

Oregon, That's Life

The Culture of Life Newsletter of the Oregon Knights of Columbus

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From the Directors

So much need exists for the protection of life, and so little seems to be accomplished. But let's keep trying!

Life is fragile; Let's work together to build it up. Remember, Oregon: *THAT'S LIFE!*

StandUpGirl

StandUpGirl is an on-line organization offering pregnancy information and counseling, and encouragement to protect the developing child. The website has received over 51,000,000 visitors since its inception, and there have been over 15,000,000 facebook interactions. See <https://standupgirl.com/>

If you can, consider attending their fundraising event October 19 from 6:30 to 8:30 at 252 Lawrence St, Eugene, Oregon. The theme is 20 years of Super Heroes.

Oregon Right to Life

The ORTL Education Foundation is holding their annual auction at 6:00 p.m. on September 25 at the Holiday Inn in Salem. Visit <https://ortlefauction.org/> for details. This important event, labeled *A Night for Advocacy*, is one we should support.

Samples of what donations have funded include equipping sidewalk counselors at *Together We Advocate*, crafting two new presentations for Oregon classrooms, training 14 students to be pro-life leaders at Launch, and supporting 25 chapter-run fair booths across the state.

Coming Up

September 18 is the *National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children*. The State Life Program Director has been invited to be a speaker during a ceremony at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Eugene. <http://abortionmemorials.com/>

The fall *40 Days for Life* campaign starts in September. There are 5 campaigns in Oregon: Bend, Eugene, Klamath Falls, Portland, and Salem. It will run from September 22 through October 31. See <https://www.40daysforlife.com/>

October is *Respect Life Month*.

October 3 is *Life Chain Sunday*.

Building A Culture Of Life

Following are some highlights from Resolution 6, "Building a Culture of Life," approved at the Knights of Columbus 2021 Supreme Convention in August.

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus has a deep and historic commitment to oppose any government action or policy that promotes abortion, embryonic stem cell research, human cloning, euthanasia, assisted suicide, or other offenses against life; and

WHEREAS, Pope Benedict XVI reiterated that "Catholic politicians and legislators, conscious of the grave responsibility before them, must feel particularly bound, on the basis of a properly formed conscience, to introduce and support laws inspired by values grounded in human nature"; and

WHEREAS, in remarks to the leadership of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Pope Francis reiterated that protection of the unborn is a "preeminent priority" and it is not first a religious issue, but rather an issue of human rights.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we will continue to speak out to our elected representatives about the need to enact legislation protecting human life in all its stages; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus will continue to uphold the Catholic Church's authoritative teaching on the sanctity of life from conception to natural death, as explained in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, *Laudato si'*, and other documents; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we reaffirm our long-standing policies of not inviting to any Knights of Columbus event persons, especially public officials or candidates for public office, who do not support the legal protection of unborn children, or who advocate the legalization of assisted suicide or euthanasia, and that we prohibit such persons from renting or otherwise using facilities over which our members have control, or speaking at Knights of Columbus events, or bestowing on them honors or privileges of our Order of any kind, or inviting them to serve as honorary chairpersons of events, celebrations, or committees, or hold any office in the Knights of Columbus; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we once again commit ourselves to praying the rosary frequently, to fasting and to doing penance in reparation for the evils perpetrated against the gift of life and that we seek the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who herself said "yes" to life, to intercede on our behalf for the establishment of a "culture of life."

Upcoming McCarrick Court Hearing

Former-cardinal Theodore McCarrick, once one of the most prominent members of the American hierarchy, has reached prominence of another sort by being the highest-ranking U.S. official in the Catholic Church to be charged with sexual abuse.

He has been charged with three counts of indecent assault and battery on a person over 14. The former-cardinal is scheduled to appear in Dedham District Court, Massachusetts, on September 3. McCarrick faces a possible 5 years of prison for each charge. The attorney of the alleged victim is quoted as saying: "By reporting the sexual abuse, my client has empowered himself and other victims of sexual abuse and has made the world a safer place for children." McCarrick has not responded to the allegations.

Why There Are Safe Haven Laws

Last month we printed an article about the Safe Haven program found in every state. The program allows a parent unable or unwilling to keep a new-born child to leave it with an agency.

On August 10, 2021, a North Carolina woman was sentenced to at least 12 years in prison after pleading guilty to second-degree murder for the death of her infant son on March 3, 1999. The child had been born less than 24 hours previously. The Cumberland Sheriff's Office had been unable to solve the case until DNA evidence finally identified the mother, who asked for forgiveness and said: "I was in a bad situation, and if I could do it over again this would not have happened and we would not be here in these proceedings."

"Policy" vs "Law"

Veterans Affairs Secretary Denis McDonough has stated that the current VA abortion prohibition is merely a "policy decision", suggesting the policy could be reversed. In August U.S. Senator Jerry Moran of Kansas drew attention to the fact that the "policy" is in fact a law passed by Congress in 1992. Therefore the regulation prohibits the VA from providing either abortions or abortion counseling.

Do I, or Don't I?

"I don't have a right to tell anyone what they can or can't do with their body."

If you have ever been in a discussion with someone about abortion, you may well have heard them explain their reluctance to defend life by saying even though they are personally against abortion, they do not feel they have the right to tell anyone else what to do or not do with their body. This may be the most-used reason given for not taking a stand.

That argument, however, is based on a false premise: that only one person's body is involved in an abortion. *Two* persons are involved, not merely one. The mother and the child go into the abortion facility together, but usually only one comes out alive, and that is usually the mother. The child who had no chance to speak for himself or herself has been killed.

We are not looking only at rights here; we must also recognize our responsibility. If I do not speak up on behalf of the unborn child, then I am guilty of allowing that child to be destroyed through abortion. I have an OBLIGATION to tell someone they do NOT have a right to destroy human life.

Pro-Life Quote for the Month



*If everybody doesn't have a right to life,
then nobody has a right to life.*

Nellie Gray (1924 - 2012)
Founder: March for Life

Scriptural Verses to Remember

Proverbs 14:12 - Sometimes a way seems right, but the end of it leads to death!

Wisdom 1:14-15 - For he fashioned all things that they might have being, and the creatures of the world are wholesome; There is not a destructive drug among them nor any domain of Hades on earth, For righteousness is undying.

Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good. Make justice your aim: redress the wronged, hear the orphan's plea, defend the widow.