



PARISH 'LIFE' NEWS

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St. Gabriel Pro-Life Committee

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March for Life 2020 Theme:

'Life Empowers, Pro-Life is Pro-Woman'

The March-for-Life Education and Defense Fund announced the theme for the 2020 March-for-Life, which takes place on January 24th. The theme is "Life Empowers, Pro-Life is Pro-Woman." March-for-Life President Jeanne Mancini said the upcoming march will seek to "evoke confidence rather than fear" about unplanned pregnancy and motherhood, and advocate for community support for unexpected pregnancies. The March-for-Life, which has occurred every year since the Roe v. Wade decision in 1973, involves tens of thousands of pro-life activists from all over the country who listen to speakers on the National Mall, march along Constitution Avenue, up Capitol Hill, and then rally in front of the Supreme Court. [CNS News](#), 10/16/19

Catholic Adoption Closes

The Diocese of Greensburg announced that it has closed its adoption and foster care program, which had been in operation since 1954. "Due to a purely political attack on our ability to perform our adoption work ... we have been frozen out of the major source of contracts related to these two fields of work," said Monsignor Raymond Riffle, managing director of Catholic Charities of Greensburg. The Greensburg program also provided adoption services to the Pittsburgh Diocese. According to TribLive, Greensburg Catholic Charities facilitated 167 adoption and foster care placements for both dioceses through its state contract, and handled 158 adoption and foster care cases outside the state system, through a Harrisburg-based program known as Women-in-Need. [Catholic News Agency](#) 11/19/19

Six Cities Become "Sanctuary Cities for the Unborn"

So far, six small towns in Texas have banned abortion clinics, and towns in four other states have shown an interest in doing the same. Pastor Mark Dickson says he sees a difference between the town of Shreveport, LA, a large city where an abortion clinic operates, and his own hometown of Longview, Texas. "It's a view of life as a whole," Dickson told The Daily Signal in a phone interview. "If we can say a child is not worth living because they may be born in a poor environment, or a child is not worth living because their mother was raped, that encourages the idea that situations devalue us as human beings." [LifeNews](#), 10/24/19

K of C Exceeds Commitment to Aid Migrants



Knights of Columbus members from Texas and Mexico recently delivered supplies at a center for migrants in Matamoros, Mexico, as the Catholic fraternal organization surpassed an earlier commitment to provide \$250,000 in relief for refugees along the US-

Mexico border. "We took this initiative to help some of the most vulnerable," said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. "It is particularly fitting that we accomplished this in the days leading up to Christmas, the season of giving and a time of renewed hope." The Knights have now contributed approximately \$272,000 in grants and supplies since August to help meet the humanitarian needs of individuals at the border. The Knights made similar deliveries of humanitarian supplies in recent months to centers in Piedras Negras and Juarez, Mexico. The efforts are consistent with the Knights' long history of coming to the aid of those in need who are displaced, including most recently in the Middle East and Ukraine.

[ChristianNewsWire](#), 12/20/19

Ultrasound Law Upheld

The U.S. Supreme Court upheld a pro-life law in Kentucky requiring doctors to show mothers ultrasound images and play the heartbeat of their child prior to an abortion. The 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals had previously upheld the law. According to [Townhall](#), proponents argued the law is "simple and straightforward," which they stated is part of the "informed-consent process" and "does nothing more than require that women who are considering an abortion be provided with information that is truthful, non-misleading and relevant to their decision of whether to have an abortion." The law was challenged by pro-choice advocates, including an abortion clinic, who claimed the law infringed on women's First Amendment rights because a woman would be forced to see her baby's images before an abortion were performed. [Pro-Life This Week](#), 12/13/19

Suicide on the Rise

According to the [American Foundation for Suicide Prevention](#), 1.4 million Americans attempted suicide in 2019. Moreover, 90% of those who died by suicide had a diagnosable mental health condition at the time of their death. Center for Disease Control (CDC) data show suicide rates among working-age Americans (aged 16-64 years) spiked 34% between 2000 and 2016. Among Americans aged 10-24, the spike was even more dramatic—a 50% increase in suicides among this group between 2000 and 2017. The National Alliance on Mental Illness says 50% of all lifetime mental illnesses develop by age 14 and 75% develop by age 24. According to a 2015 article from the peer-reviewed research journal *Cyberpsychology, Behavior, and Social Networking*, frequent use of social media by children and teenagers is associated with poor psychological functioning, as it limits their daily face-to-face interactions, impairing their ability to keep and maintain meaningful relationships. The study found that students who reported using social media for two or more hours daily were more likely to poorly rate their own mental health, and experienced high levels of psychological distress and suicidal ideation. One of the biggest suicide prevention tools that communities of faith can provide, said Michelle Snyder, director of Soul Shop, an organization that trains clergy and congregations in suicide prevention and interventions, is being full communities of faith, where people feel connected and valued as whole people, and not just for one aspect of their identity. In the US, texting “741741” will connect users to a crisis text line. [TheBostonPilot.com](#), 9/17/19

Our Lady of La Leche Shrine Elevated to National Status



The U.S. bishops' conference has declared the Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche a national shrine. Located at the Nombre de Dios Mission in St. Augustine, FL, the shrine houses a statue of Mary nursing the infant Jesus. Founded in 1587, it is America's oldest Marian shrine, and is a site of pilgrimage particularly for those hoping to become pregnant or to have a safe delivery. [NCR](#), 10/15/19

The Marian Blue Wave Grows

A month after being launched, more than 2,000 persons from 28 different countries on six continents joined [The Marian Blue Wave](#) (MBW) and committed to pray a Rosary weekly with the specific intention of ending all clinical, chemical, medical, and surgical abortions, and shutting down every Planned Parenthood facility in the participating countries. Sign-up for this exciting effort [here](#). [ALL](#), 10/24/19



PROJECT MUSTARD SEED

BP

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Tell her to
stop
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GOOD NEWS - there are now at least 366 corporations that have stopped funding Planned Parenthood since the first publication. The following companies are no longer on the list: Arthur Murray, Bikram Yoga, Chevron, CME, Diane Von Furstenberg, Gilead, GlaxoSmithKline, Goldman Sachs, JPMorgan Chase, Orasure, Southwest Airlines, Starbucks, Walt Disney, and Wyndham

US Bishops Conference Urge Decent Burial for Fetal Remains

In a letter urging lawmakers to support the *Dignity for Aborted Children Act*, Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas, cited the shocking discovery in September and October of fetal remains in rural Illinois on property once owned by a now-deceased abortion doctor who for many years ran clinics in nearby Indiana. The Act requires abortion providers dispose of the remains of unborn children just as any other human being. Failure to do so is punishable by a fine and up to 5 years in prison. It also requires a consent form with which the mother can elect to retain possession of her unborn child or allow the provider to cremate or inter him/her. The provider's failure to execute these forms is punishable by civil penalty. The measure, S. 2590, has a companion bill in the U.S. House, H.R. 4934. The *Dignity for Aborted Children Act* builds on the Indiana law enacted in 2016 and upheld this year by the U.S. Supreme Court that requires dignified disposition of aborted fetal remains. [CNS](#), 11/4/19

Pro-Life Win at the UN

The United States' diplomatic team kept abortion-related language out of a UN Security Council resolution on women in crisis and conflict. European diplomats had insisted that abortion be funded as humanitarian aid.

[C-Fam](#), 11/1/19