all!

BABY SAVED DURING HOLY WEEK!

We had two turn-aways during Holy Week, ***one of them an apparent save!***



Please pray for a young couple who is in a difficult situation, with the husband being laid off work because of an injury. They were 7 weeks pregnant when they arrived at Planned Parenthood for an abortion. Although Beth and Sheila were there to talk with them about life-affirming help, and offered to make an appointment for them at Women's Choice, they still went into PP. ***They were in there until Sandy and Peggy's shift, when they exited PP and told them that they had chosen life for their baby!*** Please pray for this couple, as the woman didn't seem to be totally on board with the decision.

Unfortunately PP seems to be open on most Mondays, so I am happy to see that Monday is starting to attract a couple of regular shifts. ***We need to make sure that the sidewalk in front of PP is not empty on Mondays!*** **If you would like to help more mothers and fathers choose life in our city, please consider attending our next training on the last Saturday of May!**

5TH ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE IN BRIDGEVILLE!

The Corpus Christi Parish Pro-Life group is sponsoring the 5th annual Bridgeville March for Life on May 9, 2025. It will follow the noon Mass at Holy Child Church in Bridgeville that day. The March will start and end at the church following a 30-40 minute route through Bridgeville. The address of Holy Child Church is 212 Station St., Bridgeville, PA 15017.

Come and join in this important event! Contact Jim Maochi with any questions at jmaochi@comcast.net

Sidewalk Advocate Training

Saturday, May 31st

8:30AM-3:30PM

Location: South Hills. RSVP for address.



Is God calling you to stand up for innocent life? Each week, dozens of babies are killed through abortion in downtown Pittsburgh. Become a Sidewalk Advocate and help end this grave injustice in our city!

Learn how to:

- Counsel an abortion-minded woman
- Address "hard cases"
- Provide life-affirming options to those in difficult circumstances

For more info or to register, email Andrew at AndrewSAFLPGH@protonmail.com

\$20 registration fee. Workbook, breakfast, and lunch provided.



Scan to email!

WE STAND IN FRONT OF PLANNED PARENTHOOD ON LIBERTY AVE. IN PITTSBURGH 6 DAYS A WEEK, BUT SADLY, WE DO NOT HAVE ALL THE ABORTION HOURS COVERED. WE NEED YOUR HELP! ONCE TRAINED, COME AS YOU ARE ABLE!

Can't counsel? Contact us to become a trained advocate's prayer partner!

ABBY JOHNSON JOINS PITTSBURGH 40 Days for Life Closing Event...Tells us to Keep Praying for Abortion Workers!



Abby Johnson, seated next to Bishop Waltersheid at Epiphany

Approximately 200 people gathered inside of Epiphany Church on Palm Sunday to hear the testimony of former Planned Parenthood Director, Abby Johnson, as part of Pittsburgh's 40 Days for Life Lenten Closing

Event. In her talk, Abby reflected on the times in her young life when she took the wrong turns, choosing evil instead of good. The consequences of those wrong turns led her to a career in the abortion industry, ultimately taking part in over 20,000 abortions, and put her on a fast track towards eternal damnation. **She attributes the grace of her conversion to the many selfless people who lovingly prayed and witnessed in front of her clinic.** Because they never gave up on her, she is now able to offer that same grace of conversion and healing to hundreds of other former abortion workers, who have also been spiritually traumatized by their participation in the evil industry of abortion.

EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION TO PP WAS A "SIGN OF CONTRADICTION"



Jesus leads the way through our city, carried by His Excellency, Bishop Waltersheid, assisted by Deacon John Corcoran, Isaac Bruce and hundreds others!

After Abby's talk in the church, we all filed out to follow Our Lord, carried by His Excellency, Bishop William Waltersheid. As we prayed and

walked through the city streets, we truly were a sign of contradiction to many...*especially as we headed back to the church just as the Pens game was letting out.* Our little group of 200 was walking against the current of thousands of Pens fans. I could see many looking at us with what seemed to be awe and wonder. There are not many public displays of faith in this world anymore. Maybe this is what is needed to begin to heal our broken world...more Jesus in the public sphere! As we were "swimming upstream" against the current of thousands of Pens fans, the image that came into my mind was the logo for "*The Chosen*". Have you seen it? It is a circle containing a school of gray fish, all swimming in the same direction....with a few teal-colored fish that are swimming in the opposite direction. *Last night, I felt WE were the "Teal Fish"!* I hope that some of the "gray fish" who saw us, and who may have fallen away from the Church...will start to think more about the need to get re-connected with God through His Sacraments.



A beautiful shot of Jesus overlooking our busy city. I imagine Jesus blessing Pittsburgh from above.

*Thank you to His Excellency, Bishop Waltersheid, for carrying Our Lord and for leading us! And thanks to all of the 40 Days for Life team members and volunteers who made these Lenten 40 Days a life-saving success! Only God knows exactly how many lives and souls were saved during these 40 days, but we do know that **one woman told us that she had changed her mind and turned away from abortion, and two other women stopped to tell us that they now have their babies because they saw us on the sidewalk in years past!***

Next Campaign is from Sept. 24th—Nov. 2nd!

THE MAGEE PROJECT

Monthly update by Meredith



Sunday, April 27, we enjoyed beautiful weather for our second Pro-life Stations of the Cross Prayer Walk at Magee. We prayed with the variance of the Stations of the Cross that Pope St. John Paul II prayed on Good Friday in 1991. We added two stations, since our walk was after Easter. Thanks to Katie O'Brien for chalking the



14 churches were represented at the Stations of the Cross at Magee Hospital on April 27th

titles of each station on the public sidewalks around the hospital. Jesus' Name and His story was there for all to see. 14 churches and congregations were represented for this gathering!

This event launched the summer season for The Church at Magee which will meet on the 4th Sunday of the month from 4-5:30pm at Zulema Parklet across from Panera in Oakland. *All are welcome to come for worship, a message, a prayer walk, uplifting testimonies and encouraging fellowship. May 25, June 22, July 27, August 24, September 28.*

Contact us for more information about our gatherings at TheMageeProject@gmail.com

COMMUNICATIONS

Recently Kathy Laslow received a response to a letter to her PA State Legislator that revealed the current pro-abortion talking points in detail. *Unwittingly, they supplied us with what we need to know to be armed and ready for the battle they are waging against life. We pulled out five areas we need to focus on to defend the value of human beings:*

1. Expose the "abortion is healthcare" lie.
2. Make crystal clear the wonders of fetal development.
3. Personalize the toll abortion takes on women, men, and the culture.
4. Educate about what abortion supporting state and federal legislation would do.
5. Raise awareness about support for families through pregnancy resource centers.

Which of those areas do you feel well prepared to address and which do you need some help with articulating? Let us know how you'd like to help spread the message of life, or how we can help you with resources to be better prepared for a conversation.

Contact Kathy, kathlaslow@yahoo.com or Meredith, TheMageeProject@gmail.com for more information, or to volunteer for the Communications Committee.

PCUC'S BILLBOARD PROJECT CONTINUES TO IMPACT THOUSANDS OF COMMUTERS IN THE PITTSBURGH AREA! Look for these striking signs at four locations throughout May:



Pittsburgh
Pregnancy.org



Pittsburgh
Pregnancy.org



Pittsburgh
Pregnancy.org



GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT PLANNED PARENTHOOD



On this solemn day of our Lord's passion and death, about 20 faithful Christians lined the sidewalk in front of Planned Parenthood to pray the Stations of the Cross, led by our beloved Bishop Waltersheid. What better thing to do to honor our Lord's passion and death than by praying in front of an abortion clinic!



As if to confirm that we were pleasing to Him, He once again blessed us with beautiful weather; warm and sunny. Sadly, there were couples entering PP on this most sacred day, so as we prayed, Sidewalk Advocates Greg and Kathy reached out to abortion-bound couples to offer them a different choice...a choice for life.

Thanks to all who came out to pray, to remember our little sons and daughters who paid the ultimate price, in union with the ultimate price paid by our Savior. A special thank you to His Excellency, Bishop William Waltersheid for leading us!

DIAPER DRIVE AT 40 DAYS FOR LIFE CLOSING WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!

Thanks to Charlene Templin and Elsie Rothfus for spearheading yet another successful diaper drive as part of our 40 Days for Life Closing Event on



April 13th! Charlene reports there were so many diapers donated that it took her three car loads to transport them all! The pregnancy resource centers who received them will be able to bless many parents who have chosen life for their babies because of the generosity of many attendees. Thanks to all who helped make this happen!

PCUC BLESSING BAGS CONTINUE TO HELP SAVE LIVES



PCUC's May blessing bags are ready to be handed to abortion-bound couples entering Planned Parenthood! These beautiful cloth bags have Bible verses printed on the front, and contain items such as hand cream, lip balm, candy, blessed miraculous medals and a handwritten note of encouragement. *(Thanks to those who have donated the notes!)* They are sure to touch a young moms heart and save a life from abortion! During this month in which we celebrate mothers, may these free gifts help to spare many mothers from a life time of grief and regret.

Vote early by mail or in person on May 20, 2025

Life P★A★C

SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

Vote Pro- Life



- Only known pro-life candidates in southwestern PA are listed.
- When no pro-life candidate has responded, the office, county or district is not listed.
- * indicates an incumbent.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE COMMONWEALTH COURT

One candidates to be elected

Josh Prince(R)

COUNTY COURTS OF COMMON PLEAS

**(Allegheny, Butler, Greene, Lawrence and Westmoreland
have candidates running)**

BUTLER COUNTY

Two candidates to be elected

James Insco(R)

John Scialabba(D/R)

GREENE COUNTY

One candidate to be elected

Patrick Fitch(R) Chris Simms(D/R)

WESTMORELAND COUNTY

One candidate to be elected

Matt Schimizzi(D/R)

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

District 1

Mary Jo Wise(R)

District 3

Chris Lochner(R)

District 4

* Patrick J. Catena(D)

District 8

Mike Dell(R)

District 9

Patrick Provins(R) (write in)

CITY OF PITTSBURGH

Mayor

Tony Moreno(R)

**Sign up to receive future voter guides via
email by visiting our Website at:**

www.lifepac.net

***Most people agree that the willful killing of an innocent
human life is always wrong.***

***If abortion is the willful termination of an innocent child in
the womb should abortion always be wrong?***

For information or additional flyers call:

Anita at 412-728-3647 or Jim at 412-251-2873

Donations can be sent to LifePAC, PO Box 68, Butler, PA 16003

Paid for by LIFEPAK State No. 7900629 Not authorized by any candidate.

ACTION ALERT: Stop House Bill 26: The Reproductive Freedom Act

From PA Family [Citizen Action Center - PA Family](#)

Radical pro-abortion legislators have introduced House Bill 26, a dangerous piece of legislation that would completely dismantle Pennsylvania's longstanding protections for the unborn and rewrite our laws to promote even more widespread abortion. This bill is extreme, it ignores common-sense regulations and it endangers vulnerable mothers and children.

What HB 26 Would Do:

- Repeal Pennsylvania's Abortion Control Act, thereby eliminating decades of pro-life protections.
- End parental consent requirements allowing minors to obtain invasive abortions without a parent's knowledge.
- Eliminate informed consent by removing the 24-hour waiting period and preventing some patients from obtaining critical health information before an abortion.
- Allow non-physicians to perform abortions – expanding already dangerous abortion procedures beyond doctors to nurse practitioners and physician assistants.
- Legalize late-term abortion for “mental health” reasons – a vague standard that has been exploited in other states to remove any time limits on abortion.
- Permit telemedicine chemical abortions, which eliminates in-person medical evaluations, ultrasounds, and other basic health safeguards.
- Remove Born-Alive protections, denying medical care to babies who survive botched abortions.
- Permit taxpayer-funded abortions, forcing Pennsylvanians to pay for elective abortion procedures.

HB 26 represents a complete shift in Pennsylvania law. It would move abortion regulations from the

Crimes Code to the Health and Welfare Code, doubling down on the lie that abortion is “health care” instead of revealing what it truly is: the taking of an innocent life. Furthermore, this bill criminalizes pro-life counseling by making it a felony offense to “coerce” a woman into keeping her baby – another vague standard that could easily be used to silence pastors, pregnancy resource centers, and even family members.

This bill is radical, reckless, and completely out of step with Pennsylvania values.

TAKE ACTION NOW! Tell your representatives to vote NO on HB26 and protect Pennsylvania's pro-life safeguards. [CLICK HERE](#) to send a message to your representatives and stand up for life!

ABORTION PILL TRAGEDY IN LANCASTER COUNTY

From PA Family

[\(CLICK HERE FOR FULL ARTICLE\)](#)

PA Family recently reported this tragic story (*linked above*) about a teenage girl who was late in her pregnancy when she took the abortion pills that she ordered online. She ended up delivering a fully formed baby (still alive), which she kept in a box under her bed, before burying in the backyard.

Although terribly tragic, we shouldn't be surprised that the deregulation of dangerous abortion pills Mifepristone and Misoprostol, is now causing many teens and young adults to endure the horrific experience of delivering their dead or dying babies alone. How tempting would it be, to a teen who doesn't want anyone to know that she is pregnant...and is told that she can simply take a pill and her problem will go away? A young girl who knows nothing about fetal development or her cycle, and does not know how far along her pregnancy is, takes a pill that comes in the mail. This is a recipe for disaster on a massive scale, since two-thirds of all abortions are now done this way.

Let's pray and work to make sure these dangerous drugs are outlawed in Pennsylvania and everywhere!

HONORS & MEMORIALS

In Honor of Nikki Bruni

From Mary Anne Ferris

In Honor of Mary Ellen O'Boyle on her 70th birthday, From Rosalyn Lutz

In Honor of our newest member of the clan, Julian Joseph Hess, From Joe & MaryLou McKenna

In Honor of our Priests

From Marie Mankos

In Memory of Adam & Bill DiSabato

From Beverly DiSabato

In Memory of Joan "Giovanna" (Barsotti) Hartman, From Joe & MaryLou McKenna

In Memory of Bernice Illig

From Robert Illig

In Memory of Bernice Illig

From Edward Maziarz, Jr

In Memory of Bernice Illig

From Anna Meyer

In Memory of Bernice Illig

From Karen Rizzo

In Memory of Bernice Illig

From Wendy Luers

In Memory of Bernice "Bud" Illig

From Susan David

In Memory of Bernice Illig

by Claire King

In Memory of Bernice Illig

By Leona Taucher

In Memory of Bernice "Bud" Illig

By Nick & Colleen Kuhn

In Memory of Bernice Illig

By Ruth & Brian Winkowski

In Memory of Bernice "Bud" Illig

By Mark & Kathleen King

In Memory of Maureen (Maloney) Costello & Robert Maloney, Jr.

From the Ellen & Sam Arnone Family

In Memory of Fr. Jerome McKenna

From Joe & Mary Lou McKenna

In Memory of Freda Pribanic

From Fran & Patrick Fulkerson

In Memory of Corrine Schreger

From Scott & Bernadette Conklin

In Memory of Paul & Julie Tarabrella

From Paulette Tarabrella

In Memory of Paul & Julie Tarabrella

From Helen Cindrich

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[Web Checkout | Clover](#) *(One-time donation)*

Recurring monthly donations can be made through PayPal (you do not need to have a PayPal account to donate):

[Donate](#) *(Click "make this a monthly donation")*

Mail a check to:

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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.