



*Our Lady of Sorrows Church*  
February 2, 2020

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear People:

March for Life: The 2020 March for Life is over, but the issue is far from over. These yearly demonstrations at the Capitol and other large cities cannot go unnoticed by Congress, who seek votes more than anything. The Pro-life campaign is winning. From an annual 1 million abortions in this country, we are down to 800,000.

Of all the arguments I have seen, the *Birmingham News*, in Sunday's paper (January 26, 2020), had the most potent statement imaginable. The title of the article was: SCIENCE PROVIDES PROOF FOR PRO-LIFE MOVEMENT.

There are many misguided beliefs that, over time, science has proven completely wrong. For example: the earth is flat, people are property, tobacco is harmless, and the fetus is simply a clump of cells with no inherent dignity. This last statement, held in 1973 by many, was the justification for Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court decision that abortion is perfectly legal in this country. Now, with ultrasound and other research, science tells us that the fertilized egg is a human person, with the heartbeat at 18 days and human DNA.

As a matter of fact, the writer of the Roe v. Wade decision, Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmon, wrote that if it were ever proved that the fetus is human, this Roe v. Wade decision, the argument for the legalization of abortion, would collapse. The "right to life" for the fetus would be guaranteed, specifically by the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

Science and law must be in harmony. It is the 47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Roe v. Wade, and it is time to embrace the new developments of science. We must embrace the truth that has become apparent.

The civilized world cries and laments the killing of 6 million Jews by the Hitler regime, and now more and more are realizing what abortion does to human life. We mourn the 61 million Americans killed in this country in the last 47 years, simply because they have life in the womb and not outside the womb.

Thou shalt not kill innocent human life is part of fundamental Judaean Christian ethics. It is simply a serious sin against the law of God, and now we see it as a violation of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

The demonstration in Washington D.C. was a dynamic success. OLS sent their own busload of demonstrators: 39 students and 8 chaperones. Much credit goes to Ginny and Eric Dooley (he was actually in charge of the group, since his wife stayed home with their young children). Ginny preached to the teens before leaving that this was a pilgrimage, with two nights, all night long, on the bus and two nights in a hotel, plenty of walking and learning at the Holocaust Museum and the John Paull II Museum. As Tanner Barlow, who has already registered for next year, said, the numbers of Catholic teens were shocking to Southern Catholic teens, who are so used to being in the minority. Eric and the chaperones organized the extremely well-behaved 39 teens into smaller groups. With cell phones it was not easy to get lost, even though, at one meeting, there were 20,000 participants and at the March 500,000!

Our whole diocese sent 7 buses, and OLS had their own, with a waiting list. Christine Golab said in one word: It was awesome. John Burke said in one word: It was huge, impressive, and he would go again, though missing sleep on the bus was a sacrifice. Teens, like Tanner, said she enjoyed every minute of it. The group loved having a priest, Fr. Balta, with them for confessions and Mass. Fr. Balta's one word to me after returning was: Tired!

Presidents don't write their own speeches, but President Trump delivered his as he meant it. He took more than one bullet, appointing two

pro-life judges to the Supreme Court. He is known as the most pro-life president so far. He was given an electrifying appreciation by the crowd.

Parish Council Meeting: One issue was the Gorrie-Regan parking area, still to be built, for 42 more places. The engineer found by Charles Ferlisi, who has done a great job logically on my behalf, gave a presentation on unavoidable delays. The land has to be rezoned as "Institutional" so there will not be a property tax, and also rezoned by city rules. Then it will go before the City Council for the official rubber stamp.

As soon as I receive my copy of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting, I will give the report on the issue of keeping the 11:30 a.m. Mass or making it 11:45 for safety reasons in the parking lot. Parish Council President, Chris Lawler, suggested we see if the new parking area helps the congestion and danger in between the 10 and 11:30 a.m. Masses. Personally, though I mainly listened, I could see that there were a number of comments to solve the problem other than changing the time of the Masses. There is still time to cast your vote by contacting a member of the parish council, or simply writing a note to the council via the Church Office. Thanks to Fran Robertson for the most complete coverage of parishioner responses.

Crying babies at the 8:30 Mass: Yes, the Pope said to bring the children to Church, but he did not say bring them if they are crying. Our right to stretch out our hands stops at the point of another's nose. Since there is the vestibule and chairs available, if the infant keeps crying, be considerate of the hundreds of people who have come to pray and not be so distracted.

With prayers and blessings,  
Father Muller



Vita D'Amico, Mary Ann Hui,  
Charlie Kai Wadsworth,  
Melanie Gilchrist, Kennie  
Skellie, Buddy DiChiara



Monday, Feb. 3	Mary Ann Dennis	
	Sp. Int. Jude & Claudia Tombrello	
	Lena Carruba	
Tuesday, Feb. 4	Special Intention	
	Mary Louise & Henry Hanna	
	Tommy Priola	
Wednesday, Feb. 5	Sp. Int. Stephanie Burke	
	Nancy Jane Madison	
	Carl Gagliano Sr.	
	Special Intention	
Thursday, Feb. 6	Nancy Jane Madison	
	Carl Gagliano, Sr.	
	Anne Cooper	
Friday, Feb. 7	Sp. Int. Chris Lawler	
	Nancy Jane Madison	
Saturday, Feb. 8	Donors to OLS School Foundation	
	Tommy Priola	
	Carl Gagliano, Sr.	
Sunday, Feb. 9	People of the Parish	
	Anne Tighe	
	Drew Colpack	

## CHAPEL OF OUR SAVIOR

The Chapel needs permanent Committed Adorers for:

**Monday at 10 AM (Share with Partner)**

**Monday at 3:00 PM (With Partner)**

**Friday at 8:00 AM (With Partner)**

**Friday at 1:00 PM (With Partner)**

**Saturday at 11:00 AM (With Partner)**

Our goal is to have at least 2 people on each hour. These are the hours needed but do select an hour that best fits your schedule.

Please call Mary Claire Brouillette at 871-2909 or Trudy Carpri at 643-0248.

**NEW OFFICE HOURS:** The Church Office will now close at 2 p.m. on Fridays. Please make note of the new schedule.

**Monday - Thursday**      **8 a.m. - 4 p.m.**  
**Friday**                    **8 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

**Everyone is invited** to attend Adult Education on Sunday, February 9. Our topic is *"How to Win an Argument Without Losing a Soul."* We will view a video by Catholic apologist and evangelist Matt Fradd that offers the skills and strategies for presenting your points. The gathering begins in the Parish Hall at 9:45 a.m. with fellowship and light refreshments and the class begins at 10 a.m. Childcare is available in the nursery.

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**V.I.P.** will be held on Tuesday, February 4. Mass begins at 11 a.m. in the Parish Hall, followed by lunch and bingo.

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**An Appreciation Dinner** will be held for the Bereavement Committee and anyone who has helped in any way with funeral mercy meals. Please join us on Monday, February 10, at 6 p.m. in the Family Life Center. If you are interested in getting involved with this ministry, you are most welcome to join us. Please **RSVP** by Thursday, February 6, to Jane DeMeis at 205-337-0023.

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**Our Lady of Peace Guild** will meet in the Sodality room at 12 noon on Monday, February 3. Remember to bring a sandwich; drinks and dessert will be provided. All women of the parish are invited to attend.

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**All ladies of the parish are invited** to join St. Ann's Guild on Wednesday, February 5. This month, our opening prayer will begin at 10 a.m. at the entrance to the Church, weather permitting, for those able to walk the new outdoor Stations of the Cross, with a blessing of the Stations by Fr. Balta. The meeting will begin at 10:30 in the Family Life Center. Our speaker will be Stephanie Burke, Director of the Avila Institute. Lunch will be provided. Please contact Anne McMahon (936-9183) at [afhmcmahon@gmail.com](mailto:afhmcmahon@gmail.com), or Jen Dent (903-7353) at [jendavisdent@bellsouth.net](mailto:jendavisdent@bellsouth.net) with any questions.

## **What's Going on in Youth Ministry?**

**Edge and LifeTeen** meet most Sundays from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center. All 6-12th graders are invited to grow in community with their Church family!

**Sunday, February 2:** Please join us for Super Bowling Sunday! Meet at Vestavia Bowl. Cost is \$5 and covers dinner, shoes, and two hours of bowling. Bring your own arcade money.

Check out [olsyouth.com](http://olsyouth.com) for our complete Spring schedules!

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**SAVE THE DATE:** St. Joseph's Altar will be held on Saturday, March 14, after the 5 p.m. Mass. More Information to Follow.

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**The Monsignor Frank J. Wade Assembly #1288 of the Knights of Columbus** extends an invitation to attend a Memorial Mass on Saturday, February 22, at 5 p.m. to honor the memory and service of worthy Sir Brother Knights: Alvin Dupont, Carl Gagliano, and Tony Timpa. These men were members of the Fourth Degree assembly of the Knights of Columbus in Homewood, Alabama. A Chalice Memorial will be presented in their names to Fr. Balta Pentareddy at the Memorial Mass.

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**The Magnificat Prayer Luncheon** will be held in the Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Hall on Saturday, February 22, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Stephanie Burke, Director of the Avila Institute, will be our speaker. Tickets are \$15 and are available by contacting Donna Chmielarski at 408-0308, or at Alpha Church Supply. No tickets will be sold at the door.

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**HELP WANTED:** Cashier and prep help needed at John Carroll Catholic HS. Hours approx. 8-2 during the school year. Must be reliable and personable. No experience needed. Please call Barbara at (205) 790-2053.