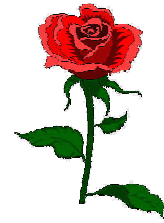




January 2012

Pro-Life News

Maryland State Council
Knights of Columbus



No. 10

39th Annual March for Life – January 23



A Pro-Life Kickoff Rally, the 20th annual hosted by Father Rosensteel Council #2169 in Silver Spring, will be held on Sunday, January 15th, beginning at 5:30 P.M. Many clergy and lay dignitaries are expected. There will be a free spaghetti and meatball dinner, with internationally-renowned Tony Melendez providing entertainment. All are welcome. All is free.

On Sunday, January 22, the National Prayer Vigil for Life will be held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Over 20,000 pilgrims are expected to attend the opening Mass at 6:30 pm. Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Pro-Life Activities, will be the principal celebrant and homilist. Following Mass, the Vigil will continue with the National Rosary for Life at 10 pm, then Night Prayer at 11 pm. Archbishop Timothy Dolan of New York will offer the closing Mass on Monday at 7:30 am. Additional information can be found at www.nationalshrine.com.

For more information about the March, check www.marchforlife.org. An extensive listing of related pro-life events is found at <http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/complete-list-of-2012-us-march-for-life-events>.

Equally important, keep in mind the Maryland March for Life, which will be held in Annapolis, on Monday, March 12, 2012. For the second year, the Knights of Columbus Color Corps has been invited to lead the March.

Vigil Marks One Year Since Arrival of Late-Term Abortionist

Over 2,100 people, including 17 priests and 10 Protestant ministers, gathered on December 5 to mark the one-year anniversary since late-term abortionist LeRoy Carhart began operating in Germantown. The Knights of Columbus installed 720 crosses, a Cemetery of the Innocents, to signify the number of children Carhart aborted this past year.

On December 10, Cardinal Wuerl was the principal celebrant at a pro-life Mass at Mother Seton Parish, near Carhart's abortion clinic. The service was followed by a candlelit procession to the facility, where participants offered rosaries and other prayers for the unborn.



In his homily, Cardinal Wuerl denounced "the evil of abortion on demand" and called it "almost inconceivable" that a civilized society would permit the killing of a "perfectly healthy, almost full-term child."

In Maryland, where abortions can be performed in all nine months of pregnancy, abortion rates are almost 50 percent higher than the national average. In 2008 – the most recent year for which statistics are available – more than 34,000 abortions were performed in the state.

Ultrasound Presented to Greater Baltimore Center for Pregnancy Concerns

On December 13, 2011, MD State Deputy Peter Davio and Ultrasound Program Chairman IPSD Richard Siejack presented a check for \$26,000 to Ms. Carol Clews, Executive Director of the Greater Baltimore Center for Pregnancy Concerns, to purchase an ultrasound machine. This was the third one purchased through a joint program among the Supreme Council, Maryland State Council, and local councils. With over 40 people in attendance, State Chaplain Fr. Donald Grzymiski offered blessings for the machine and for the people that work so hard every day at the center to save the innocent children and their mothers.



Pro-Life Masses in January and Beyond

There are eight upcoming pro-life Masses for the remainder of this Columbian Year. The next one will be held on January 18, 2012 at 7:30 pm, at St. John the Baptist Church, No. 11106, 12319 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring. Fr. David Brault will be the celebrant and homilist. Richard Doerflinger, who advised the USCCB for over 30 years on legislation, will speak about where the nation stands on abortion. The Mass and talk are hosted by St. John the Baptist Council No. 11106.

The remaining ones are:

- February 15, St. Rose of Lima Church, Gaithersburg, host St. Rose of Lima Council #14297;
- February 29, Holy Family Church, Mitchellville, host Fr. Michael C. Kidd Council #14455;
- March 18, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Baltimore, Bishop Mitchell T. Rozanski celebrant;
- April 25, Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Waldorf, host Dr. Griffin Council #2293;
- May 12, St. Peter and Paul Church, Easton, host Regina Coeli Council #2274;
- May 23, St. Andrew the Apostle, Silver Spring, host Msgr. Thomas M. Wells Council #13008; and
- June 20, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lexington Park, host Immaculate Heart of Mary Council #9968.

Linkages Update

After only five months, the new *Linkages* program has established “linkages” with all 40 of the states targeted pregnancy support centers throughout Maryland. If your council currently is not involved with supporting a pregnancy support center, please consider doing so. If you would to arrange to have Terry Waters, chairman of *Linkages*, speak at your council, he may be contacted at tewaters@coca-cola.com.

Prayer Vigil in Defense of Marriage

Maryland Delegate Don Dwyer has asked all Marylanders to join a prayer vigil asking for God’s aid in defending marriage. “This year the battle is being taken to a new level,” the Delegate stated, “with Governor O’Malley, Attorney General Gansler, and various Mayors all weighing in to support changing Maryland’s marriage law to include same sex couples.” The vigil will take place at the State House, in Annapolis on Sunday, January 8, from 3 pm – 4 pm. Participants are to form a single file, circling the State House, holding hands and praying silently. It has been requested that no signs be displayed.

Cemetery of the Innocents Scorecard Number Installed 2011 – 28 Since 2004 - 197

Lawrence P. Grayson
State Director, Pro-Life Activities
LPGrayson@verizon.net

Jon Shoemaker
Editor
JLShoem@gmail.com