

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 February 2025

#### FROM OUR PRESIDENT

By Greg Engelmeyer

Dear Friends of Life:

It's time for all of us to take action.

With the blessing of the new Trump Administration, significant anti-abortion moves are already underway. Most of you have heard of many of them, so I won't repeat them here. All of us, can add to this new Pro-Life momentum by doing one simple thing – write a letter to your Senators and Congressman, especially newly elected Senator David McCormick.

Tell him to vote to defund Planned Parenthood! Did you know that in 2023 PP received \$700,000,000 from our government? I find this outrageous! With the help of our hard-earned taxpayer money, Planned Parenthood kills over 300,000 babies a year.

An idea that seems very logical to me: Tell Senator McCormick to vote for the <u>Clean Water for All Act</u>, intended to combat water polluted by chemical abortion drugs. "Something no one wants to talk about is where all of the babies in chemical abortions go," a Students For Life of America leader said."

"[The Clean Water for All Act] doesn't ban abortion, it doesn't ban chemical abortions," she added. "It simply says that, if you are going to do these abortions, women must collect the remains of their children. This would bring the abortion industry in line with the laws of our land."

#### Senator McCormick's address is:

The Honorable David McCormick SD-B40C Dirksen Senate Office Building United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Now let's get to work and write those letters!



#### **NEW BILLBOARDS FOR FEBRUARY!**

February is the month that celebrates love, so the bill-board committee at PCUC has chosen to go with this theme on four billboards all around the Pittsburgh area. Please pray that they will touch the hearts of many who see them, and that a little child may one day celebrate St. Valentine's Day because their mom saw our billboard!

If you would like to support the work of PCUC, please consider making a one-time donation online at:

Web Checkout | Clover (One-time donation)

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

(Donate Click "make this a monthly donation")

Or by mailing a check to: PCUC, 3050 Pioneer Ave., Pittsburgh PA 15226

## NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE DREW OVER 150,000!

It was cold but the skies were blue and our hearts were joyful as we gathered to march for the sanctity of human life in our nation's capitol on Friday, January 24th. It was encouraging to have Vice President Vance speak in person, and President Trump giving a message to us via video!



I was expecting to see a lower turn-out than previous marches, since many are now attending statewide events...but I was happily mistaken! The crowds were huge, as well as YOUNG!!! Check out this short video that I took while marching, and see the sea of young faces: (4549) March for Life in Washington DC - YouTube

Just as inspiring was the dedication of those on the opposite end of the age spectrum! Check out Ann and Mary Catherine Scanlon in their wheelchairs! They both made the 20-hour trip to join in the celebration of life!



In a sea of people, you just never know who you might run into. Here I am with Fr. Tim Kruthaupt, who moved away to Maryland years ago. He was a pillar of our Pittsburgh 40 Days for Life and we miss him dearly. It was so good to see him! (Pictured with Fr.

Brennan, who was on our bus.)

As exhausting as the day always is (at least for those of us who are over 60)...it was a worthwhile trip. Thank you to all the organizers and bus captains for making this event possible!









### Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>... Jericho March around PP



Meet in front of PP at 3:30 to walk prayerfully around PP seven times. Contact Donna Goss at gdgoss620@gmail.com for details.



# Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> ...Kick-off Mass & Eucharistic Procession to Planned Parenthood!

Fr. Christopher Donley, Main Celebrant...ALL PRIESTS & DEACONS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN!





Begin at Divine Mercy Parish, Epiphany Church at 6:00 pm. Immediately following Mass there will be a candlelit Eucharistic Procession to Planned Parenthood for a brief time of prayer on the sidewalk.

(Procession does not return to the church so consider parking near PP and walking to the Church for Mass.)

Contact Nikki Bruni for more information at nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com

## PRAYER BREAKFAST WAS A JOYFUL EVENT FOR ALL!



You know you're pro-life when you plan your most important events during the coldest month of the year. Yes, we pro-lifers are a hardy bunch! Even though it was very cold, rainy and snowy, nearly 100 of our good friends gathered together at the Cranberry Marriott on January 18th for a warm time of fellowship and a delicious breakfast. The main course? PRAYER!



Deacon Bill Strathmann and his wonderful group of talented musicians led us in worship, and then we were inspired by an encouraging message from His Excellency, Bishop William Waltersheid, who then officially consecrated PCUC to Jesus, Mary & Joseph with a prayer that he wrote especially for this purpose! Our little organization now belongs entirely to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Most Chaste Heart of Joseph. I can't wait to see what they have in mind for PCUC in 2025 and beyond!

There is an energy and excitement in the pro-life

movement right now, and the very real possibility of seeing Planned Parenthood stripped of it's federal funding! This is a great time to be pro-life in America! Thanks to all who attended the prayer breakfast, and who continue to work and pray for an end to abortion in our city and our nation. We have many opportunities coming up during Lent to put our faith into action, and to allow God to use us in this epic battle for the culture and for the family!





#### (Prayer Breakfast, continued)



#### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION:

#### Consecration of PCUC to the Hearts of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, burning Furnace of Charity, Redeemer of all, through You everything in heaven and on earth was created. You are the image of the invisible God; You are true God and true Man. By Your Incarnation, You manifest to us that every man and woman is created in the image and likeness of God. To You, O Sacred Heart, we consecrate PCUC and all of its work that defends the dignity and worth of every person. Protect PCUC and give us the grace and strength to continue its mission of proclaiming the sacredness of all human life.

O Immaculate Heart of Mary, by your Fiat to the eternal design that you become the Mother of God, you have elevated the vocation of motherhood to be the way in which God would become one of us in your virginal womb. We consecrate, O Mother, to your Immaculate Heart the work of PCUC in defending every unborn child and supporting women who face great challenges while carrying new life within them. O Most Pure Heart of Mary, take PCUC and its mission of advocating for unborn children, their mothers and all persons whose life is threatened by the culture of death under the mantle of your protection. Blessed Lady, help us to make abortion unthinkable in our nation.

O Most Chaste Heart of St. Joseph, Foster Father of Jesus Christ and pure Spouse of Our Lady, you are the model for fathers and the protector of families. . We consecrate to you PCUC and its mission to strengthen family life and the vocations of mothers and fathers everywhere. By your powerful intercession, St. Joseph, protect traditional marriage and family life as the foundation of our culture and nation.

O Hearts of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, we consecrate ourselves totally to you, body, mind and soul. Guide us, protect us, and help us to promote a culture of life and a civilization of love for the greater honor and glory of God and the protection of every human life.

Amen.

#### FROM OUR DIRECTOR



By Nikki Bruni

The Privilege of Being a Child of God

Our mighty cause as pro-lifers is to end the slaughter of innocent children

through legalized abortion. Such a task is humanly impossible, but for God, all things are possible. We just need to "ask" in the right way.

I was thinking about the intimate "access" we have to God, through our Christian baptism and confirmation, and the fact that by those sacra-

ments, we are literally made into God's children.

That got me to thinking about the privilege we have to "interrupt" our Father, in the midst of His very important job of being God. The image of a powerful leader, such as the president of a nation, (Think Donald Trump or even Vladimir Putin), came into my mind. Picture him sitting at his desk, late at night...deep in thought. Suddenly his concentration is interrupted by a small, soft hand, tapping him on the shoulder. He turns to see his little daughter, sleepy-eyed and in her pajamas...having just climbed out of bed. She insists that she is scared and needs him to leave his work in order to tuck her in and sing her a lullaby. This powerful world leader, feared by everyone, will acquiesce to His little girl's request.

Now, I am imagining that the smaller and more innocent and helpless His child is, the more likely her request will be granted. *If, for instance, she was an older adolescent and should know better, she would probably receive a severe rebuke from her Father, and be ordered back to bed.* And worse yet...if she were a stranger, who had made her way to the front door of the White House or the Kremlin, her fate would be much worse!

Why am I writing about this imaginary scenario? Well, in the midst of the seemingly hopeless task of working to end legalized abortion, I think that we need to remember how powerful our God is...and at the same time, how much He loves us with a tender and Fatherly love. He will end abortion when His children humble themselves and make themselves small and innocent. When we do that, He will hear us from Heaven, forgive our sin and heal our land. (2 Chron. 7:14).

40 Days for Life begins on March 4th with a Kick-off Mass & Eucharistic Procession to Planned Parenthood. Can you think of a better way to touch the Heart of God than by humbly praying at Planned Parenthood? We truly make ourselves small and innocent when we do that, and I believe that God is hearing us and is answering our prayers! Sign up to pray during the 40 days at: <a href="www.40daysforlife.com/pittsburgh">www.40daysforlife.com/pittsburgh</a> or email Jen at <a href="mailto:pghsaland365@gmail.com">pghsaland365@gmail.com</a>

#### **NEWS FROM THE SIDEWALK**



By Andrew McCauley, Director of Pittsburgh's Sidewalk Advocates for Life

### Our Sidewalk Presence is Making a Difference!

The recent shift in the political climate has brought about a palpable reinvigoration of all things pro-life in our country. This was apparent at the National March for Life. To my mind, one speaker in particular (Hannah Lape) summed up exactly where we stand. "With the new administration and the fall of Roe V Wade, the next four years of America's history will be defined either by courage or by cowardice." I pray it will be defined by courage. There are currently many people in high places (several of whom spoke at the March) who state their strong pro-life convictions. Hopefully, they will recognize this pivotal opportunity to live out their beliefs and give the pro-life cause the urgent priority it deserves.

Whatever happens in Washington, we can always make a difference for life in our community. In 2024, over a dozen babies were saved in downtown Pittsburgh through the combined efforts of Sidewalk Advocates and 40 Days for Life! Additionally, we believe that figure to be substantially higher than what we know. If you are personally looking for a way to take a courageous stand for life, join the small but dedicated team of people who work year-round to maintain a prayerful presence in front of Planned Parenthood to make these saved lives a reality! We need more volunteers to increase our effectiveness and save even more babies! We need you! Contact me at AndrewSAFLPGH@protonmail.com to join!

### **MORE JOYFUL NEWS!**



On Wednesday, Jan. 22nd, when the temps were in the single digits...prayer volunteers Eileen and Larry were blessed when a young woman with a baby in a stroller

stopped to tell them that she had gone to Planned Parenthood for an abortion last year, but changed her mind! After talking with Eileen and Larry, she even brought her baby into Planned Parenthood to show them the beautiful life that they would have taken away from her. God is good! We are thankful for these encouragements!

### Sidewalk Advocate Training

Saturday, February 22

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



Contact Andrew at andrewSAFLPGH@protonmail.com to register.

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

WE STAND IN FRONT OF PLANNED PARENTHOOD ON LIBERTY AVE. IN PITTSBURGH 5 DAYS A WEEK, BUT SADLY, WE DO NOT HAVE ALL THE ABORTION HOURS COVERED. WE NEED YOUR HELP! ONCE TRAINED, COMMITMENT IS NOT OBLIGATORY. COME AS YOU ARE ABLE.

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



## PRAYER & POTLUCK AT PCUC

PCUC is striving to put *prayer* at the forefront of our life-saving work, and we want to begin by praying at our office once a month. Everyone who likes to pray

and eat is invited!

Prayer, fellowship and food on the <u>last Saturday of</u> <u>every month</u>, beginning at 6pm at the PCUC office, located at 3050 Pioneer Ave., Brookline.

Bring a dish to share. Pop, water, wine and beer will be provided. We will eat first, and enjoy a time of pro-life fellowship for the first hour. At 7pm we will pray the rosary. Specific intentions can be added, including praying for recent lives saved from abortion, family members who need prayer, and whatever we feel led to pray for. We will end at 8pm.

Prayer & Potluck event for February will be on Saturday, Feb. 22nd. RSVP to Nikki at 412-926-9413 or nikki@pcuc.org.



Monthly update by Meredith

#### COMMUNICATION

We continue to look for volunteers to write letters to the editor and to legislators as a part of PCUC's Communications Committee. Con-

tact me at: <a href="mailto:themageeproject@gmail.com">themageeproject@gmail.com</a> for more information.

#### THE MAGEE PROJECT

The Magee Project's "*The Church at Magee*" winter prayer walks are the 4th Sunday of the month from 4-5pm. **This month we will gather at Magee Hospital on February 23**, and next month on March 23. Our spring launch event is the Stations of the Cross prayer walk, April 27. (*See flyer below for details*.)

## Stations of the Cross Prayer Walk

Magee-Womens Hospital
300 Halket Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Sunday, April 27, 2025

4-6 pm



Go to https://signup.com/go/ZTwgzEU

to sign up or to sign up your group

Contact The Magee Project for more information themageeproject@gmail.com

## PA PLANNED PARENTHOOD INFILTRATES SCHOOL BOARDS!

(Article taken from Pa Family Institute's Dec.2024 newsletter)

In an online post-election briefing hosted by Planned Parenthood, its leaders announced its plans for 2025. As a member of The Pennsylvania Family Institute's team listened in, this understandably caught her attention:

Pennsylvania Planned Parenthood plans to endorse and engage in support of school board candidates in this year's school board elections.

It's a relatively new (and very troubling) venture for the abortion and sex giant. According to Michael Greer, President of PA Family Institute, "To my knowledge, until last year's school board elections in Pennsylvania, Planned Parenthood did not engage or endorse in school board races. In that case, they only endorsed in one district (out of 500 statewide) - the Manheim Township, Lancaster County school district race. Sadly, all their endorsed candidates won there. Now, they want to expand their influence into your school district, and if they succeed, children and parents will be the losers."

If Planned Parenthood's endorsed candidates win seats on local Pennsylvania school boards we know what that will mean; Perverse "sex education", promotion of the LGB and transgender ideology, installation of school-based "health clinics" and the hiring of like-minded Superintendents.

To foil the plans of Planned Parenthood, consider supporting Pennsylvania Family Institute as their Independence Law Center attorneys are in the fight. Go to <u>pafamily.org</u> to find out more or to donate.



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

PCUC is seeking opportunities to give pro-life presenta-

tions to youth groups, schools, churches and any events that will have us! Contact Nikki at Nikki ki@pcuc.org if you would like us to come and speak at your event!



Join us for Pittsburgh's Lenten Campaign's

## **CLOSING EVENT**

WITH

# **Abby Johnson!**



Divine Mercy Parish, Epiphany Church



5:00 pm: Eucharistic Procession to
Planned Parenthood, returning
to the church for Benediction

(NOTE: There will NOT be Mass!)



Abby Johnson's abrupt exit from Planned Parenthood and prolife conversion made national headlines in 2009. She created an exit strategy for abortion industry whistleblowers by establishing And Then There Were None in 2012 and launched a national support hotline for pregnant women and mothers with complex needs called LoveLine in 2019. Armed with truth, Abby continues to be a voice for the unborn while dismantling the abortion industry from the inside out through peaceful, prayerful outreach.

STHEN
THERE WERE

We are excited that Abby Johnson will be joining us in Pittsburgh as we close our Lenten 40 Days for Life campaign with a **Eucharistic Procession to Planned Parenthood**, led by our beloved Bishop Waltersheid! Immediately before the procession, Abby will give a talk in the church.

This is a free event, however there will be an opportunity to support her ministry through a <u>free-will collection taken in the church. Please be as generous as you can!</u>

So that we will know approximately how many are attending,
RSVP to Nikki at
nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com, or
call 412-926-9413



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





Hope you all had a good Christmas and New Years. The best way to combat and support bills is to contact both your PA representatives and PA senators, but we need to take it a step further by con-

tacting the representative or senator that introduced the bill. To find their email, go to PA.GOV.

### STOP THE DANGEROUS REPRODUC-TIVE FREEDOM ACT!

The so-called "Reproductive Freedom Act," House Bill 26 (formerly introduced as HB 2304), has been introduced in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives by Rep. Kristine Howard. This dangerous bill would wipe out our long-standing Abortion Control Act, which provides important protections for pregnant women and their children. Among the many safeguards this would wipe out are; parental notification, informed consent, and the 24 week gestational limit! If this bill passes, abortion could be legal in PA through all 40 weeks! *Please send an immediate message to Rep. Howard* by mail at 107 East Wing, P.O. Box 202167, Harrisburg PA 17120-2167, or call her at 717-783-4088.

Please contact your state lawmakers opposing House Bill 26. By contacting your own PA Representative and PA Senator you can make a difference. If you do not know who your state rep or senators are, please call me and I will look them up for you. (412-728-3647). Tell them that we do not want to have our monies pay for abortion. There is a good chance this bill will not pass the senate.

In response to President Trump talking about possibly abolishing the federal FACE Act, (Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances), State Rep. Lindsay Powell introduced the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act at the PA STATE Level. (This is the Act which has been weaponized against peaceful pro life activism.) There is no number for this bill yet.

We should also support the following bills introduced by Rep. Tim Bonner:

**HB164** Final Disposition of Fetal Remains Act (Prior HB 1569). An Act providing for the final disposition of fetal remains; and imposing penalties. Referred to Health on Jan 16.

HB165, Pain Control for the Unborn (Prior HB 753), An Act amending Title 18 which seeks to treat fetuses that are being aborted with the same compassion as fetuses that are undergoing pre-natal surgery (with pain medication). Also referred to Health Committee Jan 16.

Contact Rep Bonner to show your support these bills at 234 West Pine Street, Unit 1, Grove City, PA 16127 (724) 458-4911.

#### News on the Federal side:

- The President reinstated the Mexico City Policy, which blocks federal funding for NGO's overseas, and the Hyde Amendment, which bars the use of federal funds to pay for abortions.
- Congress tried to pass the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act which would have protected the lives of babies who are <u>born</u> after surviving botched abortions. It was shutdown by the Senate.
- There is a movement and action to Defund Planned Parenthood by the DOGE (Department of Government Efficiency). Planned Parenthood has rushed to the Supreme Court. Please storm Heaven with your prayers! This could be BIG!!!

Thank you all and God bless you and please continue to pray for those who cannot speak for themselves.

Anita Theiss, PCUC Board of Directors.

### **HONORS & MEMORIALS**



In Honor of the Liptak Family
From Dr. Robert Good

In Honor of Joan Cook From Mary L. Cook

In Honor of John McNavage Sr. & Jr., From Barbara Withum

In Memory of Arch & Mcelhinny Families & Mary Winter, from Lawrence Domencic

In Memory of Christopher Bialecki
From Diane & Chester Bialecki

In Memory of Frank Cindrich From Joe Matusz

In Memory of Al & Pat Colonna From Beverly Abijian

In Memory of Bill & Adam DiSabato From Beverly DiSabato

In Memory of Dr. Lawrence Ferlan From Virginia Ferlan

In Memory of Emily Gigone From Bill & Evelyn Turocy

In Memory of Bob & Maloney & Maureen Malo ney Costello, from Bill & Evelyn Turocy

In Memory of Joseph McBurney, From Maureen McBurney

In Memory of Joan Newman
From Claudia & Frank Caruso

In Memory of Joan Newman
From Stefan & Emiy Gagnon

In Memory of Joan Newman From Helen Cindrich

In Memory of Joan Newman

From Marlene & Dave Wohleber

In Memory of Joan Newman
From Hank & Judy Freedy

In Memory of Joan Newman
From Mary Ann Mulkerin

In Memory of Joan Newman
From Pat & Susan Smith

In Memory of Joan Newman

From a friend of Fran Herfurth

In Memory of Howard & Dorothy Singleton From Rebecca Cascino

In Memory of Michael Christopher Strathmann
From Deacon Bill & Maureen Strathmann

In Memory of John Thompson Jr. From Lisa Thompson

In Memory of Shirley Warner
From her niece, Janet Walker

### 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.