

JANUARY  
2009† *A Pro-Life Update* †

*Presented by the Pro-Life Committee of  
St. Mary Roman Catholic Church  
Manchester, Michigan*

*"I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Choose life" (Deut. 30:19).*



## *"Ask Me Why I'm Pro-Life"*

Ask yourself this: *Do others know where you stand on life? Do you let people know that you're a pro-lifer, or are you content with the idea that they assume so?* Maybe you want to avoid conflict, so you let them assume that your beliefs are the same as theirs? Hopefully you don't change stripes to blend into "popular" pro-abortion circles. Think about it...how do you present yourself and how do others perceive you regarding human life issues?

Make no mistake, this is a huge problem today and one of the main reasons why being pro-life is not "cool." We are too afraid to stand up to the criticisms and attacks by pro-abortion forces. This must change, and it's actually one of the simplest things we pro-lifers can do.

There are two things that every pro-lifer must find the courage to do: 1) announce to the world that you're pro-life and 2) be prepared to let people know why. Doing these two things may be very difficult at first, but take heart and remember that we have both truth and the Author of Life on our side!

Be brave and confidently announce to the world that you are pro-life! Yes, you will get sneers, a few nasty comments, and glares from pro-abortion people, but you'll also get many warm smiles and support from those who know the truth. Let everyone know where you stand by wearing something to let people know you're pro-life, even if you're not ready to defend your position. Your subtle testimony will cause others to think, at least for a moment, about their own position on life.

*Letting people know why you are pro-life is to speak on behalf of the silent, innocent victims of abortion.* These millions of our brothers and sisters who were never allowed to take their first breaths need and deserve just as many millions of voices pleading our pro-life cause to end the atrocity of abortion. Do some homework. Say a prayer, then imagine sitting under a sign that says: "Ask me why I'm pro-life." Now, grab a crayon (or pen or pencil if you prefer) and write down as many answers as you can. Be concise, loving, direct, and open to inspiration. You will be amazed at what you come up with! Focus on these answers and you will be prepared to literally save lives.

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**The St. Mary Pro-Life Committee will help with your homework assignment by frequently publishing a new column in the weekly parish bulletin called "Ask me why I'm pro-life." We hope everyone not only reads these messages, but spends time reflecting on them to deepen their commitment to the culture of life.**

It doesn't matter if you're nine or ninety nine. Everyone can, and is needed, to defend innocent human life. We must work harder than ever to recover our culture from the forces of death. Always remember, we will only prevail by softening pro-abortion hearts and educating the indifferent among us, one person at a time.

*Interested in pro-life efforts in our parish? To take part, or for more info, please contact Frank Remski at 429-2948 or skifm@excite.com*

# *Area Pro-Life Events*

## *on the 36th anniversary of Roe v. Wade*



*As we mark the 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the tragic Supreme Court decision (known as Roe v. Wade) that legalized the killing of a baby in his/her mother's womb, let us consider making known, through prayer and works, our commitment to do all we can to end this tragedy.*

❖ **January 17-18: *Porch Candles for Life***

Porch candles are available again this year for you to set out as a silent memorial to all the unborn children who have lost their lives through abortion. To order, call Marilyn at 734-973-2422.

❖ **Monday, January 19: *Multi-denominational Prayer Service/ Ann Arbor***

This year at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church at 2250 East Stadium in Ann Arbor, beginning at 7:30 pm. In addition to praying for life issues, we will also be praying for racial harmony, Christian unity and evangelism.

❖ **Monday, January 19: *Prayer Rally / Lenawee County***

Right to Life of Lenawee County is organizing a Prayer Rally at First Baptist Church, 119 N. Broad, Adrian, beginning at noon, with a March the Courthouse at 1 pm. For more info, contact Kate Hayes at 517-467-7991.

❖ **Thursday, January 22: *Lansing Rally for Life***

At 4:15 pm on the east front steps of the State Capitol (dress warmly!) Speaker: State Senator Alan Cropsy Hot drinks and cookies will be served after the Rally at the Right to Life of Michigan office, 233 N. Walnut. Feel free to carry peaceful signs. No candles are allowed, but you may bring flashlights if you wish For info, call Mary Cline at 517-339-3497.

❖ **Thursday, January 22: *A 23-hour Rosary at Planned Parenthood/ Ann Arbor***

Midnight to 8am and then 9am to midnight. Call Karen 975-6679 to schedule a time.

❖ **Thursday, January 22: *Pray at Planned Parenthood / Ann Arbor***

Meet on Professional Drive at 8 am with Pastor Yuille and members of the Bible Church.

❖ **Tuesday, January 27 – *U of M Vigil for Life***

With University of Michigan Students for Life on the DIAG at 7 pm. Come and support these brave pro-life students. Info: benne@umich.edu

❖ **Ongoing: *40 Days for Life*** is organizing 24 hour prayer at Planned Parenthood / Ann Arbor on the first Friday of each month. If interested contact Al at [aesper@ameritech.net](mailto:aesper@ameritech.net)

❖ **For information on fighting the Freedom of Choice Act**

Go to [www.rtl.org](http://www.rtl.org) or visit [www.fightfoca.com](http://www.fightfoca.com)

❖ **Tuesday, February 3: *Jackson Right to Life 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Oratory Contest***

Teens are invited to participate. The contest *deadline is Sat., Jan. 31*. For more info either call 517-784-1300 or 517-262-4746 or visit [www.jacksonforlife.org](http://www.jacksonforlife.org).