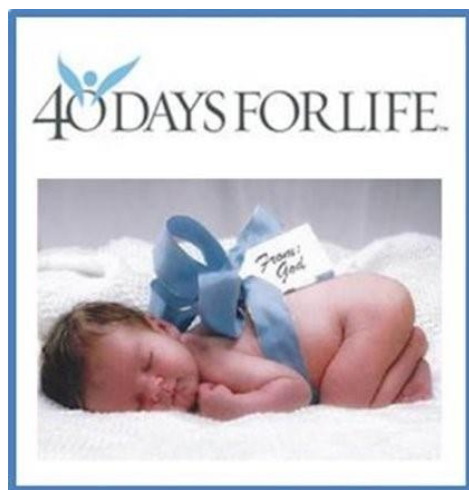


St Joe's Respect Life Community Communiqué, February 27

Praying to End Abortion at Planned Parenthood



Our Lent **40 Days for Life** campaign runs **March 5 - April 13**. Our vigil site is at the Planned Parenthood at 5978 Powers Avenue. Led by our Respect Life Co-coordinator Savannah O'Brien, prayer pals advocate for the unborn. Florida's Heartbeat Protection Act protects most innocent unborn human beings in their mothers' wombs after 6 weeks. All abortions before 6 weeks are legal, and exemptions for victims of rape, incest, and human trafficking legalize abortion up to 15 weeks. In cases when the life of the mother is at risk there are no restrictions. In 2024 there were 64,854 abortions performed in Florida. Sign up at [40 Days for Life](https://www.40daysforlife.org).

We take our Church Bus on First Saturdays to Planned Parenthood following the 8:00am Mass. We depart around 8:45am from the Historic Church parking lot and return around 10:30am. Our next trip is March 1. We supply signs but bring your own Rosary. You don't have to climb aboard the bus, just 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 74 hours over 42 days. I observed 392 "customers" enter, received 4,991 positive and 210 negative reactions from passersby, and passed out 27 "Blessing Bags" containing pro-life information. We also witnessed 2 potential and 2 firm SAVES during this time. Thank you to the 42 people who came out to stand up for the unborn with me during this time. 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. Have them contact me at paulmunnell@gmail.com or 941-416-1325.

Divine Mercy House Year in Review



Divine Mercy House Maternity Home serves women facing a crisis pregnancy, with little to no support, and who courageously choose life for their unborn babies. In 2024, with very few periods of vacancy, they housed 9 women with their children in the home, while providing maternity and baby supplies to an additional 32 women outside the home, and assisting local pregnancy centers with supplies as well. Currently there are 45 women on the waiting list to get into the House. Support at [donate — Divine Mercy House](https://www.dmvh.org/donate).

First Coast Women's Services Year in Review

We pray, listen, counsel, offer help, and try to redirect abortion-minded people on the sidewalk at the abortion facilities in Jacksonville to go to local pregnancy resource centers. Please take note of the success that the First Coast Women's Services pregnancy resource center had when we are able to redirect individuals and couples there...

2024 IMPACT REPORT

1,506
BABIES SAVED IN 2024
26% INCREASE FROM 2023

SINCE FCWS OPENED
30 YEARS AGO...
15K BABIES SAVED

3,905 CLIENTS SERVED
MADE POSSIBLE BY 312 VOLUNTEERS OVER 29,995 HOURS

IN 2024, FIRST COAST WOMEN'S SERVICES SAVED OUR COMMUNITIES

\$3,096,551

3,334
PREGNANCY TESTS



A 21% INCREASE
FROM 2023

2,544
ULTRASOUNDS



A 28% INCREASE
FROM 2023

51,569
MATERIAL SUPPLIES



MATERNITY MATERIALS
& BABY SUPPLIES

667
TELEHEALTH
APPOINTMENTS



WITH AN 83%
SHOW RATE

12,282
EDUCATION &
CONSULTATION APPTS



OPTIONS EDUCATION
CONSULTS WITH ABORTION-
MINDED CALLERS

448
EARN WHILE YOU
LEARN PARTICIPANTS



PREGNANCY &
PARENTING CLASSES FOR
CLIENTS WHO CHOSE LIFE

Women's Help Center Fund Raiser

2025 GALA FOR LIFE

SAVE *the* DATE

5.22.25



Please join Women's Help Center
as we celebrate our 35th
Anniversary!

Legacy of Life
Paving the Way
Forward



Featuring Keynote Speaker
Dr. Abby Johnson
Former Planned Parenthood Director and
Founder of *And Then There Were None*



World Golf Village Renaissance
St. Augustine Resort
6:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$150. Table host and
sponsorship opportunities are
available. Call 904.398.5143 to
register.



St. Joseph Catholic Church *Holy Hour for Life*

Our regularly scheduled Holy Hours for Life are on the first Wednesday of the month in the Cody Center Chapel from 7:00-8:00pm. Our next Holy Hour for Life will be on Wednesday, March 5, 7:00-8:00pm. Please come and help us pray for the unborn in Eucharistic Adoration if you can.

Death Penalty...Florida Executions



FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

The nonpartisan public policy voice of the Catholic Church in Florida

**FLORIDA CATHOLIC
ADVOCACY NETWORK**

On February 13 James Ford was executed by the state of Florida for the murders of Gregory and Kimberly Malnory. Prompted by the FCCB's Advocacy Network, members of our Respect Life Community were encouraged to message/petition to Gov DeSantis to commuting James' sentence to life without parole. That effort being unsuccessful, we held a special Holy Hour for Life on February 12 for Mr. Ford, his victims Greg and Kimberly Malnory, their families, and the more than 4,000 innocent children executed in this country every day by the evil practice of abortion.

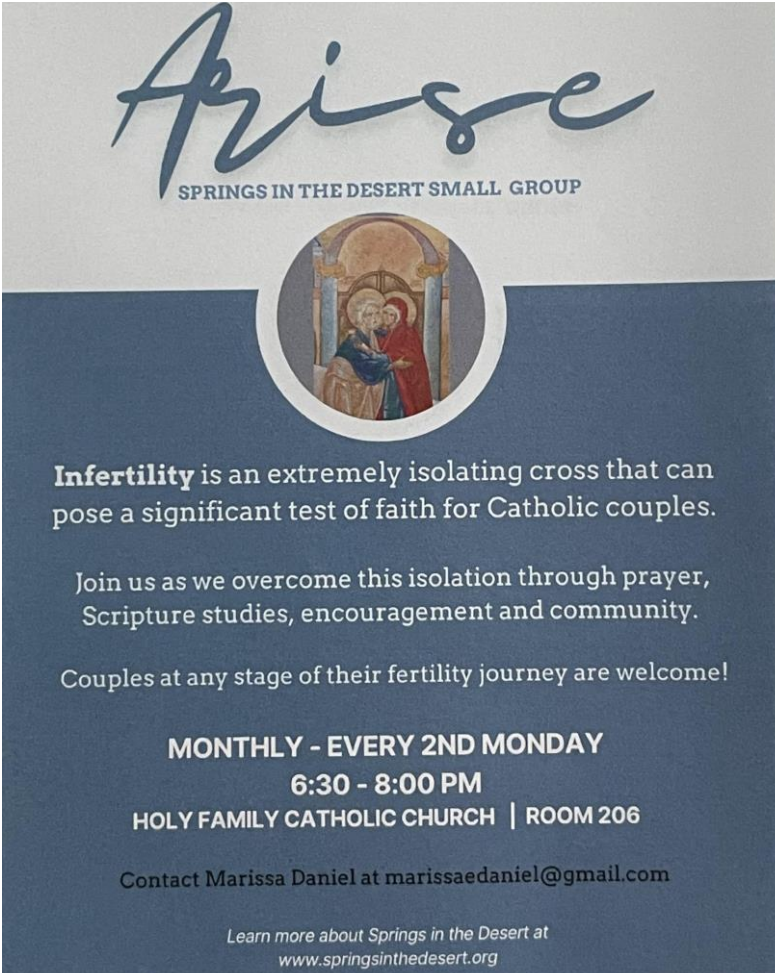
Edward James is scheduled to be executed on March 20 for the 1993 murders of Betty Dick and her eight-year-old granddaughter, Toni Neuner. If you are a subscriber to the Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops, you should receive an email urging Gov Ron DeSantis to spare the life of James Barnes. Just click on the "Take Action" button to make your voice known. If you are not a subscriber, you can sign up at this link [Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops - Florida Catholic Advocacy Network - Tallahassee, FL](#). If this effort is unsuccessful, we will hold another special Holy Hour for Life on March 19, from 7:00-8:00pm for Mr. James, his victims Betty Dick and Toni Neuner, and the more than 4,000 innocent children executed in this country every day by the evil practice of abortion.

Invitro Fertilization

The Catholic Church acknowledges that infertile couples “suffer greatly” and encourages fertility research, but condemns in vitro fertilization (IVF). One of the Church’s major objections is that IVF separates conception from the marital act. Techniques used to conceive a baby outside the womb “dissociate the sexual act from the procreative act,” the Catechism [states](#) (2376), adding that “the act which brings the child into existence is no longer an act by which two persons give themselves to one another.” Millions of embryos (babies) are frozen, aborted, miscarried, or otherwise discarded in the process of IVF every year, with some estimates as high as 4 million babies each year, around four times as many children killed through abortion. [EXCLUSIVE: 4 million babies victimized by IVF every year, says pro-family activist Katy Faust - LifeSite.](#) **IVF is NOT PRO-LIFE**, please educate your friends, neighbors, and others in your sphere of influence.


Infertility

From an organization known as Springs in the Desert, there is a program called Arise, a Small Group that meets monthly at Holy Family Catholic Church to support couples experiencing infertility challenges, please pass along this information to anyone you know in this situation...



The flyer for the 'Arise' small group is divided into two main color sections: a light grey top half and a dark blue bottom half. At the top, the word 'Arise' is written in a large, elegant, dark blue script font. Below it, in a smaller, dark blue, all-caps sans-serif font, is 'SPRINGS IN THE DESERT SMALL GROUP'. In the center of the flyer, there is a circular icon with a white border. Inside the circle is a religious illustration of the Virgin Mary in a blue robe holding the Christ Child in a red robe, both with halos, set against a gold background with architectural details. Below the icon, the text 'Infertility is an extremely isolating cross that can pose a significant test of faith for Catholic couples.' is written in white. This is followed by 'Join us as we overcome this isolation through prayer, Scripture studies, encouragement and community.' and 'Couples at any stage of their fertility journey are welcome!' in white. The meeting details are listed in white, all-caps sans-serif font: 'MONTHLY - EVERY 2ND MONDAY', '6:30 - 8:00 PM', and 'HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH | ROOM 206'. The contact information 'Contact Marissa Daniel at marissaedaniel@gmail.com' is also in white. At the very bottom, in a small white font, is the text 'Learn more about Springs in the Desert at www.springsinthedesert.org'.

Arise
SPRINGS IN THE DESERT SMALL GROUP



Infertility is an extremely isolating cross that can pose a significant test of faith for Catholic couples.

Join us as we overcome this isolation through prayer, Scripture studies, encouragement and community.

Couples at any stage of their fertility journey are welcome!


MONTHLY - EVERY 2ND MONDAY
6:30 - 8:00 PM
HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH | ROOM 206

Contact Marissa Daniel at marissaedaniel@gmail.com

Learn more about Springs in the Desert at www.springsinthedesert.org

End of Life Planning

JOIN US FOR A FREE EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR
on *End-of-Life services.*



Planning anything in advance has its rewards, whether it's saving for a child's college tuition or contributing to your retirement program. The same is true with making your funeral or cemetery plans in advance—it's one of the most thoughtful gifts you can give your family.

> Demystify end-of-life services > Discover 4 simple steps to planning ahead > Learn the advantages of pre-paying
> Bring peace of mind to you and your loved ones > Receive 10% discount on plans through our partnership*

TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2025 at 11:00 am or 5:00 pm
ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
FOOD & DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED FOR EACH MEETING
To RSVP: Call (904) 307-1642 or email: Kimberly.Gill@DignityMemorial.com

Dignity
LIFE WELL CELEBRATED

THE DIGNITY MEMORIAL® NETWORK IS NORTH AMERICA'S MOST TRUSTED BRAND FOR FUNERAL, CREMATION AND CEMETERY SERVICES, SERVING FAMILIES AT MORE THAN 1,900 LOCATIONS.


KIMBERLY GILL - Pre-planning & Veteran's Burial Benefits Advisor

We will be discussing Veteran's Burial Benefits

Hosted by:
HARDAGE-GIDDENS MANDARIN CHAPEL

*Where available by law, 10% savings is not available in all states nor does it apply to cash advance items. On already discounted Dignity Memorial plans, consumer is entitled to the greater of the two discounts. The Dignity Memorial network and Walmart are owned and operated by non-affiliated entities. State required disclosure - DELETE IF NOT NEEDED


Muffins4Life




Muffins4Life
(Formerly Luncheons4Life)
All are welcome!
Registration required, scan QR Code to register.

The Office of Human Life & Dignity
Invites You to join us
Every 3rd Wednesday of the month
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Location changes each month.


Contact us at hld@dosaf.com



Lastly, a plug for our diocese-wide monthly (usually, although there will be no March event) get togethers for people interested in Life issues. Guest speakers from various areas in the Human Life & Dignity ministry make presentations on timely issues and plenty of delicious muffins are served. The cost is FREE, but occasionally donations are requested for specific purposes (i.e. "Special Request: Please bring donations for Rachel's Vinyard. Items needed are: ..."). These meetings are held at different locations within our diocese, provide a great opportunity to hear what's going on, and serve as an excellent way to network with faithful people in the Human Life & Dignity Ministry (not just Catholics).

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 [High-Risk OB / Perinatal | Wolfson Children's | Jacksonville, FL](#)
([wolfsonchildrens.com](#))

University of Florida Health Jacksonville [High-Risk Pregnancy - Pregnancy \(mother and baby care\) - UF Health Jacksonville \(ufhealthjax.org\)](#) and [Heart Care in Pregnancy - Women's Health - UF Health St Vincent's \(Level III NICU\) Healthcare | Ascension](#)

Doctor Ratings [Best High Risk Pregnancy Doctors in Jacksonville, FL | Healthgrades](#)

Pre Natal and Post-Partum Help [Welcome to the Motherhood Space Day Program! Mental Health Support for New Moms \(youtube.com\)](#) and [Find Postpartum Support With 'The Motherhood Space' \(jacksonvillemom.com\)](#)

Unborn Advocacy

"Why We're Pro Life" links to ebooks ([Why We're Pro-Life \(catholic.com\)](#) English and [Por que Somos Provida \(catholic.com\)](#)) 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 [paulmunnell@gmail.com](#) 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 [Divine Mercy House](#) Contact Amy at 904-268-6282
[Contact — Divine Mercy House](#)

First Coast Women's Services [Pregnancy Help & Information Jacksonville, FL • Free Pregnancy Clinic Services \(fcws.org\)](#) 904-262-6300

Pregnancy Resource Center Information [PRC-Directory-2023.pdf \(dosafll.com\)](#)

Adoption/Foster Parenting

Choose Life License Plates [Choose Life - Florida \(flchoose-life.org\)](#) 386-339-1885

Foster Parenting/Family Support Services [Foster Care - Family Support Service of North Florida, Inc. \(fssjax.org\)](#)

Isaiah 117 House [Isaiah 117 House](#)

Foster Closet [Home - Foster Closet](#)

Currently Involved with Abortion?

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

Post Abortion Healing

Rachel's Vineyard [Rachel's Vineyard \(rachelsvineyard.org\)](http://rachelsvineyard.org) Local rachelsvineyardjax@yahoo.com or call Mary Huston at 904-221-3232

Support After Abortion [Support After Abortion](http://supportafterabortion.org) 833-403-HEAL (4325)

Can't Stay Silent [Can't Stay Silent \(cantstaysilent.com\)](http://cantstaysilent.com)

Reproductive Loss

Grief Share [Red Bird Ministries | Human Life & Dignity -Human Life & Dignity \(dosafl.com\)](http://redbirdministries.org)

Red Bird Ministries [Red Bird Ministries | Human Life & Dignity -Human Life & Dignity \(dosafl.com\)](http://redbirdministries.org)

Contact Regina at reginabquinones@gmail.com

Special Needs

Camp I Am Special [Camp I Am Special | Catholic Charities Jacksonville \(ccbjax.org\)](http://campiamspecial.org)

Contact (904) 230-7447 campiamspecial@ccbjax.org

Morning Star School [Morning Star School | \(morningstar-jax.org\)](http://morningstarjax.org) Contact Abbie Johnson (904)721-2144 development@morningstar-jax.org

San Sebastian Catholic Church Deaf Ministry [\(6\) San Sebastián Catholic Church Deaf Ministry-St. Augustine, FL | Facebook](http://6sansebastiancatholicchurchdeafministry-staugustine.fl.facebook.com)

End of Life

Guide to Palliative Care and Hospice Catholic [Catholic Guide to Palliative Care and Hospice — The National Catholic Bioethics Center \(ncbcenter.org\)](http://catholicguide.org)

Palliative Care & Hospice for Children [Community PedsCare® | Community Hospice & Palliative Care Health Care Advance Directives Patients Rights Council](http://communitypedscare.org)

Euthanasia / Physician-Assisted Suicide [to-live-each-day-with-dignity-hyperlinked.pdf \(usccb.org\)](http://to-live-each-day-with-dignity-hyperlinked.pdf)

Death Penalty

Death Penalty [Death Penalty | Human Life & Dignity -Human Life & Dignity \(dosafl.com\)](http://deathpenalty.org)

Prison Ministry [Prison Ministry - Diocese of St. Augustine \(dosafl.com\)](http://prisonministry.org) Contact John Chick, 904-293-3807 or jchick@dosafl.com or Local at St Joseph Deacon Corky Hecht dcncorky91@yahoo.com

Human Trafficking

Blue Campaign [Blue Campaign | Homeland Security \(dhs.gov\)](http://bluecampaign.org) 888-373-7888 Human Trafficking Hotline Asservo Project [Home - The Asservo Project](http://home-theasservo.org)

Same-Sex Attraction

Courage & Encourage [About - Courage International, Inc. \(couragerc.org\)](http://about-courage.org)

Contact: Fr. Ed Murphy (904) 797- 4842 ewmurphy59@gmail.com

Desert Stream/Living Waters Ministry [Who We Are | Desert Stream Living Waters](http://whoweare.org)

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

--

Paul Munnell

Respect Life Coordinator, St Joseph's Catholic Church

I'm Not Retired, I'm a Professional Pap