



*"Promoting Respect for All Human Life  
Through Prayer, Education, Advocacy and  
Compassionate Care for Everyone"  
(P. E.A.C.E.)*

**RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY  
NEWSLETTER  
ST JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH  
LINCOLN CA**



Archangel St. Michael by Guido Reni

**WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH OUR YOUNG PEOPLE?**



**2010 - NO. 1**

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Good things—that's what! **Our 97 Jr. High Religious Education students (the Edge Class)** have presented our parish with a powerful visual reminder of the enormity of loss of precious lives through abortion. **Each white cross, so tastefully placed on the east side of St. Joseph Church, represents approximately 500,000 babies aborted in the U.S. since Roe v. Wade.** Thank you, Edge Class, for what you have done to further the mission of Respect Life in our parish. There's more!!! Each year, groups of college students spend their entire summer walking across America, West Coast to Washington, D.C., to promote the cause of LIFE. What a commitment! As they walk from Los Angeles, San Francisco or Seattle, they stop on week-ends to speak in parishes and to pray at abortion facilities. One of our own parishioners, Jessica Sills, from St. Boniface, has been accepted to take part in the Walk this summer. And, on the week-end of May 29/30, our parish is privileged to be able to have two or three of the young people speak at our parish Masses. We look forward to being powerfully inspired by their dedication and enthusiasm! *From Gneal Trevethan's Chairperson Report.*

**A Woman's Friend Walk for Life**

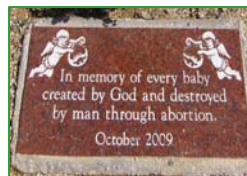
Members of our parish are again joining people from over 60 area churches for the May 1 Walk for Life fundraiser for A Woman's Friend in Marysville. A Woman's Friend client numbers (101 in March) are increasing dramatically and the "walk-a-thon" is a very important way for us to be able to continue to provide the free services that help pregnant women choose life for their babies. **Father Eric is walking too!** If you'd like to join him, or sponsor Fr. Eric or one of our other parish walkers, **just sign up at Mass, or contact (Gneal) at 916-655-3940 or Maria Quay at 916-408-5997.**

**WELCOME NEW PRAYER WARRIORS**

**THEREFORE I TELL YOU, ALL THAT YOU ASK FOR IN PRAYER, BELIEVE THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE IT AND IT SHALL BE YOURS. MK 11:24.**



Ed Biasi, Richard Chavez, Laura Croxall, Al Cruz, Jeanne Cruz, Carl Finnegan, Carole Finnegan, Larita Gruenwald, Regina Harlan, Janice Hooten, Tina Jennings, Lee Ann Kress, Betty Lopez, Ray Lopez, Michele Magana, Charlotte McCoy, Marilyn



McCullough, Donna McDonald, Terry McPartlan-Korphage, Mary Claire Miller, Alma Morrison, Bob Morrison, Kathy Perkins, Gail Ramsden, Debbie Scott, Jessica Sills, Charles Taylor, Eva Taylor, Lois Tousey, Karen VanDyke, Judy Westlake, & Shannon Woods. Total number of Prayer Warriors is **457.**



**Everyone Against Abortion  
Please Raise Your Hands**

# CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT



Gneal Trevethan  
RLM Chairperson  
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## Chairperson's Report

It's been a busy 2010 so far on the pro-life front. Of course, the big news that **isn't good** is the abortion coverage included in the health care bill. The **good news** comes from 40 Days for Life, Walk for Life West Coast, and other pro-life efforts. You'll find articles on these and other pro-life news of interest in this first newsletter of 2010.



In St. Joseph Parish, we had a great response to our January Prayer Warrior invitation- **26 new prayer warriors**, many of whom signed up to contact legislators or to take prayer requests for clients of A Woman's Friend who are considering abortion. So far this year, we've done lots of praying for these women (21 to date). We don't al-

ways know the outcome right away. Sometimes we find out months later that they have chosen life for their babies. That was the case recently when we found out that four of those we prayed for last year, "Dee," "Janet," "Linda" and "Mary" all gave birth to healthy babies. Just last week, we received good news only days after we prayed for "Sherry," when she let us know that she and her boyfriend have now decided against abortion and are eager to welcome their baby.

In light of the "ups and downs" of pro-life ministry, I would like to share with you some words of encouragement from Denver Archbishop Chaput in a speech he gave on March 9. "Nothing we do to defend the human person, no matter how small, is ever unfruitful or forgotten. Our actions touch other lives and move other hearts in ways we can never fully understand in this world. Don't ever underestimate the beauty and power of the witness you give in your pro-life work....If you speak up for the unborn child in this life, someone will speak up for you in the next, when we meet God face to face." See Page 3 for excerpts from The Archbishop's speech.

## A Woman's Friend Walk for Life

(See Page 1.)

Look for this lady.

She'll be at every Mass @ St. Joseph's.



Maria Quay

## The Health Care Bill

Confused about abortion funding in the Health Care Bill and whether or not the Executive Order fixed the problems? Here are some helpful resources to clarify these issues.

The USCCB on April 12 published an article titled, "Abortion Funding in the New Health Care Reform Act." [www.usccb.org/healthcare](http://www.usccb.org/healthcare). The Bishops make several important points:

1. **Federal Funds in the Act can be used for elective abortions.** For example, the Act authorizes and appropriates \$9.5 billion for services at Community Health Centers. These funds are NOT covered by the Hyde amendment or by the Act's own abortion limitation in Sec. 1303.
2. **The Act uses federal funds to subsidize health plans that cover abortions.** Section 1303 limits only the direct use of a federal tax credit specifically to fund abortion coverage. But the credits are still used to pay overall premiums for health plans covering elective abortions. By subsidizing plans that cover abortion, the federal government will expand abortion coverage and make abortions more accessible.

**The Act uses federal power to force Americans to pay for other people's abortions.** While the Act says that one plan in each exchange will not cover elective abortions, every other plan may cover them—and everyone purchasing those plans, because they best meet his or her family's needs, will be required by federal law to fund abortions.

At the USCCB Healthcare website, you can also read the whole article, the March 23 statement of **Cardinal Francis George** regarding the Bill and a detailed legal analysis of the **President's Executive Order**. **This analysis reinforces the Bishops' conclusion that the Executive Order does little to nothing to solve the abortion-related problems of the bill.** Any efforts that President Obama's executive order purports to make to solve these problems, says the USCCB, are ultimately doomed to be struck down in court since the president "may not amend or otherwise contradict the legislative mandates expressed by congress in the form of statutory law."

**WHY THIS WORK MATTERS:  
HUMAN DIGNITY AND THE ROAD AHEAD**

+Charles J. Chaput Archbishop of Denver

March 9, 2010

(Excerpted by the Editor)



A theme we've heard from many of our political leaders over the past 18 months goes like this: America needs to return science to its "rightful place" in public life. And while we're at it, we should stop asking so many annoying ethical questions, so that science can get on with its vital work.

A "rightful" place suggests that there's also a wrongful place; a bad alternative. And words like right and wrong, good and bad are loaded with moral judgment. All law in some sense teaches and forms us, while also regulating our behavior.

There's no such thing as morally neutral legislation or morally neutral public policy. Every law is the public expression of what somebody thinks we "ought" to do.

If you and I as citizens don't do the shaping, then somebody else will. That's the nature of a democracy. A healthy democracy depends on people of conviction working hard to advance their ideas in the public square – respectfully and peacefully, but vigorously and without apologies. Politics *always* involves the exercise of power in the pursuit of somebody's idea of the common good. And politics *always and naturally* involves the imposition of somebody's values on the public at large. So if a citizen fails to bring his moral beliefs into our country's political conversation - if he fails to work for them publicly and energetically - then the only thing he ensures is the defeat of his own beliefs.

We also need to remember that most people – not everyone, of course, but most of us – root our moral convictions in our religious beliefs. What we believe about God shapes what we think about the nature of men and women, good human relationships, and our idea of a just society. We act on what we really believe. If we don't act on our beliefs, then we don't really believe them. As a result, the idea that the "separation of Church and state" should force us to wall off our religious beliefs from guiding our political behavior makes no sense at all, even superficially. If we don't remain true in our public actions to what we claim to believe in our personal lives, then we only deceive ourselves, because God isn't fooled. He sees who and what we really are. God sees that our duplicity is really a kind of cowardice and that our lack of courage does a lot more damage than simply compromising our own integrity. It also undermines the courage of other good people who really do try to publicly witness what they believe. And that compounds a sin of dishonesty with a sin of injustice.

I've believed for many years that abortion is the foundational human rights issue of our lifetime. We can't simultaneously serve the poor and accept the legal killing of unborn children. We can't build a just society and at the same time legally sanctify the destruction of generations of unborn human life. The rights of the poor and the rights of the unborn child flow from exactly the same human dignity guaranteed by the God who created us.

And unfortunately, abortion is no longer the only major bio-

ethical threat to that right in our culture. In fact, the right to life has never, at any time in the past, faced the range of challenges it faces right now, and will face in the immediate future. Physician-assisted suicide, cloning, genetic engineering and developments in biotechnology will raise profoundly serious questions about the definition of "human nature" and the protection of human dignity in the years ahead.

What do those of us in pro-life work need to do in preparing for whatever lies ahead? Let me offer a few dos and don'ts that might help guide us

**Some don'ts and dos.**

**First don't: Don't let divisions take root.** Unity is a sign of God's Spirit. Acrimony among us is a gift to the other side. It's also a form of theft from the unborn children who will suffer the consequences of our division.

**Second don't. Don't create or accept false oppositions.** "Either/or" choices - are usually untrue and also un-Christian. So-called pro-life organizations argued we should stop fighting the legal struggle over abortion. Instead we should join with "pro-choice" supporters to seek "common ground." The trouble is, Americans didn't take the gradual, social-improvement road to "reducing" racism. We make sexual assault illegal - even though we know it will sometimes still tragically occur - because it's gravely evil. If we really believe that abortion kills a developing, unborn human life, then we can never be satisfied with mere "reductions" in the body count.

**Third don't. Don't hate the adversary.** People who support so-called "abortion rights" are opponents to the cause of life. Our enemy is the Evil One, not other human beings.

**First and most important do. It's very simple: Do become martyrs.** I said it was simple. I didn't say it was easy. "Martyr" is originally a Greek word, and it simply means "witness."

**Second do. Do keep hope alive.** Cultivating a spirit of joy is not self-deception. It's a way to acknowledge that God really is on the side of human life and dignity, and that human nature, created by God and despite the wound of original sin, is also on our side.

**Third do. Do use the best means for your message, especially the new technologies.** Blogs, social networks and YouTube channels are thriving. They offer huge pro-life opportunities.

**Fourth and final do. Do remember that renewing the culture, not grasping at power, is our real goal.** Political and social action is vital. But it's not an end in itself.

So let's pray for each other, and support each other, and thank God for the privilege of being together in His service.



**WHY THIS WORK MATTERS:  
HUMAN DIGNITY AND THE ROAD  
ALREADY TRAVELED**

7th Annual Walk for Life will be on January 22, 2011



Fisherman's Wharf



St. Joseph, Lincoln

San Francisco, CA (LifeNews.com) -- More than 35,000 pro-life advocates joined the West Coast Walk for Life on Saturday and they appeared in a jubilant mood given the indefinite stalling of the pro-abortion health care bill in Congress. People from across the state and Pacific Coast walked from Justin Herman Plaza to the Marina district.

The number of participants were 7,000 (2005), 15,000 (2006), 20,000 (2007), 25,000 (2008) and 30,000 (2009).

[Ref: walkforlife.com. Editor's Note.]

Ref: [www.abortionbreastcancer.com](http://www.abortionbreastcancer.com)

Women have the right to know there are two breast cancer risks associated with abortion. All experts recognize first risk - that abortion denies women an opportunity to reduce their risk for breast cancer through childbearing. Scientists only debate the second risk - known as the "independent link." Eight medical organizations and a bioethics journal recognize the independent link - that abortion leaves a woman with more cancer-vulnerable cells than she had before she became pregnant. An additional medical group, the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, has called for "full disclosure" of a "highly plausible" relationship between abortion and the disease. Overwhelming evidence of a cause-effect relationship is supported by... 1. A biological explanation which scientists have been unable to disprove and do not challenge. 2. A study on rats. 3. Epidemiological research. Scientists began extensive research on the abortion-breast cancer link in 1957. According to the "Annual Report to the Nation on the Status of Cancer (1973-1998)," published in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute in 2001, only the youngest of three generations - the Roe v. Wade generation - suffered a more than 40% increase in breast cancer cases since the mid-1980s. These were women young enough to have had access to legal abortions starting in 1973. The increase in breast cancer rates didn't take place among women from the two older generations that could n't obtain legal abortions. The U.S. National Cancer Institute, the American Cancer Society, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention collaborated on the report. Two of the report's authors had conducted earlier research showing that abortion increases breast cancer risk, but that research and the word "abortion" were omitted from the report. The report's authors expressed no interest whatsoever in preventing breast cancer.

[Editor's note: Please see [www.abortionbreastcancer.com/medicalgroups/index](http://www.abortionbreastcancer.com/medicalgroups/index) for a list of medical groups recognizing link between abortion & breast cancer.]

**ST. JOSEPH RLM MISSION STATEMENT**

**St. Joseph Parish's Respect Life Ministry recognizes that all human beings are created in God's image and likeness (Genesis 1:26-27), and that a unique and irreplaceable human being exists from the moment of conception.**

**All human life, from conception to natural death, is sacred, dignified and deserving of respect and protection within all economic and cultural levels of society.**

**We recognize the inalienable right to human life and threats to this life, including abortion, euthanasia, embryonic stem cell research, and religious and societal ignorance and indifference.**

**We commit ourselves to promote respect for human dignity and the protection of all human life through prayer, education, advocacy, and pastoral care under parish and diocesan guidance.**

The Editor asks:  
Where do the procreated souls of aborted children go? And  
What is procreation?



**FEBRUARY 17—MARCH 28 2010**

[From Gneal's Chairperson Report](#)

These are the accomplishments of six coordinated campaigns over the last three years.

- More than 350,000 participants
- Over 11,500 churches involved
- 845 individual campaigns
- 307 cities participating
- All 50 US States
- 5 Canadian provinces
- 3 Australian states
- 4 other countries
- 850+ news stories
- 2,801 lives saved from abortion—that we know
- 32 abortion workers quit their jobs
- 5 abortion facilities shut down for good.



Thirty-eight St. Joseph Parishioners signed up for three two-hour shifts: 7:30-9:30, 9:30-11:30, & 11:30-1:30. Thanks for the work of Shift Captains who provided good moral leadership: Vic Albertazzi, Art Wehr, and Arda Koehne. Arda was also the