



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

13 August 2016

Mary Our Queen Trinity Room

In Attendance:

1. Bob Hamilton – Mary Our Queen
2. Gene Wessling – Mary Our Queen
3. Mary Alice Kanger – St. Leo
4. Karen Daniel – St. Thomas More
5. Louise Ferrente – St. Thomas More
6. Doris Klitz – St. John Vianney
7. Angie Wingert – St. Wenceslaus
8. Carolyn Manhart – St. Margaret Mary
9. Craig Wallace – St. Stephen the Martyr
10. Sheila George – St. Peter
11. Joan Niemeyer – St. Bernard
12. Mike and Lynn Jones – St. Columbkille
13. Linda Lytle – St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton
14. Mary Fink – St. Philip Neri/Blessed Sacrament
15. Monika Maides – Christ the King
16. Janice Wear – St. Patrick, Gretna
17. Mary Beth Burton – Holy Cross
18. Marcy Johnson-Gregory – Mary Our Queen
19. Cathy Boone – St. Wenceslaus
20. Hughie Thorsen – Holy Cross
21. Suzanne Kerr – St. Vincent de Paul
22. Guadalupe Lima – St. Joseph
23. Liz Miller – St. Mary, Bellevue
24. Cathy McDermott – Christ the King

Upcoming Parish and School Pro-Life Coordinator Meetings

- 12 November 2016
- 14 January 2017
- 11 March 2017
- 13 May 2017

1. Welcome, Prayer, and Introductions – Fr. Vogel

2. Local Events and Activities – Whitney Bradley

fliers/minutes/meeting info available at Family.ArchOmaha.org

- a. Pro-Life Essay Contest Winners (State) - Copies of the winning essays were distributed.
- b. 9/1 - March for Life Registration Opens
 1. January 25-30, 2017
 2. Registration Deadline: November 14, 2016
 3. Financial Aid Deadline: October 17, 2016
 4. Cost = \$500
 5. Register at RespectLifeOmaha.com
- c. 9/3 - Vigil for Life
 1. 8 a.m.
 2. See flier for info regarding the Mass and procession
 3. Set-up will take place on Saturday, September 2
 - i. Volunteers are needed.
 - ii. CU and UNO Students for Life, Youth for Life and Skutt's Skyhawks for Life have been asked to hold the walkie talkies during the procession.
- d. 9/22-9/24 - Human Dignity Conference (Bishop's Banquet)
 1. September 22-24, 2016
 2. The Pro-life Bishops' Banquet is happening as a part of this conference (Sept. 23)
 3. See flier "Made in His Image: Human Dignity in a Secular World" & schedule

4. Details and registration: <http://family.archomaha.org/respecting-life/conference/>
- e. 10/2 - Life Chain
 1. Please post fliers with your parish's location.
 2. Information and directions for parishes and schools was also distributed
- f. Respect Life Packets Mailed to all coordinators
 1. Please share the packet information with your pastor, by setting up a meeting and discussing plans.
- g. Death Penalty
 1. The office is working with Omar Gutierrez.
 2. Tom Venzor will send packets about this to pastors
 3. Pastors should contact Coordinators, so it is advisable that you do both the Respect Life Packet and the Death Penalty one at the same meeting.
- h. Faithful Citizenship
 1. Omar Gutierrez has offered to come speak at parishes. Please, use him as a resource!
 2. Whitney is also available to help build or promote any parish programming that you have in mind.
 3. Fr. Vogel also spoke about the true definition of following your conscience.
 4. USCCB resources: <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/>
 5. USCCB Prayer Before an Election: <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/prayers/prayer-before-an-election.cfm>
- i. **Break (10 minutes)**
- j. **Bishops Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities**
 - a. Project Rachel
 1. There will be lots of radio/billboard advertising.
 2. Geofencing of Planned Parenthood & EPS
 - b. Executive Director Position
 1. Final interviews taking place August 15.
 2. Please, pray for the Bishops as they make their decision.
 - c. Legislation
 1. TBA
 2. Goal is small, but substantial bills that will help the Nebraska Catholic Conference maintain the image of an organization that cares for both families and babies.
- k. **Reports from Coordinators and Miscellaneous Announcements**
 - a. Nebraskans united for Life – Ann Marie Bowen
 1. 40 Days for Life: Sign-ups at Vigil
 - b. EPS
 1. Breakfast -- August 27 at 9 a.m. at St. Robert's ; RSVP to 402-554-0121
 - c. Walk for Life at St. James – September 25
 - d. MPLA – Liz Miller
 1. Training for sidewalk counselors at 8 a.m. at St. Mark's Hall at St. Mary's in Bellevue
 2. See Prayer Warriors brochure.
 - e. News from other coordinators?
 1. Thomas More Society Banquet
 - i. Table of 8 = \$600; \$75 individual tickets
 - ii. See handout for additional banquet information.

2. OPS – Opt Out Form
 - i. Post: www.savenebraskachildren.com
 - ii. Grades 4/5/6 are opt-in.
 - iii. Board meeting addressing transgender issues August 15 at 6:30 at the TAC building
3. EWTN video: “When They Say You Say”
4. St. Wenceslaus - Dr. Julie Fleming will be presenting on the death penalty on October 5 at 6:15
5. Mary Our Queen - An Extra Hour of Prayer on Sunday, August 14 from 6-7 p.m.

I. Closing Prayer

- m. Fr. Vogel concluded the meeting with prayer and a blessing at 2:03 p.m.

Prayer Before an Election

Lord God, as the election approaches, we seek to better understand the issues and concerns that confront our city/state/country, and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful citizens in our community. We ask for eyes that are free from blindness so that we might see each other as brothers and sisters, one and equal in dignity, especially those who are victims of abuse and violence, deceit and poverty. We ask for ears that will hear the cries of children unborn and those abandoned, Men and women oppressed because of race or creed, religion or gender. We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing the voice of leaders who will bring us closer to your Kingdom.

We pray for discernment so that we may choose leaders who hear your Word, live your love, and keep in the ways of your truth as they follow in the steps of Jesus and his Apostles and guide us to your Kingdom of justice and peace.

We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.