



LIFELINES

www.midlandrtl.org

February 2008

Roe v Wade Memorial Reflections

On January 22, 2008, 40 area pro-life witnesses gathered at the Midland County Courthouse to mourn 35 years of legal abortion. Pastor Terry Turner from the Community Church of the Nazarene led us in a beautiful prayer for the unborn and focused much of the prayer for the women hurting from an unplanned pregnancy. Thank you to Pastor Turner, to the First United Methodist Church for use of your fellowship hall, to all who came out to pray, to all who stayed for refreshments afterward and to all those who couldn't be at our vigil because you made the long trip to Washington DC for the National March for Life. God Bless you!

A common myth in the pro-abortion circle is that pro-lifers don't care about the woman – only the fetus. I've even read that they think we want to make criminals out of these women and send them to jail. I don't know about you, but I have personally never met a pro-lifer with the goal of sending women to jail for having abortions. We are compassionate people.

I am pro-life (and believe you are too) because I believe we are all created by God for a reason. I am pro-life because I believe in the humanity of the unborn. I am pro-life because I believe that abortion hurts women and they deserve real help from us. I am pro-life because I believe abortion hurts us as a country by decreasing respect for life. This last point is easy to verify. Child abuse has risen over 400% since abortions became legal, and look at the increase in cases of pregnant women being killed because they refused to have abortions. Study after study shows that post-abortive women are more likely to commit suicide &/or abuse drugs and alcohol. No, abortion is not helping women. Women need real options like help with financial needs and help with child care so they can work or go to school. They need love, support and prayers – not abortion.

Health Hut

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“It is a very great poverty to decide that a child must die that you might live as you wish.”




Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Your 2008 Right to Life of Midland County, Inc. officers and board members are:

*President: Joe Sheffbuch, Vice President: Julia Hoving,
Treasurer: Joanne Bober, Secretary: Stephanie LaFramboise,
Board Members: Liz Pahl, Lorie Shane, Kamila Turowska,*

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\$ CONTEST \$

Are you in **High School**? Do you need **money**? Then you'll want to join our high school oratorical contest for a chance to win **Big Bucks**! All you need to do is **fill out the registration** form on page 3 and **mail it in**. Then **write an original speech** 5 – 7 minutes long on one of the following pro-life topics: Abortion – Infanticide – Euthanasia – Cloning – Embyonic Stem Cell Research.

Deliver your speech to a small panel of judges for your chance to **win cash**! First place winner walks away with a cool **\$100** and a chance to compete at the state level May 3 for \$500! You heard right!

Local prizes are \$100 - \$50 - \$25
State prizes are \$500 - \$300 - \$200
National prizes are \$1000 - \$750 - \$500 - \$250

So don't delay. Take a stand for life! Fill out your registration form and mail it to Liz Pahl by Tuesday, March 4! Call Liz at 839-9308 with any questions. Contest will be held on Thursday, March 6, 7:00PM at the Community Church of the Nazarene, 5700 Jefferson Ave, Midland.

Knights of Columbus

GRAND KNIGHTS

Dennis Taylor
St. Agnes

Mike Grekowicz
Father DuRussel

Tom Erickson
Cardinal Hickey



FINANCIAL SECRETARIES

Frank Cieszlak
St. Agnes

Paul Card
Father DuRussel

Bruce Grant
Cardinal Hickey

St. Agnes Council No. 8043 of Sanford
Father Henry P. DuRussel Council No. 2141 of Midland &
Cardinal Hickey Council No. 14056 of Midland
Support the work of Right to Life of Michigan!

Right to Life of Michigan Educational Fund High School Oratory Contest

Application Form

Please Print:

Name _____

Address/City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Birthdate _____

School Name _____

Address/City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Grade (2007-2008 school year) _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Topic (circle one): Abortion Infanticide Euthanasia Stem Cell Cloning

Return this form by the entry deadline to local coordinator:

Deadline: Tuesday, March 4th

Coordinator: Liz Pahl

Address: 3066 E. Gordonville Rd, Midland, MI 48640

Phone: 839-9308

email: tpahl8@hotmail.com or midlandrtl@yahoo.com

Local Contest Date: Thursday, March 6th 7pm in Midland



Life Notes... Sidewalk Counseling

Years ago I read a book that talked about not being pro-life in name only. I thought "Yeah, I'm tired of people who say they're pro-life but don't do anything about it. They don't vote pro-life, they don't donate to the pro-life movement, they don't give their time. They're not really pro-life like I am." Then I read the book. According to the book, I wasn't pro-life enough either. The author's viewpoint was that if you weren't out at clinics blocking doors and willing to get arrested, you weren't pro-life enough. Needless to say, I was a little offended. After all, I wasn't interested in sidewalk counseling. I had a husband and family to consider.

It's been about ten years since I read that book. I still disagree with the author that the only way to be pro-life is to be out on the streets, but I'm a little less proud of my own personal pro-life achievements. I understand now how God calls us all to different tasks, even within the same ministry. I understand how the prayers of shut-ins or others unwilling or unable to go to the clinics can still build up the clinic workers and help with their prayers.

Last fall the local Knights of Columbus sponsored a 40 days for Life campaign at the two abortion clinics in Saginaw and I finally left my comfort zone to go to the clinic and pray. I'm extremely grateful to the men and women who give their time to be there, sometimes 3 days a week offering hope to young women who think their situation is hopeless. It's hard to watch the women come and go. Sad when they go in, even sadder when they leave. It's hard because most don't even stop to talk. I think they believe the media that the people outside the clinics are judging them or want to hurt them. It's a shame they can't see the love that we offer them - that we truly want to help them.

I think I prayed outside the clinic six different times. In all those days, only one girl stopped to say she changed her mind. In all those days, she was the only pro-choice person I saw that had any joy. The interesting thing to me was that she was willing to have a chemical abortion because she believed they are safer than surgical abortions. She said a friend of hers had a surgical abortion and suffered many complications. When she found out she was 3 days past the deadline for chemical abortions, instead of being sad and distraught, she was thrilled that she was able to keep her baby. How many other girls going in are "looking for an excuse" to keep their babies? I'm thankful for the men and women who are there to offer an excuse to those women. But I'm also thankful for the men and women who build up the culture of life in their everyday lives - by praying, voting pro-life, talking with co-workers and neighbors, teaching their children, visiting nursing homes, donating to food pantries... The attitude in America is changing and it's due to all of you. Thank you!

Advertising Opportunities. Our affiliate will once again be placing a *Residents for Life* ad in the Right to Life of Michigan Conference Book. If you would like your name to appear, please send a check for \$10 to RTL of Midland by March 15 and in the memo section write "Residents ad". If you want your name to appear differently than it does on your check, please also make a note of how you would like your name to appear (i.e. The Smith Family, Mr & Mrs John Smith, John & Mary Smith...)

If you own a business or know of a pro-life business owner who would like to purchase an ad in the RLM Conference Book, please contact us for more information at 835-2222. Thanks!

Yes! I want to be a member of Right to Life of Midland County, Inc.

Enclosed is payment for: _____ New membership or: _____ Renewal() \$5.00 Student () \$8.00
Senior () \$12.00 Single () \$18.00 Family
() \$25.00 Silver () \$50.00 Gold () \$75.00 Platinum () \$_____ Extra Donation

****_____Yes, I Would Also Like To Volunteer My Time****

Send me information on:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attending monthly meetings | <input type="checkbox"/> Roe v Wade Vigil (January 22) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Being a public spokesperson for RTL | <input type="checkbox"/> High school oratorical contest (Spring) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Making phone calls for membership drives | <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt-a-highway cleanup (April & September) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Making phone calls to lobby politicians | <input type="checkbox"/> Midland County Fair booth (August) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinating community events | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Chain (October) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> Rummage sale |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Working on newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Focus on Life dinner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Being a church representative for _____ Church | |

YES, make our Right to Life funds do more! Send my newsletter by e-mail to my address below

Name _____ Date _____

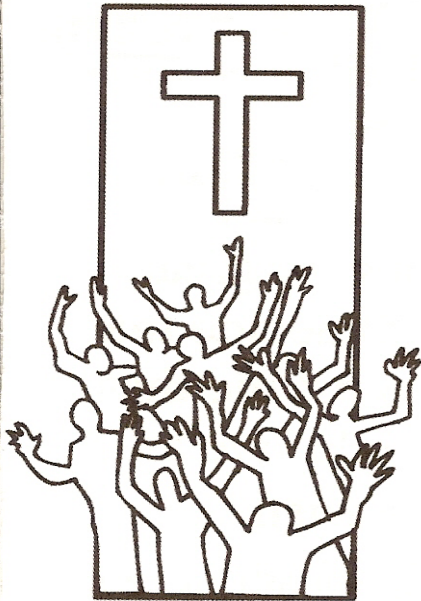
Address _____ Email _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Gifts and membership to Right to Life of Midland are non-tax deductible for income tax purposes.

www.midlandrtl.org

Midland Area Catholic Churches



Assumption BVM Parish

3516 Monroe Road
Midland MI 48642
989 631-4447

Saint Brigid Parish

207 Ashman Street
Midland MI 48642
989 835-7121

Blessed Sacrament Parish

3109 Swede Avenue
Midland MI 48642
989 835-6777

Respecting Life from Womb to Tomb

Right to Life of Midland County, Inc.

PO Box 463

Midland, MI 48641-0463

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Calendar of Events

Thursday, March 6, *High School Oratorical Contest*, 7:00p.m., Community Church of the Nazarene. Come and encourage our youth!

Saturday, March 8, *Women's Expo* 9:00 – 6:00 Valley Plaza. Stop by and say “hi” at the Bay/Midland County Right to Life booth.

Thursday, March 13, *Monthly Meeting*, 7:00p.m., Library Conference Room B. Join us!

Thursday, April 10, *Monthly Meeting*, 7:00p.m., Library Conference Room B. Hope to see you there!

April – *Adopt-a-Highway*, along M-20. Date and time TBA.

Thursday, May 8, *Monthly Meeting*, 7:00p.m., Library Conference Room B. Please come and give us your input!