

Attendees: Philomena Cellilli, Carl Snipes, John Leyendecker, Karen Leyendecker, Marianne Khare, Angie Bernardo, Sal Bonfiglio, Betty Buettner, Fr. John

1. Entrustment to the Blessed Virgin Mary
  - Deacon Sal entrusted us in this ministry to the Blessed Virgin Mary. It was a beautiful blessing.
2. Opening Prayer – Carl Snipes

*Heavenly Father, we come to You today asking for Your guidance, wisdom and support as we begin this meeting. Help us to engage in meaningful discussion; allow us to grow closer as a group and nurture the bonds of community. Fill us with Your grace, Lord God, and continue to remind us that all that we do here today, all that we accomplish, is for the pursuit of truth, for the greater glory of You and for the service of humanity. We ask these things in Your name, Amen.*
3. NJRTL
  - Carl Snipes received the *Guardian of Life Award* from NJRTL, a well deserved honor.



#### 4. 9 Days for Life – Follow Up

- Fr. John was very supportive of the Novena and made sure it was said at the end of daily Mass.
- In addition to this, during this time when we focused on Respect Life due to the anniversary of Roe v Wade, Fr. John homilies had a Pro-Life message. It was very inspirational.
- The 9 Days for Life novena was very successful. We had made 65 copies of the Novena for people to use at Mass and 45 were taken home. The Novena has been added to our Respect Life website.

#### 5. Legislative Issues – Marianne Khare

- NJ bills [AR181](#) and [SR96](#)
- Passed both Senate on 10/29/18 and Assembly on 9/27/17 – UNBELIEVABLE!
- **Memorializes President and Congress to eliminate existing restrictions on abortion access and reject Supreme Court nominees who would impose new limits on reproductive freedom.**
- **Resolutions and Concurrent Resolutions Filed w/Sec. of State**
- It was noted that while northern states are eliminating restrictions on abortions, southern states are increasing restrictions.

#### 6. 2019 NJRTL Banquet Dinner May 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Membership

- Cost per person is \$100
- Contact Carl with questions about the banquet
- If paying by check, make it out to Dorothy DeLuca, I will be sending in the monies after our March meeting. Deadline for early registration is April 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- **Please let me know as soon as possible if you plan to attend, or if you know you cannot attend.** Based on response, if needed, I will see if I can get some seats at the table next to us.
- Main Speaker [Congressman Trey Gowdy](#) of South Carolina, the MC will be Bill Spadea, NJ Radio 101.5
- Committed Attendees
  - Carl Snipes - *pd*
  - Karen Leyendecker
  - John Leyendecker
  - Philomena Cellilli - *pd*
  - Betty Buettner
  - Angie Bernardo
  - Bern Oles
- Possible Attendees
  - Fr. Sean – RL ministry would pay
  - Fr. John – May have conflict, RL ministry would pay
  - Fr. Alex – RL Ministry would pay
  - Trudy Madden
  - Bill Madden
  - Laura Boyle
  - Roseann Mertes
  - Marianne Khare – May have conflict
- Cannot Attend
  - Dorothy DeLuca – will be in Colorado

#### 7. Pam Stenzel

- Fr. John is very supportive of having Pam Stenzel come to speak. He especially likes that the Men's Group, Women's Group, and other ministries will work together to make this a success.

- Total cost for Pam is \$1250. We paid \$250 for a down payment. **Phil was going to ask Altar Rosary if they would pay.**
- The contract has been signed. In the contract it says grades 7 and up, however verbally and in the flyers it says 8<sup>th</sup> grade and up. **Karen will confirm the grades.**
- **Philomena will be contacting Angela at the Diocese to see if we can get MMOG on the list of locations** for registration and collecting payments. We would be handled differently since we are paying for Pam to speak at MMOG, while the Diocese is paying for her to speak at the other locations. We need to figure out if this can be sorted out.
- **HOW TO PROMOTE**
  - Hopefully get this on the Diocesan Website
  - Contact parishes in the deanery, public schools, CCD kids (*see below for detailed info*)
  - **Karen is going to put together a flyer –**  
**BECAUSE I'M WORTH IT**  
**TEEN OUTREACH EVENT**  
 Spirituality, Respect, & Sexuality
  - **Karen is going to find a quick 30 second video snippet** to show at all Masses, and possibly to 8<sup>th</sup> grade CCD, also on screen in the Narthax?
  - **Karen has feedback from the night of the video and will quote them as part of the promotion** (online, flyer, ...)
  - **Add YouTube links of Pam Stenzel videos to MMOG Respect Life Website (Dorothy will do this)**
  - **Karen to add info to MMOG Home Page**
  - **Karen to advertise on screen in Narthax**
  - **Fr John, Fr Sean and Fr Alex all to speak from the Altar about it**, same weekend we show the video snippet
- **WHO TO CONTACT:**
  - We plan to contact personally all parishes in our deanery:
    - **Phil has already reached out to Sr Phyllis at St Ann's**
    - **Marianne mentioned reaching out to Fr Hank at St Joe's**
    - **Phil or Marianne will contact Patti Jannuzzi from IC**
    - **Marianne has a contact at St Bernard's**
  - We plan to get the following ministries involved in promoting and helping
    - Men's Group
    - Women's Group
    - Pastoral
    - WMC
    - Altar Rosary
      1. funding?
    - Youth Group
      1. Promoting when they speak to the confirmandi
      2. As Greeters at the event
    - CCD
      1. Chris to promote
      2. Video to classes?
      3. Need to confirm if 7<sup>th</sup> grade is included
      4. For 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Karen thinks there are about 120 kids, **we can ask Chris**
  - Outside of our Church
    - **Phil is going to talk to the superintendent of schools**
    - **Phil may also talk to the Board of Ed**
- **LOGISTICS**
  - **Karen and John picking up Pam and crew from the airport** on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, and taking them to their hotel
  - **Someone** will need to bring them to MMOG on Sunday

- Karen is going to find out if Pam would like to attend Mass on Sunday
- Someone will need to bring them back to their hotel at the end of the event
- **AT THE EVENT**
  - We need either a corded mic with very long cord or wireless hand held with new batteries.
  - NO LAPEL MIC.
  - We will need a table and 2 people for selling materials.
- We have both the Gym and Schellberg Hall reserved. Not sure if it is a coffee social weekend, need to find this out if we will be having the event in the Hall instead of the Gym.
- We need to ask Gary how many comfortably can be seated in Schellberg Hall, and how many can be comfortably seated in the Gym. The max seated in the Gym determines our cut off for registration.

#### 8. MMOG Respect Life Website

- Two new items on it
  - Pro Life Prayer section, includes the 9 Day Novena for Life
  - Area for new members to sign up
- Need to add links for Pam Stenzel YouTube videos

#### 9. Closing Prayer – John Leyendecker

## INTERCESSORY PRAYERS: PRO-LIFE ADVOCATES

**For those who pray before abortion clinics,**  
 who march for life,  
 or who witness to the rights of all human beings:  
 that God might strengthen and guide them;  
 We pray to the Lord:

**For those who long for the equality of all persons:**  
 that their dedication to the unborn, the old, the condemned,  
 and the forgotten,  
 may grow every day;  
 We pray to the Lord:

**For all who work for an end to abortion:**  
 that they might be strengthened by prayer,  
 and that God might reward them for their goodness;  
 We pray to the Lord:

**For all who teach the Gospel of Life:**  
 that they might be driven by love alone;  
 We pray to the Lord:

**For all who work to defend life:**  
 that God might reward them for their faithfulness;  
 We pray to the Lord:

**For all who work for life:**  
 and especially those who pray at abortion clinics,  
 that God might reward them for their prayers;  
 We pray to the Lord:

**For all those who work to promote the Gospel of Life:**  
 that God might reward them for their goodness;  
 We pray to the Lord:

**For those who work to defend the lives of the unborn,**  
 the sick, the infirm, and the aged:  
 those who defend humanity's inalienable right to life;  
 We pray to the Lord:

**For all who work for an end to the culture of death,**  
 and especially for our brothers and sisters  
 from other churches, ecclesial communions, and religions,  
 that love for the Gospel of Life might draw us closer in Christ;  
 We pray to the Lord:

**For all who work for life:**  
 that they might be assured  
 of our gratitude and prayers  
 for the holy work they do;  
 We pray to the Lord:

*And also, a prayer to St. Josephine Bakhita*

*St. Josephine Bakhita, you were sold into slavery as a child and endured untold hardship and suffering. Once liberated from your physical enslavement, you found true redemption in your encounter with Christ and his Church. O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery; Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free. Provide comfort to survivors of slavery and let them look to you as an example of hope and faith. Help all survivors find healing from their wounds. We ask for your prayers and intercessions for those enslaved among us. Amen.*

**10. NEXT MEETING February 28<sup>th</sup>**

- Opening Prayer: Carl
- Closing Prayer: John

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dorothy DeLuca.