

February 12, 2022

Cultural of Life Ministry Meeting

Attendees: Gerry, Margie, Carol, and Sandy

1) Welcome and Opening Prayer

a) Upcoming Announcements – Gerry

- i) May 1 CCD Picnic – several ministries will have tables. **Action:** Gerry requested volunteers to man the Culture of Life Table.
- ii) May Culture of Life meeting will be held in the St. Francis Room instead of the Church Conference room.
- iii) Church Ministry Fair – Weekend of May 21/22. **Action:** We will need volunteers to man the Culture of Life table.

2) 40 Days for Life (Gerry)

a) Gerry read text/email from John Sully: John noted impact of prayer/presence at Planned Parenthood 1st Location: public witness, prayer, hope. shared 3 babies saved. Emphasized the impact of having priests involved and present. Carol, Sandy, Deidre, Kristine, Gerry represented St. Mary Magdalene Parish

3) Birthline and Culture of Life Tables – Easter Weekend

- a) This month 3rd Sunday is Easter, Fr. Ed requested not to put up table/man with people. It will be too busy. No manning table; 3rd Sunday
- b) **Action:** Gerry will ask Fr. Ed about just having the Birthline table set up for Easter. Margie will volunteer to set up Birthline table if approved.

4) Upcoming Events

- a) **CORRECTION:** May Meeting topic: To Be Determined. Details to follow. **Action:** Gerry will send out a more detailed meeting topic and agenda.
- b) **CORRECTION:** June Meeting: Planning meeting where we will brainstorm ideas on how we can engage the Parish in our ministry as well as our members. Some ideas were discussed:
 - i) Gerry: Dedicate an event/presenter with a focus on each of our three-prong ministry (abortion/ restorative justice/ End of Life)
 - ii) Sandy: Suggested that we have our monthly meetings on the 4th Saturday, after the Birthline Table donation weekend (3rd Sunday)- parishioners may be more likely to come if the Birthline/Culture of Life tables could have copies of the agenda for the meeting, or other materials.
 - iii) Carol: Suggested Fr. Chris Alla, videos on end-of-life issues.
 - iv) Gerry/Carol/Sandy: Quarterly event (speaker, community building event, movie) associated with one of our themes, possibly in the evening (Wednesday) may attract new members by changing the time and the focus.
- c) July/August: No meeting. Educational reading will be recommended.

5) Group Discussion on Respect for Life Webinar #3: The Ethics of Abortion: Misconceptions and Challenges.

- a) Members each took turns and addressed our experience, opinions etc. on each Misconception, Response, and Challenge identified on the webinar. A handout was provided to the group to facilitate discussion. **ACTION:** Diane will add the handout, along with the meeting minutes to the Culture of Life website.
- b) General comments from the discussion included:
 - i) Inconsistencies of pro-abortion advocates, how healthcare if no regulations on abortion clinics
 - ii) prenatal surgeries
 - iii) if a pregnant woman is murdered, put on trial for double murder
 - iv) Sandy – mentioned the usefulness of the states in the webinar/summarized on notes; will use in her course: family life with students at church school.
 - v) Gerry – shares about the “Justice for the 5” campaign; In Washington D.C. a medical waste company discovers the remains of 5 aborted babies (full term). 66 congressmen are demanding an autopsy to determine if the babies were killed after birth.
 - vi) Gerry – Lila Rose’ book could be a summer read for our parish/ministry members.

6) **Closing Prayer**