

**St. Stephen Respect Life Ministry April 25, 2017, Meeting Minutes and News**



RLM May Dates

04/29	9:30 -11:00 AM	Annual National <b>Defund PP Day at Kent PP</b> —need 100+SSTM parishioners
05/03	7:30 - 5:30 PM	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday Renton Cedar River Clinics Sidewalk Prayer Vigils (1-hr each)
05/05	6:00 - 7:00 PM	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday Pro-Life Eucharistic Adoration (with Knights of Columbus)
	9:00 -10:00 PM	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday Pro-Life Eucharistic Adoration (RLM, Gabriel Proj, Legis. Advocacy)
05/06	9:30 - 11:00 AM	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday Truth and Prayer witnessing
05/08	7:15 - 9:00 PM	<i>Legislative Advocacy meets in Conference Room (after 6:30 Mass)</i>
05/13	4:40	begin <b>Pro-Life Rosary 20 minutes before Sunday</b> (& vigil) <b>Masses through May's end</b>
05/23	7:15 - 9:00 PM	RLM meets in Copy Room (after 6:30 PM Mass)
05/27-28		(ACCW) "Baby showers" w/cake after all Sunday (& vigil) Masses

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

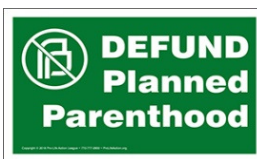
**Attending**

Mary K., Laura and Mike, Gina, Nancy, Kathleen, Craig, Bernie, and Mary S. (St. Stephen); Sarah (St. Anthony), and Rudy and Linda (St. John)

**Opening**

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

Rudy and his prayer partner, Bob, witnessed **a baby saved Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>**! As they exited Renton Cedar River Clinics, a mother and her very young pregnant teenager stopped to tell the prayer team they "didn't do it," after driving from Portland for an abortion. Praise the Lord!



Help **stop taxpayer money** from going to **Planned Parenthood**, where **323,999 babies were killed by abortion last year!** See details on the flyer promoting the Kent event we sponsor at <https://ststephenslife.com/events/defund-planned-parenthood> **Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 – 11:00 AM Kent Valley Planned Parenthood, 10056 S.E. 140<sup>th</sup>.** See [www.protestpp.com](http://www.protestpp.com) for info on the annual nationwide April Defund Planned Parenthood event. Learn why this is necessary in the 2 minute 40 second video **Linda created** at <http://ststephenslife.com/respect-life>.

We counted only **30 pro-life** friends at the **February 11<sup>th</sup>** national Defund Planned Parenthood Day rally in Kent. [www.kentreporter.com/news/hundreds-attend-rallies-for-against-planned-parenthood-in-kent/?utm\\_source=hootsuite&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_ca](http://www.kentreporter.com/news/hundreds-attend-rallies-for-against-planned-parenthood-in-kent/?utm_source=hootsuite&utm_medium=social&utm_ca)

[mpaign=socialmedia](#) reports in text and photos **ten times our number reacted to our message by protesting it.**

We asked EVERYONE to come stand with us at the April 29<sup>th</sup> event. We invited our friends from other Seattle area groups to join us, the Eastside Pro-Life, the North Seattle Pro-Life parishes, and more. In addition, Gina suggests personal invitations to friends are most effective.

As was the case February 11<sup>th</sup>, (national) [protestpp.com](http://protestpp.com) lists ours as the only rally within miles of the Seattle area.

Two Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> Pacific Northwest participants are absent from the [www.protestpp.com](http://www.protestpp.com) list of April 29<sup>th</sup> participants.

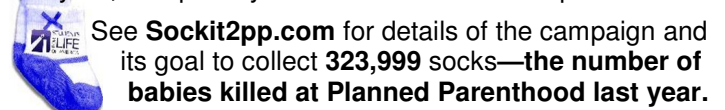
**We participated April 29<sup>th</sup>**, numbering 45 strong from 15 different churches/parishes (13 Catholic). See photos on the left at <http://ststephenslife.com/respect-life>

Our new prayer cards were distributed to all attending the April 29<sup>th</sup> event. Each bright pink card listing facts includes our website and email address and, on its other side, a prayer for its purpose by Priest for Life Fr. Frank Pavone.

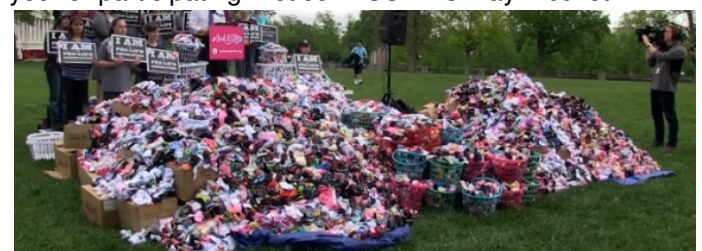


<http://studentsforlife.org/>

delivered nearly 200,000 baby socks, weighing more than two tons, with accompanying notes to Congress on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Even though the number of socks pictured is less than 2/3 the number of babies aborted by Planned Parenthood last year, the quantity makes obvious visual impact.



See [Sockit2pp.com](http://sockit2pp.com) for details of the campaign and its goal to collect **323,999 socks—the number of babies killed at Planned Parenthood last year.** The signed notes to Congress demand no tax dollars go to Planned Parenthood. With a goal of 324, we collected 159 signed notes, 91 with socks, at SSTM. These were mailed to Students for Life along with our \$300.00 donation to help them meet their 323,999 SockIt2PP goal. See the "Thank you for participating" notice in SSTM's May 7 bulletin.



**Students for Life coordinators ask for prayers and more baby socks** with notes as they continue their courageous battle for Life, recently making great progress.



### Spiritual Adoptions



The Spiritual Adoptions promotion begun last fall concludes with an **ACCW drive to “shower” Pregnancy Aid with baby items collected at St. Stephen’s** in May. Respect Life Ministry will buy the **cake** and help ACCW serve it **with coffee in the narthex after Masses May 27-28**.

One or two decorated sheet cakes will be served after each of the four Sunday Masses (including Saturday Vigil Mass).

RLM’s Spiritual Adoptions Team, Lisa, Gina, and Kathleen, and CCW plan decorating, prizes of “little” pro-life items for families to earn as rewards for correct answers to game questions. RLM provides little prizes, pro-life magnets, etc. Pending Father Ed’s approval, RLM will obtain 1,000 Human Life Alliance (HLA) “Life Begins” comic books (preview at <https://www.humanlife.org/product/life-begins/>) to offer to SSTM families with youngsters or grandchildren.

ACCW will have a bassinette to collect baby items and special containers for monetary donations to Pregnancy Aid.

RLM will display fetal model sets and also take pre-paid **orders** for Nellie Edwards **11” x 14” Mother of Life prints**.

The **handmade baby blankets by the Prayer Shawl Ministry** for Pregnancy Aid of Kent will be on display too.

### Legislative Update

Washington State Legislature bills affecting parental notification, mandated contraceptive medical insurance, end-of-life issues, and more that weren’t brought to the floor for votes in the regular 2017 session, have opportunity for re-introduction during the current special session. We look to Family Policy Institute of Washington (FPIW) to provide status and, when necessary, call us to action to contact our legislators. Watch [www.fpiw.org](http://www.fpiw.org) for updates on status of legislation impacting Life, families, and religious liberty.

**Initiative #1552** (<https://justwantprivacy.org/>) will be on ballots only if 330,000 signatures are gathered before July.

### Miscellaneous

- One of our new members, Brian, offered to buy 100 copies of Catholic Answers author Trent Horn’s pro-life book to distribute to people questioning why we pray on the sidewalk outside abortion mills.
- The newly formed SSTM **Social and Human Concerns Commission** wants to promote prayer, participation, and exposure of parishioners to parish groups, including Respect Life Ministry, by highlighting who we are and how we serve. In order to help the Commission prepare a proposal to submit to Father Ed, we responded to the commission’s inquiry. Our member Ron has agreed to

represent us to the Commission and will keep us apprised of Commission-proposed opportunity to promote and recruit interest in our Ministry.

- In celebration of the **50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of SSTM** involvement with **ACCW**, a new **Lady of Good Counsel icon** was blessed during a special **6:30 Mass April 26<sup>th</sup>**, Sacramental brought for blessing and some of our new banners were blessed too.
- **First Friday Movie & Food nights** will resume in 2017 (maybe in June) so we can preview pro-life videos, etc.
- After years of anticipation and preparation, **Wellness for Washington Women Clinic** [www.3wmedical.org](http://www.3wmedical.org) is operating and will have an open house May 20<sup>th</sup>.
- We will donate \$100 to Next Step’s annual June 17<sup>th</sup> fundraising auction <https://angelorum.org/wp/>
- Kathleen suggested we set our alarms to a chosen time of day to synchronize a brief prayer for Life each day.
- We are investigating ordering more Respect Life T-shirts
- Mary K proposes we produce a set of prayer cards for our ministry, similar to our 2016 “Mother of Life” cards. The new card will have a prayer that reflects our mission. What do we want this, our own prayer, to be?
- Father Ed encourages praying **The Surrender Novena**, available on cards in Fr. Ed’s confessional or online at <https://divinewilluk.com/surrender-novena>
- See <http://GetYourCare.org> for “reproductive health care” facilities in your area that offer all but abortion.
- We will make more **handout packets for our sidewalk prayer warriors**. Kathleen suggests we get a space accessible to all at SSTM (in the narthex?) where participants may pick up handouts for sidewalk use.
- 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>  
[www.facebook.com/StStephenProLife](http://www.facebook.com/StStephenProLife)  
<https://sites.google.com/site/respectlifecommittee>  
and <http://ststephensrespectlife.blogspot.com/>
- 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. A downloadable version is available at <http://www.sjcursillo.org/theology%20of%20the%20body.pdf>
- Thank you to **Linda** for bringing chocolates tonight.
- **Louise** appreciates our prayers. Please continue!

### Closing

We closed our meeting with the prayer to St. Michael.



**Next meeting May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7:15 PM (after 6:30 PM Mass) in the Copy Room**

