

www.GospelofLifeInstitute.org
Western Washington Pro-Life Update

May 6, 2009

COMMENTARY AND NEWS

Warriors for the Victory of Life
Key Note Address for the 2009 Gospel of Life Convention
April 18, 2009 – St. Thomas Aquinas High School
Most Reverend Robert W. Finn
Bishop of Kansas City-St. Joseph

...as I speak a word of encouragement today I also want to tell you soberly, dear friends, “We are at war!”

We are at war.

Harsh as this may sound it is true – but it is not new. This war to which I refer did not begin in just the last several months, although new battles are underway – and they bring an intensity and urgency to our efforts that may rival any time in the past.

But it is correct to acknowledge that you and I are warriors - members of the Church on earth – often called the Church Militant. Those who have gone ahead of us have already completed their earthly battles. Some make up the Church Triumphant – Saints in heaven who surround and support us still – tremendous allies in the battle for our eternal salvation; and the Church Suffering (souls in purgatory who depend on our prayers and meritorious works and suffrages).

But we are the Church on Earth – The Church Militant. We are engaged in a constant warfare with Satan, with the glamour of evil, and the lure of false truths and empty promises. If we fail to realize how constantly these forces work against us, we are more likely to fall, and even chance forfeiting God’s gift of eternal life.

The ultimate promise of the Gospel.

Before I go any further I must proclaim a most important truth – a truth that we have just been celebrating throughout the last week: Jesus Christ, in His life, death, and Resurrection, has already won the war: definitively and once for all. He has conquered sin and death and has won the prize of life on high in heaven forever. We know the final outcome, but the battle for eternal life is now played out in each human heart with a free will to love or not, to be faithful or to walk away from the life which has been offered as God’s most wonderful gift.

Every day the choice is before us: right or wrong; good or bad; the blessing or the curse; life or death. Our whole life must be oriented toward choosing right, the good, the blessing; choosing life.

If you and I fail to realize the meaning and finality behind our choices, and the intensity of the

constant warfare that confronts us, it is likely that we will drop our guard, be easily and repeatedly deceived, and even lose the life of our eternal soul.

As bishop I have a weighty responsibility to tell you this over and over again. This obligation is not always easy, and constantly I am tempted to say and do less, rather than more. Almost everyday I am confronted with the persuasion of other people who want me to be silent. But – with God's grace – you and I will not be silent. [Read more...](#)



It's About Life Conference Photos

[Mary E.'s](#) photos from the April 19-20, 2009 It's About Life Conference can be viewed [here](#). Fr. Bloom's photos can be seen on [his website](#).



Olympia Maintains Abortion Funding in Budget, Despite Desperate Need for Budget Cuts

It seems the legislators in Olympia came to a budget deal yesterday evening, April 27. While some journalists have spoken of "painful cuts" the Democrats made, one cut they could have made that would have saved a lot of pain never happened.

They decided to continue spending \$7 million a year in subsidies to the abortion industry.

Now technically these subsidies take the form of Medicaid insurance payments, not direct bailouts. But as we have documented on this blog, and is now well summarized on the [campaign website to end tax-funding of abortion in Washington](#), this money ends up almost entirely in the hands of a handful of abortionists and abortion clinic operators making a quarter of a million dollars a year in some cases. [Read more...](#)

EVENTS

Bremerton Prayer Vigil

Please join us in praying outside the Bremerton Planned Parenthood abortuary, 623 Riddell Rd. in East Bremerton, on **Wednesdays from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.** We pray the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Helpers of God's Precious Infants

For more information regarding upcoming Prayer Vigils, please visit [Helper's of God's Precious Infants](#).

Holy Family, Seattle Activities

We have a weekly Friday morning prayer vigil in front of the West Seattle Planned Parenthood at 9641 28th Ave SW. We leave from Holy Family Parish (9622 - 20th Ave SW) at 7:15 a.m. As the weather gets colder, we especially welcome those who can join us, either walking from the parish at

7:15 a.m. or in front of the clinic from 7:30 to 8:10 a.m. We walk back to the parish in time for the 8:30 a.m. Friday morning Mass. All are welcome to participate.

Olympia Activities

Mondays, 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Sidewalk counseling and prayer at Olympia's Planned Parenthood (Meet at Planned Parenthood). Fr. Lee Perry from St. George Byzantine Church leads prayers. All faiths are welcomed and respected.

Fridays, 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Some Catholics meet on Fridays at St. Michael Parish for 9:00 a.m. Mass, and pray the Rosary for Life at 9:45. They then join the sidewalk counselors who have been at Planned Parenthood beginning at 8:00 a.m. The counselors are able to offer immediate help (Shelter Home for Pregnant Teens) to those arriving for abortions. At 12:30 we break for lunch. The day's activities **usually** end around lunchtime with ecumenical prayer. For more information, please contact Ed Sauley at 360-480-9329 or www.SHOWTHETRUTH.org

Show the Truth Cross State Tour

We have numerous one day tours which we schedule so as to assist the local pro-lifers with their outreach.

Please call Ed Sauley at 360-480-9329 for directions and information, or check the [SHOW THE TRUTH](http://www.SHOWTHETRUTH.org) web page.

Tacoma Stands Up For Life

Sidewalk counseling and Rosary Brigade.

Date: Every Wednesday morning

Location 1: Cedar River Abortion Mill, 14th and Martin Luther King Way in Tacoma Hill Top area
Sidewalk Counseling: 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Rosary: 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Location 2: Planned Parenthood Abortion Mill, 813 M L K Way

Rosary: 11:15 -12:00 noon

Everyone with a heart for life and the "little ones" are invited to join us as we pray and tell the truth. For information contact: Bud Niebergall at 564-5241 or Stan Schack at 564-7822.

Please visit <http://gospeloflifeinstitute.org/vigils.htm> for additional prayer vigil dates, times, and locations.

SUPPORT

Rachel's Vineyard

If you wish to attend a [Rachel's Vineyard](#) retreat at one of the locations below, please call or e-mail the contact person listed or call toll-free 877 HOPE 4 ME.

Washington

- **Auburn**
Contact: Noemi 206-450-7814
Next Retreat: TBA
Note: Espanol
- **Ellensburg**
Sponsor: Diocese of Yakima

Contact: [Nancy Murray](#) 509 554 9415

Next retreat: TBA

- **Longbranch**

Contact: [Valerie Jacobs](#) 800 822 HOPE

Next retreat: **August 7-9, 2009**

- **Monroe**

Contact: [Barbara Olson](#) 425-346-9381

Next retreats: **May 28-30, 2009**

- **November 5-7, 2009**

- **Stanwood**

Contact: [Valerie Jacobs](#) 800 822 HOPE

Next retreat: **May 15 - 17, 2009**

- **Vancouver**

Contact: [Valerie Jacobs](#) 800 822 HOPE

Next retreat: TBA

Note: Espanol

Oregon

- **Eugene**

Contact: [Lori Eckstine](#) 800 249 8074 or 541 521 5186

Next retreat: **June 5-7, 2009**

- **Medford**

Contact: [Lori Eckstine](#) 800 249 8074 or 541 521 5186

Next retreat: TBA

- **Portland**

Contact: [Lori Eckstine](#) 800 249 8074 or 541 521 5186

Next retreat: TBA

If you would like the Gospel of Life Institute to post information about a pro-life event in Washington, please e-mail us.

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