

Culture of Life
Meeting Minutes
Oct 14th, 2023

Attendance: Alex, Deirdre, Carol, Gerry, Sandy, Mary.

Welcome and Opening Prayer – Gerry

Sandy outlined what School of the Madeleine is doing for Birthline this month and that the 8th graders are joining 40-days for life by doing a decade of the rosary each morning for morning prayer over 40 days.

“Fighting for Life” by Lilia Rose

➤ Book and General Pro-Life discussion.

Mary – Was amazed how young Lila was when she started the organization. Handed out brochures from 40-day for life from OMC. Suggested combining efforts for Pro-life with other Parishes.

General discussion on how 40-days for life works – sign up for calendar etc. History of how it started and the movie “Unplanned”. Explained the communication done in the past with other Parishes and that many of them don’t have a dedicated ministry and how other groups (like Knights of Columbus, or a Family orientated Ministry) coordinate Pro-Life Activities. Discussed how no-show rates double when prayers are being said outside a Planned parenthood.

Deidre – Discussed Lila’s early undercover work in planned parenthood.

General discussion on legislation and how Planned Parenthood is meant to report any child 13 or younger. How Roe vs Wade being overturned has made things even worse in California and how Planned Parenthood is transporting girls to Pro-Abortion states.

Gerry – Highlighted Lila’s views of how her organization grew.

- Just start!
- Our courage to fight the fight will encourage others.
- Build a team. Derek Sivers' TED Talk 'How to Start a Movement':
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gxFt1BZiMTw>
- Focus. Intentional effort supported by prayer.
- Fight the day-to-day battle even if it seems small in the grand scheme.
- Learn to Pivot if the current strategy is not working.

General discussion. Margie has taken a leave of absence to concentrate on her mom. The Ministry needs to “pivot” and have the monthly meetings concentrate on general pro-life discussion and planning for events which will be held on different days.

Actions

- 40-Days for Life. Nov 5th scheduled for our next sidewalk rosary.
Action: Gerry to advertise in Bulletin and coordinate. Invite Men's Group.
- Birthline Table.
Action: Sandy to take over coordination from Margie.
- Next COL Meeting Nov 11th at 9.30am.
Action: Members to come with ideas for future events. Read our COL website: <https://www.stmarymagonline.org/culture-of-life.html> and come prepared to discuss pro-life issues of interest to them.
- San Diego Walk for Life 2024 – Jan 13th.
Action: Save the Date!

Misc Discussion:

- Father Spitzer – Magis Center
- Harvard Professor of Happiness (Arthur Brooks) - The art and science of happiness <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G7Pf2Xb5PdA>
- Saint Mary Magdalene Women's Fellowship brainstorming meetings Nov 11th, 14th or 16th at 6.30pm.