



February 2021

NEWS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST. LOUIS COUNCIL 3335

Supreme put out a great video reviewing what the Knights of Columbus did over a tough year, 2020. Watch it at <http://kofc.org/en/index.html> or go to the website at www.kofc.org.



THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CONTINUE AT THE FOREFRONT IN THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN LIFE

Carl Anderson, the Supreme Knight, is pictured above at a previous March For Life. He is on the right, holding a large cross. This past Friday January 29, he received the 2021 Pro-Life Legacy Award which recognizes him for “a lifetime of exceptional work advocating for the inherent dignity of the unborn human person”. He received the award at the 2021 Rose Dinner, an annual pro-life gala held on the evening of every March for Life. Both are virtual this year. Carl Anderson is a former Professor and Dean of the Pontifical John Paul II Institute and former Special Assistant to President Ronald Reagan. He has dedicated his career to furthering the pro-life cause through policy, education, and most recently, through his work with the Knights of Columbus. Jeanne Mancini, president of March for Life commented: “No one has done more to advance the pro-life cause than Carl Anderson, a true pro-life warrior, and highly deserving of this year’s Pro-Life Legacy Award. It is thanks in large part to the work of Anderson that the movement is where it is today. His work and

tireless dedication to the cause is an example to all of us. We will continue to follow in his footsteps.” Notice that the image on the cross on the left is the image of Divine Mercy. On the second cross and more to the right are images of Our Lady of Guadalupe. In that image she is pregnant and thus is the patroness of the unborn. See (80) The Divine Mercy Message and Our Four Visits to the Divine Mercy Shrine in Krakow, Poland at http://paulrsebastianphd.blogspot.com/2012/04/blog-post_15.html and (55) Our Lady of Guadalupe: Binding the Americas Together <http://paulrsebastianphd.blogspot.com/2011/12/our-lady-of-guadalupe.html>.

His Mother chose life. At the 2018 March for Life, a woman named Pam related that her son’s conception was an answer to a prayer while doing missionary work in the Philippines. While pregnant, her doctor determined that the baby had a large tumor and recommended an abortion. Otherwise the mother would die. Pam and her husband refused: “Because of our love for the life in the womb, we chose to trust God”. They prayed and the bleeding stopped. After a difficult pregnancy, a pro-life doctor in Manila saved the lives of both mother and son. “Only a tiny piece of the placenta was intact”. Tim Tebow, a true miracle baby according to the doctor, grew up to become a star athlete and humanitarian. See <https://www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/2018/01/tim-tebows-mom-march-life-told-abort-chose-trust-god/> and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mBDSHR6-iAE&ab_channel=MarchforLifeEducationandDefenseFund.

The Keynote speaker at the 2021 Virtual Rose Dinner Gala this past Friday January 29 was the same Tim Tebow.....professional athlete, NY Times bestselling author, Heisman Trophy recipient as quarterback for the University of Florida, sports analyst for ESPN, and founder of the Tim Tebow Foundation in 2010. The foundation helps children with life-threatening illnesses, providing life-changing

surgeries to children of the Philippines, providing care for orphans in six countries, and granting aid to families who choose to adopt an international child with special needs. For more details about the Rose Dinner go to: <https://marchforlife.org/annual-rose-dinner/>.

The theme for the 2021 virtual March For Life was: “***Together Strong: Life Unites***”. This theme is so timely after a tumultuous year of intense polarization full of division, unrest, and fear. We must work together. As St. Mother Teresa said: “You can do what I cannot do; I can do what you cannot do; together we can do great things.” Go to www.marchforlife.org to find out about local marches and www.knightsgear.org to obtain right to life gear.....apparel, masks, yard signs, car flags, etc.

At the Forefront for Life Since 1974. In the words of Carl Anderson “The defense of the unborn is a preeminent priority for the Knights of Columbus because abortion is the killing of innocent children on a massive scale”. Since helping to organize the first march in 1974, the Knights of Columbus continues a partnership with both the March for Life and the bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities. The ultimate goal is to build a ***culture of life*** one heart and one child at a time.....the repeal of the disastrous 1973 Roe v. Wade Decision of the Supreme Court and the restoration of legal protection for the unborn in our courts and legislatures. Since that fateful decision, 63 million babies never had a chance to live because they were aborted.

-In 2004 the Knights of Columbus financed the construction of the ***Villa Maria Guadalupe Retreat Center*** in Stamford, CT, run by the Sisters of Life to help woman heal from the anguish of Post Abortion Syndrome.

-In 2008 the Knights of Columbus began an *annual national survey on abortion* with the Marist Poll to understand public attitudes on abortion and to help shape the national debate. The poll found that about 75% of Americans and 60% of those who are pro-choice favor significant restrictions on abortion.

-2009 marked the beginning of the *Ultrasound Initiative* to place 1,300 ultrasound machines at a cost of \$60 million in pregnancy resource centers such as the pregnancy distress centers, etc. which local councils have helped. It is difficult for a woman to choose abortion after seeing a real living little human being growing and moving within her. This initiative has saved thousands of little babies.

I have attended many Marches For Life in Washington D.C. and have talked to knights of near-by councils, who are there as marshals to keep order. Many councils east of the Mississippi River send delegations to march. Members of our own Council 3335 St. Louis Church Gallipolis, Ohio have attended for years. The Knights of Columbus finances the printing of signs and passes them out among the pilgrims. Our brother knight Mike Merry has headed Gallia County Right to Life group for years. Local knights participate in their Life Line rally on the first Sunday of October every year.

Our supreme knight stated in the January issue of *Columbia Magazine* for members: “Roe v. Wade will ultimately fail because it is based on the falsehood that we do not know that the child before birth is a human being. And because it is false, we have worked to overturn it; to mobilize national protests against it; to educate the public about it; to help women heal who have been hurt by it; to help keep more women from being hurt; and to rescue unborn children from its deadly consequences.”

Pope Francis wrote in his encyclical (*Gaudete et Exsultate*, 101) that the “defense of the innocent unborn needs to be clear, firm and passionate, for at stake is the dignity of a human life, which is always sacred”. Encouraged by his words, the Knights of Columbus will continue to build a culture of life in all the nations where it is active.