

Oregon, That's Life

The Culture of Life Newsletter of the Oregon Knights of Columbus

August 2021 Edition: Vol. 5, Number 06

Patrick and Teresita Parson † Oregon Life Couple † ppparson@yahoo.com

From the Directors

Unexpected challenges included the expiration of a primary computer being used for the creation of this August newsletter, and an inconveniently-timed power outage. We keep reminding ourselves that our word for each month is “flexibility”.

Life is fragile (for computers as well as people). Let's work together to build it up. Remember, Oregon: *THAT'S LIFE!*

Suicide: Devils and Angels

Oregon has allowed assisted suicide since November 1997. According to the Oregon Health Authority, 245 people died in 2020 from ingesting the lethal prescriptions given to them by their caregivers. From 1998 to January 22, 2021, 1,905 people have been allowed to take their lives under this law.

Compare that to Chen Si of China, who has convinced more than 400 people not to take their lives. Since 2003 he has spent each weekend patrolling the Nanjing Yangtze River Bridge, a notorious landmark for suicide attempts. He will approach persons who look depressed and talk to them; sometimes he even has to grab persons who have already climbed over the bridge railing. See the video: <https://youtu.be/2d0CCCyolXI>

Miss (or Mister) USA?

On June 27 a biological man calling himself a transgender woman was crowned Miss Nevada, thereby making him eligible to participate in the November Miss USA pageant.

National Pro-Life Bridges Day

On July 16 there were 67 highway bridge teams across the United States holding signs that read: “*Abortion Takes a Human Life*”. Perhaps next year we may see a team in Oregon.

Coming Up

Saturday, September 18, is *National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children*. This is a special event each Council should promote. There are at least 20 memorial sites in Oregon honoring children who died from abortion. <http://abortionmemorials.com/>

Safe Haven Laws in Oregon

Safe Haven Laws allow a parent to anonymously surrender their unharmed infant to a designated Safe Haven provider within a specific time after birth. Each state has its own unique Safe Haven law. While each law has similar components, the age and location restrictions differ per state.

The Oregon “*A Safe Place for Newborns*” law allows a birth parent (mother or father) to leave a newborn infant at an authorized facility. As long as the baby is 30 days old or younger, is handed to someone working there, and shows no signs of abuse, there will be no legal consequences for making this choice. An “Authorized facility” is one of the following:

- Hospital
- Doctor's Office
- Birthing Clinic
- Police Station
- Sheriff Office
- Fire Department

No appointment is necessary to leave the baby. The individual leaving the child does not have to give identification, but will be offered a health information form for the child which may be filled out then or later.

The authorized facility is required to notify the Department of Human Services of the abandoned infant within 24 hours of receiving the child. The Department of Human Services is deemed to have protective custody of the infant from the moment the infant was left at the facility. The child will be placed in foster care.

If the parent changes his or her mind about leaving the baby, the parent may seek custody in court. Ability to seek custody will be limited to the time before the court makes a decision to end the parental rights.

Information can be found on these websites:
Oregon Health Authority www.oregon.gov/oha
National Safe Haven Alliance:
www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org/

Hide Hyde?

Here is part of Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly's statement on the removal of the Hyde Amendment from funding legislation by the House of Representatives: *"The Knights of Columbus is extremely disappointed in this week's actions by the House of Representatives to remove longstanding, bipartisan taxpayer and conscience protections including the Hyde Amendment. The House vote to make taxpayers pay for abortions is both an assault on the dignity of life and contrary to the wishes of most Americans."*

The Senate is next. Make your senators aware that you want them to KEEP the Hyde Amendment!

Keeping Communion Holy

New Mexico state Sen. Joe Cervantes was denied Communion on July 17 at a church in Las Cruces for his promotion of abortion. His reaction?

"I was denied communion last night by the Catholic bishop here in Las Cruces and based on my political office. My new parish priest has indicated he will do the same after the last was run off. Please pray for church authorities as Catholicism transitions under Pope Francis."

Other lawmakers have shown support for Cervantes.. One challenged the bishops to "dare" to deny him Communion and another suggested revoking the church's tax-exempt status.

Cervantes later stated: "I won't have any problem finding a place to receive Communion. In fact, I look forward one day to receiving Communion at the same parish where President Biden does." He also said another Catholic diocese in New Mexico has offered to give him Communion. This is a sad commentary of the state of Church leadership in the United States as fellow members of the USCCB are unable to come to a cohesive policy about handling Catholic politicians who lead our country deeper into abortion.

Pro-Life Flag

A coalition of pro-life groups including *Students for Life of America* and *March for Life* conducted a world-wide contest for the design of a flag to represent the pro-life movement. With two feet (child), two hands (mother), two stripes, and two main colors, it emphasizes the TWO lives present in a pregnancy and the love the pro-life movement shows to both.

See www.prolifeflag.com to see the new design.

Breaking News - Theodore McCarrick

On July 28, 2021, formal Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, who was laicized in 2019, was criminally charged with the sexual assault of a minor in 1974.

The Vatican received criticism for laicizing McCarrick instead of sentencing him to jail time. It was assumed the 91-year old former cardinal was free from secular criminal charges due to statutes of limitations. However, because McCarrick is accused of committing the assault in Massachusetts and because he left the state, Massachusetts law allows criminal charges to be filed for the incident that occurred 47 years ago.

McCarrick, who is currently living in Missouri, has been summoned to appear at Dedham District Court in Massachusetts on August 26. McCarrick's attorney stated "we will look forward to addressing this issue in the courtroom." Catholics concerned about the scandals which have erupted throughout the Church are looking forward to the trial as well, although possibly for different reasons.

McCarrick has at least one connection to Oregon. In 2008 the University of Portland awarded then-Cardinal McCarrick an honorary degree. On July 30, 2018, the University issued a statement rescinding the degree, citing both the seriousness of the allegations made against McCarrick and the impact on the campus community.

Pro-Life Quote for the Month



*A baby's right to live is
the most basic right there is.*

Nikki Haley

(former US Ambassador to the UN 2017-2018)

7/15/2021 twitter post in favor of
protecting the Hyde Amendment

Scriptural Verses to Remember

Judith 16:4 - He threatened to burn my territory, put my youths to the sword, Dash my infants to the ground, seize my children as plunder. And carry off my virgins as spoil.

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

1 John 3:11-12 - For this is the message you have heard from the beginning: we should love one another, unlike Cain who belonged to the evil one and slaughtered his brother. Why did he slaughter him? Because his own works were evil, and those of his brother righteous.