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"Mother of Life"

St. Stephen Respect Life Ministry December 19, 2017, Meeting Minutes and News

RLM January Dates

- 01/?? *NaPro speakers at Sunday Masses (Sat. vigil too), rescheduled after Oct. cancellation*
- 01/03 7:30 - 5:30 PM 1st Wednesday Renton Cedar River Clinics Sidewalk Prayer Vigils (1-hr each)
8:45 AM Mass at St. Anthony and Process to Sidewalk Prayer Vigil
- 01/05 7:00 - 8:00 PM 1st Friday Pro-Life Eucharistic Adoration (RLM, Gabriel Proj, Legis. Advocacy)
~~8:00 PM 1st Friday Movie & Munchies (cancelled, this month only)~~
- 01/06 8:30 AM SSTM Mass (before going to Kent)
9:30 - 11:00 AM 1st Saturday Kent Truth and Prayer witnessing
- 01/07 Host Coffee n Donuts after morning Masses, with Jan. 21 & 22 event promotion
- 01/21 6:30 PM Candlelight Vigil: Remembering the Unborn with Eucharistic Adoration until midnight
- 01/22 7:30 - 4:30 Marie Parker Coach (SSTM parking lot) to/from March for Life in Olympia
- 01/23 7:30 - 9:00 PM RLM meets in Copy Room (after 6:30 PM Mass)

<http://ststephenslife.com/respect-life/>

St. Stephen Respect Life Ministry met at 7:30 PM in St. Stephens Conference Room

Attending

Rudy (St. John); Nancy, Rowena, Mary K., Craig, Bernie, Mary S. (St. Stephen)

Opening

Our meeting opened with St. John Paul II's Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of Life prayer.

"Theology of the Body" Study

Genesis speaks of **The Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil** as a demarcation between two spheres, the primitive innocence of man and his transition into the knowledge of good and evil, when he succumbed to temptation by an evil spirit, and transitioned into the sphere of sinfulness.

The downloadable version of St. John Paul II's entire "Theology of the Body," available at www.sjcursillo.org/theology%20of%20the%20body.pdf, is an awkward translation. The search for a different translation, for easier study at subsequent meetings, continues.

Coffee and Donuts

We have requested three dates to sponsor Coffee and Donuts during the first 6 months of 2018. The first is **January 7th**, to maximize our promotion of the January 21-22 Candlelight Vigil and Mass for Life/March for Life/Meet for Life. The second date requested is **February 11th**, to help promote Kent Lent for Life 2018, that will run from Ash Wednesday, February 14th, through Saturday, March 24th.

The third date will be chosen for us. We're also asking for opportunity to host when another group must cancel.

NOTE: We rely on the usual crew to serve Coffee and Donuts on January 7th. Additional helpers welcome!

Sidewalk Prayer Vigils

Four of the **five** standing to pray and give witness to truth at **Kent Planned Parenthood December 2nd** were SSTM parishioners. Five of the **11** who **prayed December 6th at Renton Cedar River Clinics** were SSTM parishioners.

As usual we will pray a Rosary **1st Wednesday, Jan. 3rd**, as **we process from St. Anthony church to Cedar River Clinics after St. Anthony's 8:45 am Mass.** Processions begin outside the vestibule about 9:45 am.

SSTM **8:30 Mass** is encouraged before **1st Saturday** witnessing at **Kent Planned Parenthood 9:30-11:00.**

Pro-Life Events Calendars

Current calendars of events, one for SSTM parishioners and neighboring parishes, and another for our Protestant prayer partners (omitting Mass, Adoration, etc.), flyers detailing events listed on the calendars, a 2017 resource brochure, and more are available for downloading from our website <http://ststephenslife.com/respect-life/>

The calendars include the link to the Kent Lent for Life website, <http://ststephenslife.com/kent-lent-for-life>, which will include online sign up capability as details become available.

January 21-22, 2018



In addition to flyers, bulletin notices, and more inviting area church members to participate in the annual January event known as the **Washington State March for Life**, our new website

<http://ststephenslife.com/march-for-life> offers a variety of resources and links. The website makes current information available to as many as possible.

We've asked Father to encourage all, with his words from the pulpit to Sunday Mass congregations on January 7th, to **pray, rally, and advocate for Life.** At St. Stephen's, prayer begins with the **Candlelight Vigil: Remembering Unborn Babies** that will follow 5:30pm Sunday Mass on **Jan. 21st.** All in our area are invited.

We bought battery-powered LEDs for the bases of the pink and blue crosses that mark the procession route. On Sunday afternoon a few volunteers will help Bernie set up 58 crosses. We will ask St. Stephen Teens to distribute song sheets and candles as the procession begins. And we



will ask Bill and Paul Schwarz to photograph the procession and vigil. Eucharistic Adoration continues until midnight and will resume its usual schedule Monday morning.



Our Respect Life Ministry has been donating mementos for Marie Parker Coach passenger groups to leave with their legislators. In 2018 legislators we visit will receive several large chocolate truffles along with "Precious Feet" pins with accompanying descriptive cards.

March to your legislators to advocate* for Life

Monday, January 22, 2018



- 9:00 Mass for Life
- 12:00 March for Life
- 1:15 Meetings* for Life



<http://ststephenslife.com/march-for-life>

Promotion of the Mass, March, & Meet for Life began with a large poster in the Hall during our September Coffee and Donuts. Promotion continues at SSTM into January with details as they become available. Other parish groups have helped by setting "table tents" (pictured above) on individual tables during their December Coffee and Donuts and Terrific Tuesdays. Terrific Tuesdays offered opportunity to promote to members of the two Protestant churches co-sponsoring the meals with SSTM.

Operation (and costs) of the **5 buses serving 11 parishes for the January 22, 2018, March for Life in Olympia** is unaffected by the suspension of ACCW activity in the Seattle Archdiocese. The management of the bus contract financing for funding each bus has become the responsibility of the parishes served by the individual buses. Donations from passengers boarding the 2018 Marie Parker Coach at St. Stephen and St. John the Baptist Covington will help fund the 2019 Marie Parker Coach.

Miscellaneous

- The **NaPro speakers** scheduled to speak at Sunday Masses Oct. 28-29 had to cancel. Father Ed hopes to reschedule these speakers for a date in January.
- **Special event at Holy Family Kirkland:** Learn how to protect yourself and your loved ones. Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network's Bobby Schindler presents "The Basic Right to Food & Water—Considering Human Dignity" at



Next meeting January 23th, 7:15 PM (after 6:30 PM Mass) in the Copy Room



10:00 AM following 8:40 AM Mass. No charge. RSVP at https://hfkparish.com/_modules/form.php?id=65

- **Please pray for Life and for freedom** regarding religious and family issues! Beginning January 8th, all three Washington State legislative branches in Olympia will be dominated by pro-abortion, anti-traditional marriage legislators in Olympia. Rudy reminds us to pray with confidence in this spiritual battle for the preservation of Life and the traditional family, the unit essential to a civilized moral society.
- Honoring requests, we will offer Nellie Edwards "Mother of Life" prints for sale to the parish one last time, perhaps a few weeks in advance of a Coffee and Donuts date, to allow the prints to be easily distributed in the hall that Sunday. This will be the last of these special orders, as prints may be ordered direct from the artist at www.paintedfaith.net.



Reminder:



When holding signs on the sidewalk, drivers are likely to **read** your message when all signs are identical.

- **Students for Life** Northwest representative Katie Lodjic is eager to form a **Students for Life chapter at SSTM**. We have relayed her message and her contact information to Deacon Carl and Debbie asking they invite Katie to talk with SSTM Youth about Students for Life <http://studentsforlife.org/> as soon as possible.
- **Louise** is doing quite well and looking forward to a special Christmas visit with her family from Chicago. Please continue praying for her healing!



Closing

Lise gave us a **Christmas Wafer**, a wafer used in a Polish Christmas tradition during a meal of family celebration. Mary K. read about the custom, the wafer broken by the head of the family who distributes a piece to each member with a simple prayer for the members of the family, those absent and present. "Breaking bread" is a family tradition to remind us the family is the main pillar of society and of the Christlike charity that should exist within the family, as we are to seek salvation with the help of others, always.

Then we said the **Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel**.