St Joe's Respect Life Community Communiqué, September 27

ABORTION

Vote NO on 4! We're coming down the final stretch to the November 5 election. Early voting is from October 26 to November 2, and mail-in ballots have already started going out. Bishop Pohlmeier has put out a video on Amendment 4 [<u>A Message from Bishop Pohlmeier on Amendment 4 (youtube.com)</u>] or scan this QR Code to watch.





Fr Ruchinski gave a strong talk about this extreme, deceptive, and dangerous Abortion Amendment at his September Town Hall meeting. Many parishioners have been involved in spreading the word about the Amendment. Talking with friends, family, and neighbors about the dangers if the Amendment passes. Partnering with the Family For LIFE group, we've helped distribute informational door hangers about Amendment 4 to 150,000 residences (and counting) in Duval, Clay, and St John's Counties. Parishioners are also passing out QR Code cards linking to the Vote NO on 4 ad. We're distributing yard signs, bumper stickers, T-shirts, buttons, prayer cards, decals, etc. to help sow the seeds proclaiming the gospel of LIFE to the people of Mandarin and beyond. You can pick up items in the Cody Center or when we table at Masses October 5 & 6.



ADOPTION/FOSTER CARE

The Carlson Family added a new member this month...welcome Kiara! "Kiki" was adopted by proud parents, Paul and Kala, and "big brothers" Liam and Sawyer on September 19. She was baptized at our church, so we all welcome her to our Catholic family. Unfortunately (for us), the Carlsons are moving at the end of this month to Lafayette, Louisianna. Kala has been invaluable as our go-to expert on our ministry's adoption and foster care areas. We were blessed to have the Carlsons with us and we wish them safe travels and happy days ahead.





UNBORN

National Day of Remembrance for Unborn. The 12th National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children took place on Saturday, September 14, 2024 at our Monument to the Unborn. On this day, pro-life Americans honor the memory of the precious millions of innocent human lives lost to the grave evil of abortion.



Praying to End Abortion at Planned Parenthood



This year's Fall **40 Days for Life** campaign runs from **September 25** - **November 3.** Our vigil site is the Planned Parenthood at 5978 Powers Avenue. Interested advocates for the unborn can sign up online at <u>40 Days for Life</u>, or you can contact Savannah O'Brien, Jacksonville Campaign leader, at <u>savannahobrien411@gmail.com</u>. We will provide guidance, advice on times to stand, appropriate signs, and prayer buddies (no one should stand alone for safety reasons). Florida's Heartbeat Protection Act has been in effect since May 1, protecting most innocent unborn human beings in their mothers' wombs at the 6-week point.

Our First Saturdays' Church Bus trip to Planned Parenthood following the 8:00am Mass has been a success for the past 22 months. Come out and join us! We depart around 8:45am from the Historic Church parking lot and return to the same place around 10:30am. Our next trip is on October 5. We supply signs but bring your own Rosary. You don't have to climb aboard the bus, you can drive yourself and meet us at Planned Parenthood (5978 Powers Ave). The Holy Spirit has moved some of our parishioners to stand as witnesses, praying for the most vulnerable. Since our last Communiqué I witnessed 55 hours over a period of 30 days (several of those days I stood uncomfortably alone, so please get the word out to pro-life people to join me especially on weekdays). I observed 332 "customers" enter, received 3208 positive and 177 negative reactions from passersby, and passed out 23 "Blessing Bags" containing pro-life information. We also witnessed 1 firm SAVE during this time. Thank you Lucy, Normand, Savannah, Pat, Alan, Lana, Marilyn, Melissa, Alpha, Pauline, both Ricks, Barb, Bernadette, Fran, Mary Jane, Carol, Bill, Nicole, David, Patty, Joyce, Randy, Joseli, Judy, Gianna, both Georges, Carileen, Luis, Marcus, Carron, Russ, Max, Cindy, Patti, Vi, Elizabeth, Filipe, Ellen, Celia, Melanie, John, and anyone else I may have missed who came out to stand up for the unborn at any of the 3 abortion clinics in Jacksonville. I invite, encourage, and pray that all St Joseph pro-lifers will do the same, as their circumstances permit. We have difficulty maintaining a pro-life presence on the sidewalk at Planned Parenthood during weekday hours. Young people on the sidewalk are a great visual and a resource to effectively communicate with "customers" who are members of the same generation. Please pass the word to faithful pro-life people you know. They do not have to be parishioners or Catholic. Give them my contact information (paulmunnell@gmail.com, phone 941-416-1325).



Eucharistic Rosary Congress

Our parish will be participating in this 8-day event when round-the-clock Eucharistic Adoration is combined with an hourly Rosary. A number of churches in our Diocese will be taking 24-hour Eucharistic Adoration "shifts" during which, every hour on the hour, a Rosary is prayed. Our "shift' starts following the 8:00am Mass on Friday, October 4 and runs all day through the night and into Saturday morning October 5. The special intention is to defeat Amendment 4. Please use this link [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E084EA8A62EA5F49-51645959-stjoseph] to sign up to participate in the time slot(s) you would like to cover. If you are interested in leading the Rosary, sign up in that position. We'd like to set our lineup by September 30, so please sign up by then.



October is Respect Life Month. We at St Joseph, along with other parishes in our diocese, will be participating in **Life Chain** this year. The event provides a visual statement of solidarity by our community that abortion is grievously wrong and that the church Christ founded has always been and will always be opposed to the unmerciful killing of innocent preborn children. Please join us on Sunday, **October 6**, in standing along the Loretto and Old St Augustine sidewalks from 1:30-2:30 PM, forming a human Life Chain in support of the unborn. Pro-life signs will be provided. Homemade signs may be used with prior approval. No graphic images or political messages (other than "Vote NO on 4!" signs) are permitted.

Human Life and Dignity Resources (Quick Reference Guide)

With so many local resources and opportunities to help support a culture of life and not enough space to get all these in our Bulletin, I have this as a regular space in our Communique. If you know of any other resources that provide support in these areas of our ministry, let me know.

Help with High-Risk Pregnancy

Wolfson Children's <u>High-Risk OB / Perinatal | Wolfson Children's | Jacksonville, FL</u> (wolfsonchildrens.com) University of Florida Health Jacksonville <u>High-Risk Pregnancy - Pregnancy (mother and baby care) - UF</u> <u>Health Jacksonville (ufhealthjax.org)</u> and <u>Heart Care in Pregnancy - Women's Health - UF Health</u> St Vincent's (Level III NICU) Healthcare | Ascension

Doctor Ratings Best High Risk Pregnancy Doctors in Jacksonville, FL | Healthgrades

Pre Natal and Post-Pardum Help <u>Welcome to the Motherhood Space Day Program! Mental Health</u> <u>Support for New Moms (youtube.com)</u> and <u>Find Postpartum Support With 'The Motherhood Space'</u> (jacksonvillemom.com)

Unborn Advocacy

"Why We're Pro Life" links to ebooks (<u>Why We're Pro-Life (catholic.com</u>) English and <u>Por que Somos</u> <u>Provida (catholic.com</u>) Español

First Saturdays Prayer Bus Pilgrimage to and Pro Life advocacy at Planned Parenthood. Leaves Historic Church at 8:45am, returns by 10:30am. Contact Paul at <u>paulmunnell@gmail.com</u> or 941-416-1325 if interested in more frequent vigils to Planned Parenthood on any day of the week. Holy Hour for Life in Eucharistic Adoration, First Wednesdays from 7:00-8:00pm.

Unplanned Pregnancy?

Divine Mercy House Maternity Home <u>Divine Mercy House</u> Contact Amy at 904-268-6282 <u>Contact — Divine Mercy House</u> First Coast Women's Services <u>Pregnancy Help & Information Jacksonville, FL • Free Pregnancy Clinic</u> <u>Services (fcws.org)</u> 904-262-6300 Pregnancy Resource Center Information <u>PRC-Directory-2023.pdf (dosafl.com)</u>

Adoption/Foster Parenting

Choose Life License Plates <u>Choose Life - Florida (flchoose-life.org)</u> 386-339-1885 Foster Parenting/Family Support Services <u>Foster Care - Family Support Service of North Florida, Inc.</u> (<u>fssjax.org</u>) Isaiah 117 House <u>Isaiah 117 House</u> Foster Closet <u>Home - Foster Closet</u>

Currently Involved with Abortion?

Abortion Pill Reversal <u>Abortion Pill Reversal - Home</u> 877-558-0333 Changed mind/heart? Save your baby. Abortion Worker <u>Home | abortionworker.com</u> or call 888-570-5501 Escape the Abortion Industry and get assistance to find respectable health care work.

Post Abortion Healing

Rachel's Vineyard <u>Rachel's Vineyard (rachelsvineyard.org)</u> Local <u>rachelsvineyardjax@yahoo.com</u> 904-221-3232 Mary Huston Support After Abortion <u>Support After Abortion</u> 833-403-HEAL (4325) Can't Stay Silent <u>Can't Stay Silent (cantstaysilent.com)</u>

Reproductive Loss

Grief Share <u>Red Bird Ministries | Human Life & Dignity -Human Life & Dignity (dosafl.com)</u> Red Bird Ministries <u>Red Bird Ministries | Human Life & Dignity -Human Life & Dignity (dosafl.com)</u> Contact Regina at <u>reginabquinones@gmail.com</u>

Special Needs

Camp I Am Special <u>Camp I Am Special</u> <u>Catholic Charities Jacksonville (ccbjax.org)</u> Contact (904) 230-7447 <u>campiamspecial@ccbjax.org</u>

Morning Star School <u>Morning Star School</u> (morningstar-jax.org) Contact Abbie Johnson (904)721-2144 <u>development@morningstar-jax.org</u>

San Sebastian Catholic Church Deaf Ministry (6) San Sebastián Catholic Church Deaf Ministry-St. Augustine, FL | Facebook

End of Life

Guide to Palliative Care and Hospice Catholic <u>Catholic Guide to Palliative Care and Hospice — The</u> <u>National Catholic Bioethics Center (ncbcenter.org)</u>

Palliative Care & Hospice for Children <u>Community PedsCare®</u> | <u>Community Hospice & Palliative Care</u> Health Care Advance Directives <u>Patients Rights Council</u>

Euthanasia / Physician-Assisted Suicide to-live-each-day-with-dignity-hyperlinked.pdf (usccb.org)

Death Penalty

Death Penalty <u>Death Penalty | Human Life & Dignity -Human Life & Dignity (dosafl.com)</u> Prison Ministry <u>Prison Ministry - Diocese of St. Augustine (dosafl.com)</u> Contact John Chick, Director 904-293-3807 or <u>jchick@dosafl.com</u> or Local at St Joseph Deacon Corky Hecht <u>dcncorky91@yahoo.com</u>

Human Trafficking

Blue Campaign <u>Blue Campaign | Homeland Security (dhs.gov)</u> 888-373-7888 Human Trafficking Hotline Asservo Project <u>Home - The Asservo Project</u>

Same-Sex Attraction

Courage & Encourage <u>About - Courage International, Inc. (couragerc.org)</u> Contact: Fr. Ed Murphy (904) 797- 4842 <u>ewmurphy59@gmail.com</u> Desert Stream/Living Waters Ministry <u>Who We Are | Desert Stream Living Waters</u>

Thank you all for helping to build a culture of life!

Paul Munnell Respect Life Coordinator, St Joseph's Catholic Church