

St. Stephen Respect Life Committee January 26, 2016, Meeting Minutes and News

St. Stephen Respect Life Committee met at 6:45 PM in St. Stephen's Copy Room.



Attending

Mary K., Rowena H., Linda L. (St. John), Bernie W. and Mary S.

Opening

We opened our meeting with Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer During Elections in the U.S. and the Americas www.witnesstolife.org/?p=980 and the Prayer for Beatification of Venerable Solanus Casey <http://solanuscasy.org/prayer-leaflets/English> with healing of Louise as our intention.

Truth and Prayer at Kent Planned Parenthood



First Saturday Truth and Prayer continues **9:30 – 11am** at **Kent Planned Parenthood**, 10056 SE 240th, Kent 98031. Once again, a number of us stood in the rain from 9 until 11 in prayerful witness on January 2nd. We will begin "winter hours" on February 6th, as we stand from 9:30 until 11am. The flyer for monthly First Saturday Truth and Prayer witnessing may be downloaded from either <http://ststephenslife.com/respect-life/> or <http://ststephensrespectlife.blogspot.com/>.

February 7th Coffee and Donuts

We will sponsor Coffee and Donuts February 7th. At Father Ed's suggestion, lots of pro-life visuals and literature will be in the social hall. Posters and flyers will promote Kent 40 Days for Life.



Because Lisa Atkins and (other) **Students for Life of America** <http://studentsforlife.org/> continue successfully evangelizing teens and young adults in our area with the message of Life, we will donate ALL proceeds from our February 7th Coffee and Donuts to them.

Mary K. and Mary S. will decorate, serve, and help clean up. Bernie will bring doughnuts, juices, and creamer. Rowena will manage donations. **Many hands make cleanup quick and pleasant. Please come and help!**

January 19th, 2016, March for Life Olympia



46 Marie Parker Coach passengers attended Mass with Archbishop Sartain in Lacey and the March for Life rally in Olympia. Most visited their legislators and presented each of them with a red rose, symbol of life, and a copy of 2016 March for Life Washington Talking Points written by St. Stephen's Legislative Advocacy. The Talking Points remain available from a link at <http://ststephenslife.com/legislative-advocacy>. These remain a great reference when contacting your Washington State legislators regarding proposed 2016 legislation affecting Life and family issues.

In 2017 we will donate lapel buttons that acknowledge a baby's heart beats just 21 days after conception to each legislator Marie Parker Coach passengers visit during the March for Life in Olympia.



See photos taken at the January 19th events from the link at <http://StStephensLife.com/Respect-Life/>.

Kent 40 Days for Life February 10 – March 20



Thank you to Linda for leading the international 40 Days for Life campaign www.40daysforlife.com/kent at Planned Parenthood, 10056 SE 240th, Kent 98031.

Response to the national Defund Planned Parenthood days and Life Chains in Kent indicate many Christians will welcome an invitation to join the Kent prayer vigils.

We will solicit sign-ups in SSTM's narthex from St. Stephen parishioners to commit to stand vigils of one hour each on Wednesdays of Lent. Our goal is to know someone will pray there during each of the hours the facility is open, between 9:30 am and 5:30 pm (Kent Planned Parenthood's Wednesday hours).

St. John parishioners will commit to covering a different day with prayer. Our Protestant friends are also asked to choose days their members will cover.

During the first two weekends of February SSTM will have a narthex table with sign-up sheet, handouts and signs for those committing to stand vigil in Kent.

St. Stephen parishioners unable to commit to praying on site on a Wednesday may sign up for any day they choose by contacting Linda at 253.217.8216 or LindaLuke99@hotmail.com or by signing up online at www.signupgenius.com/go/30e084aadac2ea3ff2-40days.

The 40 Days for Life national group wants all to report to them and photograph any incidents witnessed during our prayer vigils (ambulances at the facility or sidewalk disturbances, harassments, etc.)

Deacon Carl Chilo will lead the initial peaceful prayer vigil at approximately **10:15 am**, after SSTM's 9am **Ash Wednesday** Mass on **February 10th**. We will plan a closing event that includes opportunity for all involved to meet one another, probably over dinner after Saturday Mass, the evening of March 19th.

NOTE 1: The Bellevue Prayer Vigil for Life runs concurrently with 40 Days for Life. See their fabulous and comprehensive site prayervigil4life@gmail.com.

NOTE 2: Renton Cedar River Clinics abortion facility monthly first Wednesday prayer vigils will continue on March 2nd, in addition to our Kent commitment.

First Friday Adorations and Movie Night

Monthly **Pro-Life holy hour of Eucharistic Adoration** from **9-10pm** (or with Knights of Columbus from **6-7pm**) will take place **First Friday, February 5th**. Knock on the chapel side door to enter the building after narthex doors have been locked.

Our **next Pizza Night will be** at **7pm** on First Friday, **February 5th**. Helen Heidenreich will speak to us about the Women's Accessible Medical Services, P.S. (**WAMS**), a new clinic, opening in the U-District. See wamsclinic.com.

All are welcome! **R.S.V.P. is required by Thursday**, before pizza order is placed. **Email or call Mary K, marriworks1@comcast.net 253.631.2088 by Thursday, February 4th, to R.S.V.P.**



Next meeting 7:15 (after 6:30 PM Mass), Tuesday, February 23rd, in the Copy Room



Miscellaneous

- We will resume **study of "Theology of the Body"** next meeting. In November we read "The Pope's Thesis," the first section describing St. John Paul II's revolutionary notion of using the visible mystery of man and woman's sexuality as a sign analogous to the invisible mystery hidden in God. See <http://www.sjcursillo.org/theology%20of%20the%20body.pdf> for a downloadable version of the work.
- Thomas K. is looking into making umbrellas as an alternative to a new double-sided 72" x 30" banner that features text suitable for use at both Planned Parenthood and Cedar River Clinics.
- We have an ample quantity of beautiful Spiritual Adoption prayer cards and the **Spiritual Adoption Program** materials, as described at www.spiritualadoption.org. At our next meeting, we will discuss promotion and choose an appropriate date for encouraging spiritual adoptions at SSTM.
- **Northwest Catholic online magazine** carries a January 14th article about our **St. Stephen's January Candlelight Vigil: Remembering the Unborn**. See www.nwcatholic.org/news/local/parish-vigil-crosses-remember-babies-lost-to-abortion.
- See a superb personal testimony from a speaker at the **January 16th Northwest Walk for Life 2016...** www.youtube.com/watch?v=kPG_MUZmLOA&sns=en
- **If you are willing and able to update and maintain <https://www.facebook.com/StStephenProLife>**, please email ststephenchooseslife@yahoo.com.
- The **First Wednesday processions** described at <https://sites.google.com/site/respectlifecommittee/> have been suspended due to lack of interest.
- Our **SSTM Respect Life Committee sites:** <http://ststephenslife.com/respect-life> <http://ststephensrespectlife.blogspot.com/> <https://sites.google.com/site/respectlifecommittee>

Closing

We closed the meeting with the Prayer for Beatification of Venerable Solanus Casey found at <http://solanusc Casey.org/prayer-leaflets/English> with healing of Louise as our intention.