

St. Stephen Respect Life Ministry February 28, 2017, Meeting Minutes and News



RLM March-April Dates

- 03/01 10:30 Kent Lent for Life kick-off, Kent Planned Parenthood, Day 1 (of 7) Jericho Walk
03/03 6:00 - 7:00 PM 1st Friday Pro-Life Eucharistic Adoration (with Knights of Columbus)
9:00-10:00 PM 1st Friday Pro-Life Eucharistic Adoration (RLC, Gabriel Proj, Legis. Advocacy)
03/07 10:30 AM Jericho Walk Day 7 (of 7), 7 times around (+ FrEd w/trumpet?); Bring trumpets!
03/13 7:15 - 9:00 PM March Legislative Advocacy meets in Conference Room (after 6:30 Mass)
03/28 7:15 - 9:00 PM March RLM meeting in Copy Room (after 6:30 PM Mass)
04/02 Coffee n Donuts by Respect Life Ministry after morning Masses (promoting KLfL closing)
04/08 5:00 PM Kent Lent for Life Closing Event: Mass, Potluck, and Candlelight Vigil
NOTE: In March and April our usual 1st Week activities defer to Kent Lent for Life.
7:30 - 5:30 PM 1st Wednesday Renton Cedar River Clinics Sidewalk Prayer Vigils (1-hr each)
and 9:30 - 11:00 AM 1st Saturday Truth and Prayer witnessing resume the 1st week of May.

St. Stephen Respect Life Ministry met at 7:20 PM in St. Stephen's Copy Room.

Attending

Mary K., Gina, Nancy, Kathleen, Craig, Bernie, and Mary S. (St. Stephen); and Rudy (St. John).

Opening

Our meeting opened with a Prayer for Mother and Child, from Page 4 of our new "Prayers and Guides for Keeping Vigil at Abortion Clinics," put together by Bernie. We have printed 50 copies of the booklets that include ecumenical prayers and Scripture readings suitable for use during Jericho Walks.

Reminders & Reports

Bernie reminded us that Fr. Ed says **audible prayer**, singing, etc., **during Adoration** of the Blessed Sacrament should be **limited to 10-15 minutes per hour**, with remainder reserved for only silent prayer.

February 19th Coffee and Donuts netted \$297.00.

We counted **10 sidewalk prayer warriors** on duty in **Renton the first week of February**. NOTE: Kent Lent for Life <http://ststephenslife.com/kent-lent-for-life> is taking priority over our usual Renton vigils.

Defund Planned Parenthood Day, February 11

www.protestpp.com
Saturday, February 11th
9:30 - 11:00 AM
10056 S.E. 140th in Kent



THANK YOU to Thomas (<http://footprintexhibits.com/>) for donating two dozen beautiful weather-proof DEFUND Planned Parenthood signs! These signs will be used during our first week witnessing for Truth which will resume May 6th and continue at the Kent Planned Parenthood ceases to receive public money.

We counted nearly **30 pro-life** friends at the February 11th national Defund Planned Parenthood Day rally in Kent (<http://protestpp.com>). As reported with photos and text in

www.kentreporter.com/news/hundreds-attend-rallies-for-against-planned-parenthood-in-kent/?utm_source=hootsuite&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=socialmedia **ten times our number reacted to our message and came to protest it.**

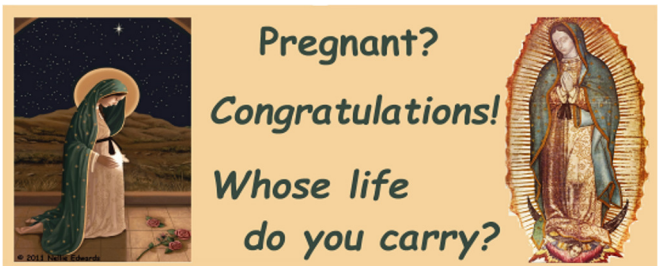
Gina suggests each of us extend personal invitations to friends to increase our numbers for future pro-life rallies.

Spiritual Adoptions

The Spiritual Adoptions promotion begun last fall will conclude with a May ACCW drive to "shower" Pregnancy Aid with baby items to be collected at St. Stephen's in May. Respect Life Ministry will buy the cake and help ACCW serve it with coffee (instead of the usual donuts) after all Masses May 27-28. We'll wear our pro-life shirts.

There'll be a narthex display with baby shawls donated by the Prayer Shawl Ministry, the fetal development posters and paper hearts that are part of the Spiritual Adoptions display in the narthex, our fetal models, and a "Dollars for Diapers" donations box.

Gina, Lisa, and Kathleen are planning some little "games," consisting of questions for families that will earn on-the-spot little prizes for correct answers. The prizes will be pieces of candy or little pro-life items and/or maybe the new **Human Life Alliance (HLA) "Life Begins" comic books**; see <https://www.humanlife.org/product/life-begins/>.



THANK YOU to Thomas and <http://footprintexhibits.com/> for our **new banner** that will measure approximately 6 feet across. Bernie will add the framework to make it easy to handle. It will be ready for use on the sidewalk soon.

Kent Lent for Life: March 1 – April 9
in solidarity with national 40 Days for Life
<http://ststephenslife.com/kent-lent-for-life>

We are sponsoring 40 days of prayer vigils at Kent Valley Planned Parenthood. St. John the Baptist Covington parishioner Linda led 40 Days for Life in Kent last year. Sidewalk vigil schedules are posted online at <http://ststephenslife.com/kent-lent-for-life>. The national 40 Days for Life is designed for groups able to provide broader coverage than we can, so we are not affiliated with the nation group.

We urge participants to sign up online or in SSTM's narthex. Continuous vigil time/shift signups throughout the day allow banners and signs to pass from one prayer team to another, on site.

Kathleen reminded us to take info brochures and more in packets for needy people to the sidewalk. Please see downloadable DOCUMENTS on the left at <http://ststephenslife.com/kent-lent-for-life> that include items to print and take to the sidewalk. PRE-PARES is listed in the recently updated info brochure.

Kathleen suggests we get a space accessible to all at SSTM (maybe in the narthex) where participants may pick up packet handouts to take to the sidewalk.

Noteworthy dates include:

- **March 1st**, Ash Wednesday kick-off with **Day 1** of the 7-day **Jericho Walk (Joshua 6:1-27)**;
- **March 7, Jericho Walk Day 7**, 7 times around with trumpet blasts and shouting; and
- **April 8, 5pm SSTM Mass, potluck, closing candlelight vigil at Kent Planned Parenthood.**

Should you work near the Capitol Hill or the Bellevue Planned Parenthoods, it may be convenient for you to join one of those prayer teams. See their websites: <https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/seattle/> and <http://prayervigil4life.weebly.com/>

Students for Life

Students for Life

<http://studentsforlife.org>

will have its annual **regional leadership summit** at **Kennedy H.S. in Seattle 9:30-5 Saturday, April 8th**.
<https://sfla.webconnex.com/Northwest17>

We are offering to pay the \$15 fees for SSTM Youth attending. Youth Ministry expects at least two to go.

Northwest Regional Coordinator, Katie Lodjic, reports successful recent Students for Life "We Don't Need Planned Parenthood" tours. See Katie Lodjic's FaceBook posts for updates. All Students for Life coordinators ask for prayers as they continue to courageously battle for Life on many campuses.



Next meeting March 28, 7:15 PM (after 6:30 PM Mass) in the Copy Room

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Miscellaneous

- Watch www.fpiw.org for updates to status of pending legislation impacting Life, families, and religious liberty. Initiative #1552 (<https://justwantprivacy.org/>) will be on ballots if 330,000 signatures are gathered by July.
- **First Friday Movie & Food nights** will resume in 2017 (maybe in May) so we can preview pro-life videos, etc.
- 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?
- We will make more **handout packets for our sidewalk prayer warriors**.
- Please watch our **SSTM Respect Life Ministry sites** for current information, downloadable meeting minutes, resources for sidewalk prayer warriors, and more:
<http://ststephenslife.com/respect-life>
<http://ststephenslife.com/kent-lent-for-life>.
www.facebook.com/StStephenProLife
<https://sites.google.com/site/respectlifecommittee>
and <http://ststephensrespectlife.blogspot.com/>
- Our Lady of Guadalupe banner that had been displayed in the narthex went missing after it was prepared for transporting to the March for Life in Olympia on January 23rd. Unlike previous years, the banner had no identifying tag with it. Kathleen will embroider our ministry's name on the back of a new one (not yet ordered) to permanently and prominently identify it.
- 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#gsctab=0>
- Thank you to **Gina** for tonight's **snacks**.
- **Louise** appreciates our prayers. Please continue!

Closing

We closed with St. John Paul II's "Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of the Americas" prayer.