



## St. Stephen Respect Life Ministry November 28, 2016, Meeting Minutes and News

### December Dates

12/02	6:00 – 7:00 PM 1 <sup>st</sup> Fri. Pro-Life Adoration (with Knights of Columbus)
	9:00–10:00 PM 1 <sup>st</sup> Fri. Pro-Life Adoration (RLM, Gabriel Proj, Legis.Advocacy)
12/03	9:30–11:00 AM 1 <sup>st</sup> Sat. Kent Truth & Prayer witnessing, Kent Planned Parenthood
12/04	Coffee & Donuts after both Sunday morning Masses; help cleanup at 1:00pm!
12/07	7:30 – 5:30 PM 1 <sup>st</sup> Wed. Renton Cedar River Clinics Sidewalk Vigils (1-hr each)
12/12	6:30 PM Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass + Pro-Life Rosary + cookies & coffee
<b>T.B.D. 7:15 – 9:00 PM Dec. RLM meeting in Copy Room (after 6:30 PM Mass)</b>	

St. Stephen Respect Life Ministry met at 7:15 PM in St. Stephen's Copy Room.

### Attending

Mary K., Debbie, Gina (& Sophie), Deacon Carl, Lisa, Nancy, Rowena, Toni, Bernie, and Mary S.(St. Stephen); Rudy and Colleen (St. John); Katie Lodjic (<http://studentsforlife.org/lodjic/>).

### Opening

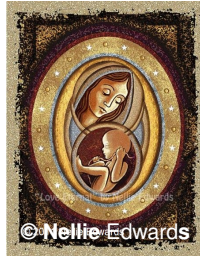
We opened the meeting with a Hail Mary and asked for guidance in our role of helping to bring those who encourage abortion to convert to respect human life.

We welcomed our new friends, Katie and Toni, with self-introductions.

Mary K. talked about each item listed in the calendar.

### Spiritual Adoptions

The Spiritual Adoption Program is in its third month. A narthex easel displays progressing fetal development and a companion board displays parishioner participation. Once each month Lisa writes a bulletin notice with a description of the baby's current stage of development.



Lisa is interested in helping the SSTM Youth become involved with the Spiritual Adoptions program that concludes with a baby shower in May. ACCW sponsors the shower that benefits Pregnancy Aid.

### Meeting Date Notes

The availability of Students for Life of America's Katie; SSTM's Deacon Carl and Youth Minister, Debbie, to attend this meeting necessitated the change from our usual 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday meeting. **Thank you to Deacon Carl, Debbie, and Katie for coming!**

Our December meeting date is also likely to vary from the usual 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday due to Christmas vacations.

### Engaging SSTM Youth in Pro-Life Activities

We reminded Debbie that we are eager to purchase materials SSTM Youth ministers find helpful to enhance "Theology of the Body" and pro-life apologetics instruction. We purchased two DVDs for SSTM Youth and gave them to Debbie. These documentaries deal with abortion and its effects and more. They are entitled "40" and "Voice of John." Bernie highly praised "Voice of John" as a source of

information on the many adverse effects of abortion, on the history of the abortion industry and Planned Parenthood's method of growing its lucrative abortion business, and more. The videos are suitable for viewing by young people in a classroom.

SSTM's Youth Core Team will consider planning their January session that focuses on respecting Life to coincide with St. Stephens's **January 22<sup>nd</sup> Candlelight Procession and Vigil**. See last January's online article on our vigil that supports the March for Life in Olympia... <http://www.nwcatholic.org/news/local/parish-vigil-crosses-remember-babies-lost-to-abortion>

### Students for Life of America



Northwest Regional Coordinator for **Students for Life (SFL)**, **Katie Lodjic**, (<http://studentsforlife.org/lodjic/>), told us about our country's largest pro-life organization that is combatting Planned Parenthood's on-campus tactics. **SFL's mission is to abolish abortion in our lifetime.** The Students for Life on-campus clubs impact their campuses and save lives by offering help to students, including pregnant and parenting students.

SFL help students from middle school through law and medical schools form pro-life clubs on their campuses (and the homeschooled too). SFL provides training and support for the clubs as they "start conversations" about abortion and life. Awareness is essential to the mission.

Training is effective and ongoing. It includes national conferences with nationally known pro-life speakers. Classes offered are Pro-Life Apologetics 101 and Pro-Life Apologetics 201. Abstinence Apologetics for high school students helps students answer relevant questions. More training classes are listed at <http://studentsforlife.org/>. SFL collaborates and coordinates with Camille Pauley's "Healing the Culture" curriculum, where it is in place.

SFL support for the clubs is extensive and includes printed materials, mentoring, even legal help. {An SFL attorney has persuaded school administrations that pro-life student clubs do have the right to form on campus, by law.}

SFL "mobilization" groups go to where they're needed, including testifying before Congress when called, etc. "Mobilization" units showed up to proclaim the truth about Planned Parenthood during recent political campaign rallies that promoted expanding taxpayer funding for PP.

SFL offers a wide variety of printed materials, brochures on various topics, instructive cards, signs, banners, etc.

All are given free of charge. Katie left lots of items with us. She fundraises to pay for these materials and for her travel expenses (items her SFL salary does not include).

Students for Life of America sites of interest include:

<http://studentsforlife.org>  
<http://studentsforlife.org/we-care/>  
<http://college.studentsforlife.org/fetal-development>  
<http://studentsforlife.org/planned-parenthood-is-freaking-out-about-tom-price/>  
<http://studentsforlife.org/PlannedParenthood>  
<http://studentsforlife.org/what-has-roe-done-for-us-project/>  
<http://college.studentsforlife.org/what-about-the-health-of-the-mother>  
<http://highschool.studentsforlife.org/>  
<http://www.med.studentsforlife.org>

Katie may give a presentation or a training class to SSTM Youth Confirmation class's parents during one of their monthly meetings at SSTM next spring.

### “Mother of Life” Pictures

We have begun distributing the second set of "Mother of Life" prints purchased through our group from pro-life artist Nellie Edwards. We are grateful to Nellie for donating three 11" x 14" prints entitled: Love Eternal, Our Lady, Undoer of Knots, and Divine Mercy; and a generous cash donation to our ministry.



See [www.PaintedFaith.net](http://www.PaintedFaith.net) to see these titles and other pictures Nellie has painted.

Last summer we purchased permission from the artist to use “Mother of Life” images on our website, on handouts, etc., for one year. To date, we have sold a total of 50 “Mother of Life” 11" x 14" prints.

### Things to Ponder

- Mary K proposes we produce another set of "business cards" for our ministry, similar to our 2016 “Mother of Life” cards. The new card will have a prayer we will pen that reflects our mission. What do we want this, our own, prayer to be?
- Thomas has offered to make a **double-sided 72” wide banner**. We must provide the “camera-ready” digital image. The "Mother of Life" artist has given permission to use the image on the banner. What will the banner look like, what text?
- Shall we ask Thomas to make **pink and blue vinyl "flags,"** each representing a specific quantity of aborted babies? Flags are easier to store and to transport than are our pretty wooden crosses.

### Miscellaneous

- We are sponsoring **Coffee and Donuts Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**. Bernie will order the donuts and bring the juices and cream. Bernie and Rowena

and Mary and Mary and Nancy will be there. **3 or 4 more will make cleanup go fast, please?**

- **We are donating \$200.00 to ACCW Central Deanery** to help support the **Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>**, buses to the **March for Life in Olympia**.
- All are invited to our **Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> Lady of Guadalupe celebration** that begins with 6:30pm Mass. We will present roses and baby picture bouquets at the feet of Our Lady of Guadalupe's picture during Eucharistic Adoration following Mass. Coffee and cookies will be served in the narthex afterward.
- **First Friday Movie & Food nights will resume in 2017** so we can preview pro-life videos, etc.
- We will make more **handout packets for our sidewalk prayer warriors**.
- Watch [www.facebook.com/StStephenProLife](http://www.facebook.com/StStephenProLife) for posts and reminders of our next-day events. <http://ststephenslife.com/respect-life> offers downloadable meeting minutes and resources of interest to sidewalk prayer warriors and more. Our other **SSTM Respect Life Ministry sites** are <https://sites.google.com/site/respectlifecommittee> and <http://ststephensrespectlife.blogspot.com/>.
- See <https://app.4us.org/Fundraising/View/11769> to double your tax-deductible year-end donation by giving online or by check via U.S.P.S. to life-saving **4US**.
- We will resume **study of "Theology of the Body"** next meeting. We have read "The Pope's Thesis," the first section describing St. John Paul II's revolutionary concept of using the visible mystery of man and woman's sexuality as a sign to the invisible mystery hidden in God. See <http://www.sjcursillo.org/theology%20of%20the%20body.pdf> for a downloadable version of the work.
- Debbie and Deacon Carl suggest learning more about **"Theology of the Body"** from these resources: ***YOU: Life, Love, and the Theology of the Body***, for youth by Brian Butler, Jason & Crystalina Evert <https://shop.ascensionpress.com/t/category/study-programs/teen-chastity/you>; and ***Theology of the Body Made Simple*** by Anthony Percy, <http://store.pauline.org/english/books/productid/2715#sc.tab=0>
- Thank you to **Gina** for bringing **snacks**.
- **Louise** appreciates our prayers. Please continue!

### Closing

We prayed for the Lord's protection of Katie as she confronts evil in her work for Life.

Before Deacon Carl closed our meeting by blessing all of us, he led our prayers of petition for healing for Louise, the sick, for all who've had, who support, who perform abortions, and for the protection of all involved in the pro-life ministry.



December meeting date To Be Determined (TBD) 7:15 PM in the Copy Room

