



CONCEPTION SEMINARY COLLEGE

# “LIFERS”

PRAYING FOR A GREATER RESPECT FOR THE DIGNITY AND SANCTITY OF ALL HUMAN LIFE

ISSUE 2

JANUARY 2009

## 36TH ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE

### “LIFERS” HEADING TO WASHINGTON

In the early morning hours of Wednesday, January 21, several students from CSC will be boarding motor coaches with folks from the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph to begin their pilgrimage to the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual March For Life in Washington, D.C. The peaceful protest, scheduled to officially begin at noon on January 22, commemorates the anniversary of legalized abortion through Roe v. Wade. Early estimates project as many as 225,000 pilgrims will march through the streets of Washington to the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court building this Thursday.

Traveling from CSC and local parishes are Chris Aubuchon, Josh Barlett, David Bauer, Chris Ciaffa, Chris Fectel, John Gengler, Lisa Goedken, J.B. Kelly, Eric Martin, Andy Mattingly, Fr. Xavier Nacke, OSB, Mitchell Simpson, and Craig Thomas.

*Mary, Mother of the Unborn, Pray For Us!*



*Photo from 2008 March For Life (J.B. Kelly)*

## FREEDOM OF CHOICE ACT TO BE INTRODUCED THIS YEAR

The Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA) would wipe away just about every restriction on abortion nationwide and is set to be introduced this year in Congress. The bill will allow for unlimited abortions throughout pregnancy for any reason and overturn every state law against it, should the bill become law. To help fight the bill, the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB) National Committee for Human Life is passing out postcards during or after Masses on the weekend of January 24 and 25 at parishes throughout the country. The postcards come with three parts, one for their representative and two for their respective senators.

However, there are some misconceptions about the bill. The bill still needs to pass the House and Senate. The bill still needs to

pass its respective committees and floor votes or a two-thirds vote without a committee hearing. Lifenews.com editor, Steven Ertelt wrote in a piece that at the earliest, it doesn't seem practical that the bill would reach Obama's desk before late January or February at the earliest.

It should be an interesting fight whenever the bill is reintroduced. For more information on the bill including multiple links on sponsors, bill summary and status please check out the senate version at <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c110:S.1173>: or the House version at <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c110:H.R.1964>:

*- Guillermo Treviño, Diocese of Davenport*



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## PRO-CREATION: THE PURPOSE OF MARRIED LIFE

In order to discuss the issue of abortion we must first mention married life. The idea that pro-creation is even an option outside of marriage is solely a product of our secular culture. Truly, when we look into it, the cause for pre-marital sex is the deep desire within all human beings to find love. People in today's time search for love the best that they know how; however, the problem is that we are bombarded with the false ideology that sex itself is love. Pope John Paul II countered this movement with several works later called the *Theology of the Body*. Of the many things explained in this document, the Holy Father clarifies that the marital act is only an expression of the love already felt by the union formed by God. He goes on to describe the marital act as an act of consecration of the Sacrament of Marriage, and that it is no less a holy act than that which takes place at the altar

every Sunday. This bold statement should be taken seriously, and we should relay this message to all Christian men and women to stop the desecration of this holy act.

If anyone has a doubt about the importance of pro-creation in the married life we do not have far to look to find proof of this in Scripture. In Genesis 1:28 God instructs the very first union of man and wife to "be fruitful and multiply." The very idea of an abortion within wedlock is parting from God's plan. The birth of a child is not a curse or a burden. No, the family is the most basic and important unit in the Christian faith. Participating in God's creation of life means to truly fulfill the meanings of our bodies.

Now this is not meant to say that our Lord expects us to have as many children as possible in our lifetime. The Vatican Council II made sure to clarify

the many questions that were sure to arise by opposing contraception, in the document *Gaudium et Spes*. The council states that there are several conditions that should be taken into account, and the quality of a child's upbringing is of utmost importance. According to the Council the virtue of married chastity should be practiced; it is only by this practice that the mutual self-giving in marriage and human pro-creation, can be respected.

We must always remember that in every way abortion is a rejection of God's gift of life, and a denial of our Christian faith. It is only by understanding how God planned for human life to be created, within a holy marriage, that we can hope to stop this moral evil.

- Jared Ortega, Oklahoma City



### "run4theirives"

One week after the Pro-Life Group's prayer-protest in front of a Planned Parenthood facility on November 15, 2008, members of the group participated in what might be considered a more interesting type of pro-life demonstration. "Run4theirives," an associated pro-life group dedicated to bringing awareness to the pro-life movement through running, took a two-hour journey to Des Moines, IA, for a seven-mile race. Sporting new "Protect Life" t-shirts, five members of the group - Brian Carrillo, Stephan Coleman, Eric Martin, Brian Buettner, and Andy Mattingly - were once again able to brave the snow and an interesting field to raise awareness for the pro-life cause.

- Brian Carrillo, Wichita

*Priests for Life*

### Prayer to End Abortion

Lord God, I thank you today  
for the gift of my life,  
And for the lives of all my  
brothers and sisters.  
I know there is nothing that  
destroys more life than abortion,  
Yet I rejoice that you  
have conquered death  
by the Resurrection of Your Son.  
I am ready to do my part  
in ending abortion.  
Today I commit myself  
Never to be silent,  
Never to be passive,  
Never to be forgetful of the unborn.  
I commit myself to be active  
in the pro-life movement,  
And never to stop defending life  
Until all my brothers and  
sisters are protected,  
And our nation once again becomes  
A nation with liberty and justice  
Not just for some, but for all,  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen!

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