



14 November 2015

Mary Our Queen Trinity Room

Attendees:

1. Sheila George – St. Peter's
2. Lynn Jones – Columbkille
3. Andrea Powers – American Heritage Girls
4. Marcy Johnson
5. Caroline Parys
6. Mary Muckey – St. James
7. Liz Miller – St. Mary's
8. Julie Schram
9. Monika Maides – Christ the King
10. Rita Evans – St. Joseph
11. Gene and Mary Ann Wessling – Mary Our Queen
12. Angie Wingert – St. Wenceslaus
13. Mary Morris – St. Pius X
14. Connie Johnson – St. Thomas More
15. Joan Niemeyer – St. Bernard
16. Lynn Weist – St. Leo
17. Mary Alice Kanyer – St. Leo
18. Kathy Volkman – St. Charles Borromeo
19. Mary Jane Ziola – St. Bernadette
20. Suzanne Kerr – St. Vincent de Paul
21. Kathy Pearson – St. John's Valley
22. Marilou Holmberg-Roth – St. Cecilia's
23. Mary Beth Burton – Holy Cross
24. Cathy Boon – St. Wenceslaus

Upcoming Parish and School Pro-Life Coordinator Meetings

- January 9, 2016
- March 12, 2016
- May 14, 2016

1. Welcome, Prayer, and Introductions

2. Local Events and Activities – Whitney Bradley

- a. Past events
 - The Vigil for Life, Life Chain, etc. have all had record numbers. Thank you to all for helping by promoting and volunteering at these events!
- b. Dec. 8: National Night of Prayer
 - Please email wabradley@archomaha.org if you plan to promote this event at your parish. Many parishes have requested a list so that those not doing the National Night of Prayer can support those who are.
- c. January 19 – 24: March for Life
 - Just got a 7th bus! Please, pray for us!
- d. Respect Life Program Packets
 - You should have received these. Make sure you speak with your pastor about them.
- e. Prayer at Abortion Clinics
 - The prayer day has changed to Mondays at Planned Parenthood. Of course, prayer is needed every day at both sites.
 - We are also still in need of priests! Please, keep your eyes out for a priest who wants to pray with us!
- f. Journey to Love – has an updated look. Tare off fliers were available

Discussion:

1. Can Whitney put all of the flier and handouts on the Center for Family Life formation web site (Family.ArchOmaha.org). This way coordinators can reprint as needed.



2. Bathroom Initiatives: Journey to Love, Project Rachel, and other fliers should be placed in women's bathrooms. We can even print them from the Center web site before going to the grocery store and place them in bathrooms there.

3. Bishops Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities – Tom Venzor

- a. Introduction
 - Son of the Archdiocese
 - Job: to do Greg's old work (carry out the Bishops' pastoral plan for pro-life activities) + cover family issues, especially public policy
- b. Upcoming Activities – PPLC Mailing
 - Tom will be sending one in December and then quarterly
- c. New USCCB Materials
 - The USCCB has just put out social media resources
 - please, ask if you would like to use some or simply to know more about what is available
- d. Legislative Update
 - Ambulatory Surgical Centers: The Supreme Court decided to hear TX's case for requiring all abortion clinics to have admitting privileges at hospitals. This would insure consistency of care for women if something were to go wrong during the abortion procedure. It would also require many abortion clinics to shut down as they do not have this status with a local hospital. The Supreme Court will make a ruling in June. Please, pray for Anthony Kennedy who is known to vacillate on abortion issues.
 - Julie Schmit Albin and Tom Garen are putting forward a 12-20 week dismemberment bill that would limit dilation and evacuation abortions (95% of abortions are done this way). It is similar to the 20 week fetal pain bill. It highlights that the procedure is inhuman and is mainly to raise awareness. It will be opposed vehemently by many senators. This will happen mid-January – end of February.
 - Senator Brasch may introduce a Down Syndrome Diagnosis Information and Support Act. This would require the Department of Health and Human Services to provide information about and support for Down Syndrome. It would also require Doctors to provide this information to parents.
- e. Planned Parenthood Videos
 - there are people behind the scenes keeping this issue alive, working to defund or at least fund Planned Parenthood less.
- f. Comprehensive Sex Education
 - because of the spectacular failure of the last public meeting, OPS will be moving to community forum meetings as a format.
 - OPS is writing their own curriculum rather than adopting others wholesale
 - keep an eye on what OPS does as it may have a statewide effect. – watch for State legislation next year. We are pushing abstinence education and at least trying to put the senators and the state board of education in a position of doubt when it comes to their policies on Sex Ed.



4. Break

5. Reports from Coordinators and Miscellaneous Announcements

- a. Liz Miller – update on Metro Pro-Life Advocates
 - 17 people showed up to the training
 - Their next event will be caroling at an empty manger on Dec. 19th
 - If you can, please, post the flier at your parishes
- b. American Heritage Girls
 - A girl scouting organization that is faith based
 - Charters have to be religious or private schools/communities.
 - Mission: To build women of integrity, through service to God, family, and country
 - Serves girls ages 5-18
 - Bishop Connelly is on the National Committee
 - A letter of support from our own Archbishop will be coming out soon.
 - Columbkille has 40 girls from six parishes in their troop
 - If you want more information, contact Andrea Powers (ahgomaha@gmail.com)
- c. Heart of a Child Ministries
 - Sells pro-life prayer pillows
 - Proceeds go to pro-life communities (ex: pregnancy care centers)
 - Can partner with parishes and donate to parish's choice
 - Partner with schools - Kids help make the pillows and at the same time are educated on the topic of abortions
 - Topics are kept age appropriate
 - Fetal development is discussed
 - Nebraskans United for Life have partnered to help kids see an ultrasound
 - Help parents talk to their kids about these tough issues
 - Please take this to your pastor or DRE

6. Closing Prayer