



Nazareth Hall
3300 N. 60th St.
Omaha, NE 68104
402.551.9003
402.551.3050 (fax)
Family.ArchOmaha.org

10 June 2017

St. Leo the Great

Upcoming Parish and School Pro-Life Coordinator Meetings

- 12 August 2017
- 4 November 2017
- 6 January 2018
- 3 March 2018
- 12 May 2018

1. Prayer – Fr. Vogel

2. Local Events and Activities – Whitney Bradley

- a. **Abortion Dialogue Academy (ADA)** offered seminars at three locations (KVSS, St. Margaret Mary – Omaha, St. Mary – West Point) this spring. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Their methods of dialogue can be applied easily to any subject, and their argumentation surrounding abortion is simple, direct, and effective. They find their best results come from putting people in situations where they are actually dialoguing with members of the community and where a “coach” can be in the background listening in and giving feedback. They have a strong relationship with the local Students for Life (SFL) groups and will be returning. Their first seminar for parishes is free. St. Margaret Mary plans to bring them back for a “second round”. Whitney Bradley will be keeping in touch with them, and will let the parishes know when they are back in town. She highly recommends them.
- b. **6/19: Hush Screening and Panel Discussion:** St. Elizabeth Ann Seton will host the screening of HUSH, a documentary that investigates the medical effects of abortion on women. A panel of medical professionals is available after to answer questions. The event is 7pm on Monday, June 19. There will be babysitting available. The cost is \$5, and proceeds go to support the UNO SFL trip to the March for Life. (Flier available)
- c. **6/25: St. James Walk for Life:** The procession from St. James to Planned Parenthood will start at 6:30pm on June 25. EPS will host an open house after. Snacks and water as well as a ride back to St. James will be available. (Flier available)
- d. **6/26: Vitae Foundation Presentation and Round Table:** Megan Drapa will present the research on how to persuade abortion-determined women and loyal Planned Parenthood customers. After, a round-table will be held to discuss how the information affects our pro-life ministries. The last time this event was held, there was a great discussion and much fruit came out of it. Whitney highly encouraged everyone to come even if they have heard the information before. This is an opportunity to get the parish coordinators together discussion how to “update” some of their work. (Flier available)
- e. **Look ahead to next meeting (8/12)**
 - i. **Vigil for Life 9/23**
 - ii. **Life Chain 10/1** – St. Margaret Mary will show *The Sidewalk Cornicles* and provide lunch before the Life Chain.
 - iii. **Living Rosary 3/25** – Whitney will ask for a parish to volunteer for this at the next meeting, so be thinking about it this summer.



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- f. **Parish visits:** Whitney has been visiting various parish pro-life meetings (St. James, St. Margaret Mary, St. Wenceslaus, St. Columbkille, St. Leo) to get a better feel for how each parish and each group works. She is there to learn and to find out how she can be of service, so please, invite her to come and put her to work!

If you do not have a regular meeting, Whitney would love to meet at your parish, take a tour and talk or just go out for coffee.

3. Bishops Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities – Jeff Kanger

a. Legislative Update

- Title X funding: The goal was to move PP down from number one in state funding to much lower on the list, putting more comprehensive health centers to the top. The 5 lines in the budget that would make this happen was hotly contested. It was very close to sticking. Many emails and phone calls were made through the Catholic Advocacy Network of Nebraska (CANN), and State Senators were responding positively to their constituents. However, one Senator that did not hear from his constituents made the switch and helped to take the language out of the budget. Gov. Ricketts promises that it will be back next session. Thus, the Nebraska Catholic Conference needs as many people as possible to be engaged in this political process. The more Catholics are involved, the more successful the Conference can be in persuading the legislators.
 - Lauren Garcia, Communications and Outreach Specialist, passed out a CANN sign-up sheet, and asked coordinators to get 12 emails each. Expanding this network will be key in passing pro-life legislation in the future.
 - Lauren Garcia passed out a document explaining the issues that the Nebraska Bishops have asked them to follow as well as how laypeople can get involved.
- b. Jeff has resigned as the Associate Director of Pro-life and Family. He hopes to continue his pro-life work from the business realm. The Nebraska Catholic Conference will update the coordinators when his position has been filled.

4. Break (10 minutes)

5. **Mavericks Students for Life:** Jenny Hula presented the work of Mavericks Students for Life (MSFL). The coordinators were interested in partnering with MSFL going forward. Parishes could get their grade school students to do similar programs such as chalking the sidewalks and “Cupcakes for Life” during October (Pro-life month). SFL also has great information on how to compare Planned Parenthood to Federally Qualified Health Centers.

a. MSFL Contact info

- i. **Email:** mavstudentsforlife@gmail.com
- ii. **Facebook:** @mavstudforlife
- iii. **Pregnant on Campus:** @UNOPONC

6. Reports from Coordinators and Miscellaneous Announcements



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- a. **Nebraskans United for Life**
 - i. **Garage Sale:** Flier and letter to pastors available
 - ii. **New Executive Director:** Ann Marie Bowen has retired, and Kristan Gray (<http://kristangray.com/>) has stepped into the position.
- 7. Closing Prayer – Fr. Vogel**