



DEFEND LIFE

Promoting the Culture of Life and Fighting the Culture of Death since 1987

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Amendment won't rein in porn-pushing Md. library St. Mary's delegation caves under pressure, guts strong bill

When House Bill 136 was introduced in the Maryland General Assembly on January 15, a group of St. Mary's County residents thought they had finally won their battle to rein in their county library board of trustees which, they contend, was enabling the library to push dangerous porn on the young.

But at a February 1 hearing, the St. Mary's delegation amended the bill, gutting language that would have given power to appoint board of trustees members to the St. Mary's County Commissioners.

Salacious sex ed, 'banned books'

Under the leadership of St. Mary's County Library Director Michael Blackwell—named director by the St. Mary's County Library Board of Trustees in 2015—the library implemented two initiatives in 2017 that, opponents say, foisted pornographic material on young library goers.

On May 21 the library's Lexington Park branch hosted a no-holds-barred, no-adults-allowed sex ed workshop for teens only, conducted by controversial "sex educator" Bianca Palmisano.

In September-October, the same branch held a 'banned books' dis-

play enticing minors to read controversial books, many of which were salacious and pornographic.

Under present Maryland state law, St. Mary's County Commissioners appoint new members to the



St. Mary's County Library and Director Michael Blackwell have received criticism for sex-related initiatives for teens.

county library's board of trustees, but may appoint members only from a list of appointees given them by the sitting Library Board of Trustees.

St. Mary's County State Dele-

gate Deborah Rey (R, 29B) submitted an amendment to the Annotated Code of Maryland allowing the St. Mary's County Commissioners to independently name and appoint Library Board of Trustees members..

"The Library Board of Trustees must be held accountable to the citizens, who pay for the library," St. Mary's County resident Georgia Kijesky said at a December 5 joint meeting of the St. Mary's County Commissioners with the county's state delegation.

The County Commissioners have direct oversight of 35 of the 36 boards in St. Mary's County, the only exception being the Library Board of Trustees, noted Kijesky.

"Up until this proposed amendment, they have been accountable only to themselves," she charged.

St. Mary's County resident Jennifer Mountjoy agreed. "The library has become a very insular and isolated board that selects its own members and appoints its own director," she told the December 5 meeting.

"It needs to be brought in line with the rest of the boards in the county. The County Commissioners, who are elected, need to take full charge of selecting and appointing the Library Board of Trustees."

‘Planted’ book to attack library

An email recovered under the Maryland Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) reveals that Library Director Blackwell claimed that an opponent of the library’s sexual initiatives for minors ‘planted’ fake evidence of a book supposedly part of the ‘banned books’ display but that was, in fact, not part of it.

“One discontented person has taken a photo of a book that is supposedly on our display, but we have video evidence that it never was,” wrote Blackwell in an October 17 email hours before a stormy St. Mary’s County Commissioners meeting that night.

“That person has shared the photo on social media and via email to try to discredit the library,” the director continued in his email to St. Mary’s County Administrator Rebecca Bridgett.

“I would appreciate you relaying to the county commissioners that this person has planted evidence to attack our staff, no doubt to try to influence selection of our library trustees since Maryland law prohibits appointment to our board of candidates not approved by our trustees,” he concluded.

Speaking before the commissioners’ meeting the evening of October 17, Kijesky held up a copy of a book, *The Little Black Book for Girlz*, that she said was part of the ‘banned books’ display at St. Mary’s County Lexington Park branch.

Describing it as “riddled with graphic, sexually explicit photographs,” Kijesky read aloud several salacious excerpts from the book.

“That book came from the library?” County Commissioner Michael Hewitt asked Kijesky after she

had finished.

“Yes, it did,” she replied.

“It has a library bar code on it?” he queried. “Let me see it.”

Kijesky handed him her copy of *Little Black Book*, which he examined, then confirmed to his fellow commissioners that it indeed bore a St. Mary’s County library bar code.

According to St. Mary’s County Library’s online catalog (accessed by *Defend Life* on January 9), the county’s Lexington Park branch has one copy of *The Little Black Book for Girlz*.

The catalog also lists copies of the novel, *Cherry*, by Lindsey Ros-

‘This person has planted evidence to attack our staff, no doubt to try to influence selection of our library trustees.’

in, at the library’s Lexington Park and Charlotte Hall branches.

Cherry, which was also cited by Kijesky before the commissioners, features a cover illustration of a male appendage dripping some type of liquid.

Although most book entries on the catalog include small photos of the book cover, the cover picture for *Cherry*, which is categorized as a Young Adult (ages 12-18) novel, was blacked out.

Blackwell speaks out

Director Blackwell stepped up to the microphone twice to address the county commissioners and state representatives at the December 5

meeting.

In his first speech, he lauded both the commissioners and the state delegation for their support of state funding for the library.

“This fiscal year we received one million nine hundred thousand from the state Library Capital Fund; we got the biggest grant of any library in the state—we beat Baltimore, Baltimore County, Anne Arundel, Montgomery!” he reported.

Blackwell asked for their continued support for state funding in the coming year.

“This new building is badly needed,” he said, referring to a new, \$12.8 million library building in Leonardtown to replace the old Leonardtown library.

“We’re especially lacking in small meeting room spaces for tutoring. Our meeting spaces for children are totally inadequate,” he added.

After several speakers had called for allowing the county commissioners to appoint members to the Library Board of Trustees, Blackwell returned to the microphone to defend the existing naming process.

“The Library Board of Trustees has an extensive interview process,” he noted. “We ask ten questions of each candidate, and I should point out that I’m not involved with that decision and don’t even get to sit in on the interviews—those are my bosses—I don’t even get to pick my boss!” he joked.

“I think they have given you nothing but great recommendations.”

Referring to the effort to curtail the board’s power he said, “I think this is a transparent effort to politi-

See LIBRARY, page 6

She dared to be ridiculous so God could be miraculous

Mother Mary Angelica of the Annunciation was in a quandary.

She had ordered a satellite dish for her TV station, Eternal Word Television Network, which cost \$700,000.

At the time, said EWTN CEO Michael Warsaw, “Mother Angelica had some nuns, some sheep and goats, and 200 bucks in the bank.”

She had told the seller, “How ‘bout we do this cash on demand? I’ll pay when you deliver it!” Warsaw told pro-lifers at his Defend Life-sponsored talk at Holy Redeemer Catholic School in Kensington, Md., on January 17.

The seller had agreed.

On delivery day, “The truck driver calls her: I’ve got your equipment; I’ll deliver it when you have a check for it,” said Warsaw.

Unfortunately, Mother still didn’t have the \$700,000.

“She did what she always did,” he recalled; “she went into the chapel to pray.”

She was about to tell the driver that she didn’t have the money, when the nuns told her she had a phone call.

“The man on the phone tells her, ‘My son was an addict; I nearly lost him. But I put one of your mini-books in his hands, and because of the inspiration of your mini-book, he went to rehab. You saved his life! I want to give you \$700,000!’”

The irrepressible nun replied, “Could you wire transfer that?” Then she told her purser to write the check, and told the driver to unload the equipment.

Mother makes a deal

“Mother Angelica’s story is



EWTN CEO Michael Warsaw shares heartwarming tales of the irrepressible Mother Angelica at his Defend Life talk.

about Divine Providence at work,” and her complete and absolute trust in His providence, explained Warsaw.

Born in 1923 in a poor, heavily Italian neighborhood in Canton, Ohio, where her grandfather ran a saloon, Rita Antoinette Rizzo was unwanted by her father, who was physically abusive to her mother.

When she was 5, her father abandoned the family and they were left destitute. Her mother struggled financially with odd jobs and suffered from chronic depression.

Rita was a drum majorette at the public high school she attended, but was a poor student, and suffered terribly from chronic physical ailments, said Warsaw.

When she was 19, her mother took her to local mystic and stigmatist Rhoda Wise, who told her to pray a novena to St. Therese of Lisieux. On the ninth day of the novena, Rita woke up completely healed. Believing that it was a miracle, she decided to give herself to Jesus.

At age 21 she became a Poor

Clare nun in Cleveland, taking the name, Sister Mary Angelica of the Annunciation.

“She was known in the community for her resourcefulness,” said Warsaw, “so the abbess asked her to build a grotto.”

Sister Angelica got her friends in her old Italian neighborhood to build the grotto—“one of her first building projects,” he noted.

In 1956, polishing floors with an industrial floor-scrubber, she suffered a severe back injury.

“Her surgeon says, there’s a 50-50 chance you’ll never walk again,” said Warsaw. “She said, ‘Lord if you’ll let me walk again, I’ll build you a monastery in the South.’”

“God kept His part of the bargain,” he said.

After obtaining permission from the Archbishop of Mobile-Birmingham, she acquired land in Birmingham and started raising funds for the project.

“Here in the 1960s, we see Mother Angelica the entrepreneur emerge,” observed Warsaw.

“She and the nuns devise a fishing lure business: St. Peter’s Fishing Lures. The nuns work three hours a day on an assembly line, making the lures.”

Their business picked up steam when *Sports Illustrated* ran a story about the “miraculous fishing lures.”

In 1962, Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, aimed at creating a community in the heavily Protestant South to appeal to African-Americans and bring about racial harmony, was officially established in Irondale, Alabama.

In the 1970s Mother Angelica began to give talks and lead Bible studies in Episcopal and Baptist churches.

She also felt called to be a writer, and wrote 55 mini-books on religious topics.

Mother began a massive printing and book distribution operation out of the monastery in 1978, building her reputation as a communicator and teacher, said Warsaw.

I don’t need you! I’ve got God

In the late 1970s she began to produce TV segments for religious programs at the local CBS affiliate in Birmingham.

She began to think about starting her own TV station after seeing a TV studio in operation in Chicago.

“But the real catalyst was an encounter with the CBS affiliate’s general manager,” noted Warsaw.

She asked him if he was going to air a certain objectionable movie. When he said “yes,” she replied, “If you show it, I can no longer produce my programs here.”

“He said, ‘If you walk out that door, you’ll never do television again!’” said Warsaw.

“She told him, ‘I don’t need you! I’ve got God. I’ll run my own

damn TV station!’”

Back at the monastery, she told the boss of a construction crew that was building a garage, “Nelson, I don’t want you to build a garage; I want you to build a television studio.”

“He said, ‘All right, Mother, we’ll build a television studio. What’s a television studio?’”

Then, said Warsaw, “Somebody told her about satellite TV.

“She said, ‘I want to do this! How do you do it?’ They said, you need a satellite dish, a license, and a lawyer.”

She tells the flabbergasted attorney, ‘I’m a cloistered nun and I want to start a television station.’

Mother scanned an attorneys’ directory, saw the name Robert Corisini, thought, ‘He’s Italian, I’m Italian,’ and gave him a call.

“She tells him, ‘I’m a cloistered nun in Birmingham, Alabama, and I want to start a television station.’”

The flabbergasted attorney, who happened to work exclusively in communications law, told her, ‘I’m going to Atlanta to see another client, and I’ll stop by to see you.’”

The “other client” was Ted Turner, who was working on launching CNN.

Eternal Word Television Network began broadcasting in 1981.

“It was available in 60,000 homes in the Southeast, four hours a day, and was a mix of Mother Angelica and ‘Leave It to Beaver’ and Father Knows Best reruns,” said Warsaw.

By 1987 it was broadcasting 24 hours a day, seven days a week to millions of homes in the U.S.

“Mother Angelica didn’t have a business plan,” he explained: “Again, her perspective of her role as CEO came from her complete reliance on God’s providence.”

In the 1990s she began to launch a series of international channels and a global shortwave service that evolved into an AM-FM radio service.

“She also became a TV personality. Sometimes she had a good bit of fun too,” flipping pizzas or donning a sombrero for a lively Mexican song number.

In 1996 Mother Angelica had a mystical experience in Bogota, Columbia, in which the child Jesus told her that if she built a temple, he would help her in her work.

With five families anonymously covering the cost, she acquired a 380-acre soybean farm in Hanceville, Alabama, where she built a magnificent shrine.

“The new monastery allowed her to move from Irondale to a more cloistered area,” explained Warsaw. “It returned her to where she began—her life as a cloistered nun.”

On Christmas Eve of 2001, Mother Angelica suffered a severe stroke.

“Ultimately, her speech failed her, and she lived out her last days as a contemplative,” he said.

“But like all things in her life, she accepted that as God’s providence. She knew that this suffering, this time of purification, was what God willed for her.”

She died on Easter Sunday of 2016.

“I’m often asked, what’s Mother Angelica’s most iconic quote? She

See ANGELICA, page 15

Red Rose Rescuers counsel for 3 hours at D.C. abortion mill

Alexandria clinic manager blocks elevator, rescuers hop on another

By Bob Brown

For three hours on December 2, pro-life activists maintained unfettered access to a Washington, D.C., abortion center.

Police confronted them inside the medical building but left without making arrests.

But the day still ended with handcuffs and lock-ups.

In a coordinated effort that Saturday, pro-life activists entered three abortion centers—one each in Alexandria, Va. (the site of a September 15 rescue), Washington D.C., and West Bloomfield, Mich.—to deliver roses and talk to women scheduled to abort their babies.

Police subsequently arrested 11 of the 14 Red Rose Rescue participants.

None of the six activists previously arrested at Alexandria Women's Health Clinic on September 15 returned there on December 2. A Virginia judge on November 20 had given each of them a \$500 suspended fine pending no further violations within a year.

But four different pro-lifers (including this reporter) entered the Alexandria abortion center at 8:30 a.m. on December 2.

Seven rescuers entered the West Bloomfield center, and later that afternoon three of the prior Alexandria arrestees went into the Washington,

D.C., abortion center, operated by notorious late-term abortionist Steven Brigham.

The manager of the Alexandria apartment building in which the abortion clinic was located saw the roses we four rescuers carried and apparently remembered the September rescue.

She challenged us and tried to block us from entering one elevator, but we went up to the second floor via a different elevator and hurried down the hall into the abortion center's waiting room.

We were able to counsel the half-dozen women and their companions for only five minutes, when an abortion center employee moved most of the clients into another room and locked the door behind them.

We continued conversations with three women who stayed behind.

When police arrived, this reporter complied with their order to leave the abortion center, but Lauren Handy, Linda Mueller and Michael Webb refused to go and were subsequently arrested.

Mueller, a mother of six children ranging in ages from 16 to 34, said she had never done anything like a rescue before.

"I had always wanted to do something more meaningful than marching," Mueller said later that day.

Mueller, Handy, and Webb were processed and released in time to join pro-lifers praying outside the activists' afternoon objective, Capital Women's Services, in northwest Washington, D.C., operated by



Police arrest Fr. Stephen Imbarrato at a Washington, D.C., abortion facility.

Brigham, who has had his medical license revoked in New Jersey and Maryland.

In 2011, after authorities investigating a botched abortion at Brigham's Elkton, Md. facility found nearly three dozen late-term aborted babies stored in a freezer, Brigham faced ten counts of murder.

State prosecutors later withdrew the charges when they said they couldn't prove the babies had died in Maryland.

At 2:00 p.m., three activists—Priests for Life associate Fr. Stephen Imbarrato, Joan McKee, and Julia Haag—all of whom had been arrested in September in Alexandria, went into the three-story medical building that houses Brigham's abortion center and other businesses at a busy Georgia Avenue intersection.

Police arrived but were not able to locate the building's owner or manager to secure a complaint.

To the surprise of the rescuers

and several pro-lifers praying in front of the building, the police then left, allowing Imbarrato, McKee, and Haag to remain in the hallway outside the abortion center's waiting room.

Around 5:00 p.m., the police were summoned back to the building, and they arrested the three activists when they refused to leave.

Imbarrato went limp and had to be carried out. He grimaced in pain as he was handcuffed and dragged into a waiting police vehicle, but supporters shouted encouragements of "We love you, Father!"

Imbarrato was also encouraged by some probable saves.

"We think two abortion-minded women left while we were there," Imbarrato said later by email.

"Being jailed for twelve hours was a new experience, but I found it very prayerful."

One of the building's other occupants, physician Patrick Fasusi, appeared troubled by the abortion

business next door to his office. He claimed he didn't know that Brigham, who has operated in the building since May 2017, performed abortions.

"I'm angry," Fasusi told me. "I will speak to management about removing [Brigham]."

Fasusi, a pain management specialist, said he had never participated in an abortion but expressed concern that the commotion outside the building was hurting his business.

Five activists, including Madonna University professor Monica Migliorino Miller, were also arrested on December 2 when they refused to leave Women's Center Clinic in West Bloomfield, Mich.

Miller had been arrested on September 15 at another Detroit-area abortion center.

Two college-age women who had entered the West Bloomfield center to counsel left when instructed by police to do so.

LIBRARY, from page 2

cize the library board in a way that it is not now, and I strongly urge you to reject that."

'Reasonable fee'?

Blackwell's email charging a "discontented person" with planting a book in the "banned books" display was retrieved by PJ Media columnist Megan Fox, who voiced strong criticism of Maryland's FOIA process.

Fox had made a 12-point FOIA request in an October 18 email to Laura Boonchaisri, publicity specialist for St. Mary's County Library.

In a lengthy November 2 email

response, Blackwell stated that he would reply to almost all of her requests only after she paid a "reasonable fee" of \$1,600, which he said is allowable under state law.

Fox received the retrieved email only after drastically cutting the number of requests to avoid the fee.

"Can you explain to me how it's possible to charge \$1,600 for a records request?" said Fox. "Isn't that prohibitive? This is not a 'reasonable fee' by any stretch of the imagination.

"As a longtime member of the media I have never seen such action by a public body," she concluded.

'Local courtesy' goes long way

House Bill 136 "is a St. Mary's

County Delegation bill, which we are submitting for the County Commissioners," Delegate Rey told *Defend Life* in a January 16 phone call, before the bill was rewritten.

The proposed bill "will give the St. Mary's County Commissioners the authority to choose who they want for the Library Board of Trustees," she added.

The bill, titled An Act Concerning St. Mary's County – Board of Library Trustees, amends Section 23-403 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

Bills that affect only one county usually pass without opposition, due to the Maryland General Assem-

See BILL, page 10

Thousands stage massive prayer walk at Charlotte clinic

Justin Reeder was just 20 years old—and a college dropout—when he moved to Charlotte, N.C., from Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

But he had a plan and a dream. With money borrowed from his dad and his own savings, he opened a franchise for Superior Wash, a company that cleans commercial trucks.

Justin and his brother Joshua started out with one truck, a pressure washer, and 100-hour work weeks.

Three hard-working years later, Justin's franchise had five trucks, 16 employees, and offices in Charlotte, Hickory and High Point.

They were cleaning 2,500 trucks a week for major companies—and as years went by, they continued to prosper.

In 2012, however, friends took the successful young entrepreneur to show him an abortion clinic in Charlotte.

The horror of what went on there stuck in his mind.

"I was shocked and sad to see so



Thousands of pro-lifers circle A Preferred Women's Health Center.

few actively doing anything about it"—including himself, he recalls. "The Holy Spirit convicted me of my lack of action and I knew I needed to change."

For Reeder, the year 2015 marked 10 years in business—and a turning point in his life. After much

prayer, he says, God gave him and his wife a vision.

"Over the course of a week, He woke me during the night downloading a strategy in my heart to end abortion in Charlotte by uniting the Church. Yes, it sounds crazy, but with God, all things are possible!"

Love Life Charlotte, the organization that emerged from their vision, has a 40-week program, based on the baby's life in the womb from conception to birth.

In each of those 40 weeks, up to three Charlotte Baptist, evangelical, charismatic, and other Protestant churches volunteer to sponsor a week of prayer and fasting, beginning with the church's pastor preaching a pro-life sermon that Sunday.

The week culminates in a prayer walk around A Preferred Women's Health Center, the largest abortion facility in Charlotte and all of North Carolina.



Love Life Charlotte pro-lifers link arms for their prayer walk to Charlotte's largest abortion clinic.

See CHARLOTTE, page 10



DEFEND LIFE

*Proclaiming the Culture of Life and
Fighting the Culture of Death since 1987*

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*February 14, 2018 Anno Domini
Feast of Saint Valentine*



Dear Friend of **DEFEND LIFE**,

First, let me thank all those who gave so generously to our **Christian Matching Grant Campaign**. Because of donors like you, we met and slightly exceeded our **\$15,000** matching grant.

This year's **March for Life** was fantastic, as usual. Here are some of my best recollections:

- A pair of Bald Eagles, America's national symbol, circling overhead the Mall. **A God Thing???**
- The great talks from the platform including the great ones by **President Trump** and **Vice President Pence** from the Rose Garden. Even the great **Ronald Reagan** never spoke live at **The March!**
- That huge **100** piece all-black band blaring out great music in front of the Natural History Museum. This band was from St. Augustine High School in New Orleans.
- Seth Dryer of **Created Equal** (visit CreatedEqual.org) speaking from atop a truck with a huge Megatron screen showing the ugly reality of abortion and explaining why we must show the **victim images** if we really want to end Abortion. He also spoke about their phenomenal **Justice Rides** which are similar to the **Freedom Rides** of the 1960s at the peak of the civil rights movement.
- A young man named Carlos holding a sign saying **I AM NOT A CHOICE** with his head sticking through the **O..** Carlos' Mom and Dad, who grew up in Lima, Peru, are home-schooling their large family using the **Seton Home Study** curriculum.
- A huge banner with the caption **Ending Abortion Takes Courage**. This banner went way back to **2008** when **18** of us were illegally arrested by the **Maryland State Police** in Bel Air, Maryland. It hardly seems that it was **10** years ago. Oh how time flies when we are doing God's work! Contact me at **410-337-3721** to sign up for our Core Team for our July 23-27, 2018 **Truth Tour**.
- Standing with **PRO-LIFE** hero **Greg Cunningham** who founded the Center for Bioethical Reform (visit CBRInfo.org) which began showing victim images on college campuses in America and was instrumental in bringing such heroes into our movement as **Scott Klusendorf** and **Stephanie Gray**.
- Hearing a stirring talk at the **Cardinal O'Connor Conference** at Georgetown U. by **Father Charles Connor** who teaches at nearby Mount St. Mary's Seminary. Father Connor gave a great talk on the life of John Cardinal O'Connor, the intrepid Cardinal of New York who died in 2000.
- The **3** students I met there from Auburn University. Auburn is a large Alabama state university best known for its great football teams. I was amazed when they told me there were **82** other Auburn students who had traveled **12** hours by bus to the March. There were about **600** college students at this outstanding **Cardinal O'Connor Conference..**



Cunningham



O'Connor



Connor



Gray



Klusendorf



Jean Guilfoyle – RIP – A True PRO-LIFE Hero

During 1974, shortly after the first March for Life, Jean Guilfoyle moved from California to Howard County, Maryland with her husband Jack, their three sons, Michael, Jack and Chris and their daughter Kerri who was then in elementary school. Jean jumped into the **PRO-LIFE** movement soon becoming founder and director of Birthright in Columbia. Shortly thereafter, she met the legendary **Nellie Gray**. Nellie had decided shortly after the **Roe vs. Wade** decision came down on **January 22, 1973**, that that abominable decision must be memorialized one year later on its first anniversary. Thus, on January 22, 1974, the very first **March for Life** was held, circling the Capitol.



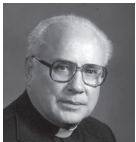
Jean became an indispensable member of Nellie's board along with other early heroes such as **Dee Becker** and **Terry Scanlon**. Working for the March became a family affair for the Guilfoyles. Jean was responsible for the **Roses** which became the symbol of the March. Roses were distributed to all 435 members of the House and all 100 members of the Senate early the morning of January 22 before the March began at Noon. Jean's daughter Kerri recalled Nellie Gray always writing a cover letter that went with the **Roses to the** 535 members of Congress. Assuming each received 12 **Roses**, that totaled **6,420 Roses** that had to be delivered.

Because Nellie had such a myriad list of details to perform preparing for the March, writing the cover letters that were to be delivered with each bouquet of roses was not a priority. Often it was not until 2 AM the morning of the March that Nellie Gray composed and then printed this multitude of letters. **Father Kidwell**, a wonderful priest from Miami, always brought a busload of high school students who would arrive early that morning and serve as runners to deliver the **Roses** to the 535 members. If you have ever walked the Halls of Congress, you can imagine how daunting that task must have been.

Jean Guilfoyle also acted as the Treasurer of the **March for Life**. All the donation envelopes wound up with Jean.. Kerri and her brothers would open these hundreds of envelopes, count the cash and assemble the checks which were then taken to Nellie to deposit. Many envelopes contained notes specifying to which Congressmen, these donors wanted their **Roses** delivered.

There were a multitude of other tasks that had to be performed by the Guilfoyles. Kerri recalls driving to states as far away as **Connecticut** and **Rhode Island** with her Dad to deliver posters and flyers promoting the March. All these efforts paid off as the crowds coming to each March grew year after year.

But all that and much more was not enough for the tireless Jean Guilfoyle. After her children were raised and for the most part received their college degrees, Jean received an M.A. in Contemporary Government from Hood College in 1987. In 2000, she received her PhD in Political Theory from Catholic University. In her thesis she exploded the fallacious Malthusian Theory that said food supply would be dwarfed by population growth.



Along with her responsibilities at the March for Life, Jean worked for **Father Paul Marx, O.S.B.**, the legendary priest who founded **Human Life International** and later **Population Research Institute**. She was its executive director from 1989 to 1996. Jean wrote many dozens of articles on population growth and food production. She attended a multitude of national and international conferences including ones in **Cairo, Istanbul, Rome, New York, and Beijing**. She spoke and lobbied at many of them and was a moderator of many panels. She wrote hundreds of articles, appeared on radio and TV often and gave hundreds of talks.

Jean Guilfoyle was a brilliant, fearless and tireless **PRO-LIFE** leader. She went to her eternal reward, September 23, 2017. Mass Cards for the repose of her Immortal Soul may be sent to Kerri Guilfoyle, 12188 Mount Albert Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042. **Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant!**



Jean Guilfoyle
1933 – 2017

Enclosure

Long Live Christ Our King,

Jack Ames
Jack Ames, Director
410-337-3721 Jack@DefendLife.org

CHARLOTTE, from page 7

Love Life Charlotte capped off its 40-week 2017 campaign with a December 2 event that brought thousands of Christians together for a stirring rally followed by a prayer walk circling the abortion clinic.

At the massive rally, held in the business park in which the clinic is located, Reeder partnered with Cities4Life leaders David and Jason Benham (sons of Operation Save

America's Pastor "Flip" Benham) for prayer, speeches, and music.

The pro-lifers, many wearing distinctive teal blue "Love Life" shirts, then linked arms for the 1.5-mile prayer walk from the park to loop around the clinic and back again, flanked by police escorts.

Pro-life veterans credit the December 2 walk as the largest pro-life event at an abortion facility since the end of the rescue movement of the early 1990s.

Preferred Women's Health, which often schedules about 80 abortions on a Saturday, reportedly reduced the number to 50 for December 2. According to Love Life Charlotte, only five women actually showed up for abortions that day.

Love Life reports that over 100 churches and 23,000 prayer walk participants have worked with them since they began operations in 2016, and over 800 babies have been saved from abortion.

But Love Life's strategy goes well beyond rallies and prayer walks.

At the abortion clinic, their frontline ministry teams counsel abortion-minded women, offer

them free ultrasounds on their mobile unit, and then connect them with mentors and partner churches.

From there, other volunteers may:

- Mentor a mom or dad who has chosen life, through pregnancy and the baby's first years of life.
- Sign up to foster or adopt children.
- Join Love Life Village, a support network serving families going through the foster care or adoption process.
- Join the Prayer Team to pray continually for all involved or affected by abortion.

Following their success in Charlotte, Love Life plans to expand their operations to two additional North Carolina metro regions in 2018: "The Triangle" (Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill) and "The Triad" (Greensboro, Winston-Salem and High Point).

"God has blessed our efforts!" says Reeder.

See LoveLifeCharlotte.com for more information.

Catholic Men's Fellowship of Maryland



Saturday, March 10
8 am–3 pm

Saint Philip Neri Church

6405 S. Orchard Rd.
Linthicum Heights, MD 21090

(just outside the Baltimore Beltway at Exit 5)

THEME: Hail Holy Queen!
Knighted by Mary

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:



Mark Teixeira
*Former MLB All-Star
and ESPN Analyst*

Fr. Donald Calloway
*Outstanding
Keynote Speaker*



Closing Mass by
Archbishop William Lori
Remote telecast at
Mission Church of
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BILL, from page 6

bly's deference to that county delegation's wishes, said Rey.

"I anticipate the bill to pass with no problem because it affects only St. Mary's County. Local courtesy goes a long way in the State House!" she noted optimistically.

"This may set a precedent, but I don't think it's that big."

Public pressure against the original bill may have led to the rewriting of it that effectively kept the power to appoint Library Board

of Trustees members solely in the hands of the Board of Trustees.

Over a dozen opponents of the original bill attended a February 1 hearing on the bill before the House Ways and Means Committee, in contrast to just five citizens who spoke in favor of the bill.

Opponents also garnered over 700 signatures to an online petition against the original bill.

For background information on the library dispute, see CreepyLibrary.com.

In My Humble Opinion

Some sobering thoughts on this year's March for Life

By Janet Baker

The 45th Annual March for Life took place in Washington, D.C., on January 19. Reliable sources (*not* the mainstream media) put the number of marchers in the hundreds of thousands, probably in excess of half a million.

This march marks the first time a sitting U.S. president addressed the march in real time via broadcast.

In the year that he's been in office, President Trump has reinstated the Mexico City Policy, named life-friendly justices to various federal courts (including Neil Gorsuch to the U.S. Supreme Court), and chipped away at Obamacare and Planned Parenthood funding.

Yet some pro-life leaders did not completely share in the jubilation. Some of them even opted to stay home. Their thinking bears some examination, for some of their points are quite valid.

One of them voiced a concern over what he called the "self-congratulation" embedded in the march. Thinking back to early things that Nellie Gray, foundress of the March for Life, wrote, I had to agree.

The March was meant to assume a more somber tone, as it occurs on the anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* decision—hardly a cause for celebration.

Gray envisioned something more of a prayer walk, not the light-hearted stroll up Pennsylvania and Independence avenues.

When I've attended marches, I was taken aback by the lack of prayer on the part of many while



Photo by Ruby Nicdao

they were walking.

To be clear, many groups *were* engaged in prayer as they walked. I usually found some group praying the Rosary and joined them.

The Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, carrying the statue of Our Lady of Fatima, was always an inspiration.

Other pro-life leaders were concerned that while hundreds of thousands may march every year, that might be the only pro-life activity in which they engage during the entire year.

That concern has solid basis. Now that we have a relatively pro-life president in the White House, there may well be more temptation to the kind of complacency that leads to lack of initiative and action. Some may believe that this election means that the pro-life struggle is effectively won.

While I believe Trump's election to be a boon for the pro-life movement, we should not look at

it so much as a victory, but rather a reprieve.

His election, by God's grace, has simply bought us a little more precious time in which to pray and work for the end to abortion and all other direct sins against life.

The onus is on every one of us (that means *you!*) to get busy and work for the end of the child-killing.

Notice I said "work" and not "pray." I would hope that we are all praying daily already for the end of abortion.

However, while prayer is essential, it is not sufficient. Moreover, some of the more reticent among us can hide behind prayer, claiming that is all they can do.

For those who are infirm or who have family obligations preventing more active endeavors, that's one thing, but I suspect that is not the majority of us.

It's one thing to pray while in

See MARCH, page 15



March for Life uplifts, inspires

During the 45th March for Life in Washington, D.C., on January 19, we remember the 60-plus million children whose lives were snuffed out unjustly and mourn for their loss, and we come in the spirit of penance and reparation. But we also see the ray of light shining amongst the throngs of the people of God and get a sense that this march is a turning point for our country.

For Catholics, a plenary indulgence could be gained for participating in the March, given by Cardinal Weurl of Washington and Bishop Burbidge of Arlington. Many religious and Catholic groups took part.

Seeing the endless stream of pro-lifers was uplifting, inspiring and encouraging.

Photos and story by Ruby Nicdao



Book Review

Heroism and Genius reveals Catholic roots of Western civ

By Diane Levero

We members of the Great Unwashed have been well-conditioned by secular society to emit Pavlovian responses to certain terms.

Mention the Dark Ages—that period of history from the fifth to the tenth century following the fall of the mighty Roman Empire—and we automatically picture a hopelessly primitive, ignorant culture.

And Everyone Knows, of course, that the Catholic Church aided and abetted the ignorance and superstition that dominated all of Europe during that dismal time.

Similarly, for the average Joe, the term “Enlightenment” engenders images of knowledge and light breaking through the darkness to bring the benefits of science, literacy, democracy, and all the blessings of modern society (which benefits, as Everyone Knows, the Catholic Church worked so harshly to suppress).

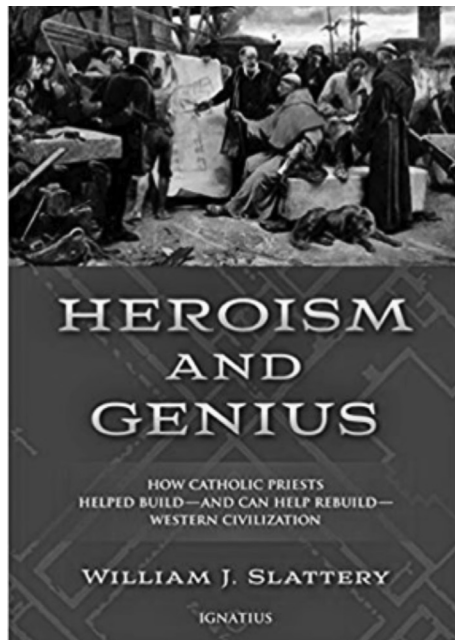
Not so, says William Slattery.

Rather than a stumbling block, the Church was the *bedrock* of a unique civilization that came to birth in Western Europe—one whose achievements in law, philosophy, art and economics are unequalled elsewhere in the world, says Slattery.

“Within the past hundred years, leading historians have resolutely asserted the Catholic Church’s role in the formation of Western civilization,” he declares in his amazing book, *Heroism and Genius: How Catholic Priests Helped Build—and Can Help Rebuild—Western Civilization*.

Slattery, a Catholic priest and a scholar par excellence in his own right, cites an awesome array of other respected scholars and historians—Catholic, Protestant, agnostic and atheist—to prove his case.

No single event marked the “fall” of Rome, the author explains. The causes of Rome’s decline were many and complex: falling birthrates, barbarian migration and invasions, high taxation, political incompetence, and moral free fall.



While these factors were playing out over several centuries, Catholicism, despite persecution, became the leading religion in the Roman Empire, chiefly through freely made conversions in all levels of society.

“During that long night from the fifth to the tenth centuries...the Church achieved the baptism of the barbarian races, thanks to the lucid intelligence and steadfast endur-

ance of devoted bishops, the sweat and blood of pioneering Celtic and Benedictine monks, and the lives spent in prayer by silent hermits,” writes Slattery.

The basic cell of the new Christian civilization was the parish—a part of a diocese under the authority of a resident priest, with its church building at the center of the sacramental and liturgical life of the region’s Catholics.

Here, “men and women went to enlighten and strengthen their souls, often pressed by poverty and pain,” explains Father Slattery.

The parish provided not only the sacraments but also for the other needs of soul and body. From the time of Charlemagne in the early ninth century, the feature of a school attached to a church became common; every girl and boy could attend the school free of charge and acquire a basic education.

The parish church was also the place where the needy could turn for relief in time of poverty or famine.

Slattery recounts one of the more colorful examples of this charity, the diocesan priest, Bernard de Montjou, who built a hospice and founded a community of men who welcomed travelers along the snow-covered Alpine pass, offering them shelter and succor with the help of their huge, well-trained dogs—named after their founder, St. Bernard.

The parish also exercised a vital role as a sanctuary of justice.

“From the sixth century onward, many a man accused unjustly by tyrants or political opponents knew

immediately where to find a haven safer than a fortress: the inside of a Catholic Church,” notes Father.

This “right of asylum” from the state’s legal action was granted in France in 511 and in England around 600 A.D.

“Bishops and priests defended the right of sanctuary by unsheathing the sword of excommunication for anyone foolhardy enough to violate the sacred threshold,” says Slattery.

The author presents stirring and detailed portraits of four priests whom he maintains are “The Fathers of Western Culture”: Ambrose, Augustine, Leo the Great, and Gregory the Great.

He follows with a masterful account of the vital role played in Western civilization by the Benedictine and the Irish monks.

“[T]he role of the Benedictines turned out to be crucial for the shaping of the Western mind—as guardians of memory, in the formation of economics, and in the creation of what would become the modern scientific mentality,” Slattery writes.

Slattery also gives due credit to the Celtic monks who left the British Isles to build hundreds of monasteries in mainland Europe.

There they turned wilderness into fertile farmland, educated the young, cared for the sick, and above all, brought the truth and peace of Christ.

The author examines how Catholic priests created a new and original ethos of chivalry, which was only part of the Church’s larger effort to break the barbarian mentality of ceaseless warfare.

These efforts included making dueling illegal, banning the use of bows and crossbows in battle, and forbidding committing harm to non-combatants on pain of excommuni-

cation.

“Gradually, the Christian ethos of just warfare and the duty to toil for peace, although never entirely vanquishing the barbarian war addiction, restrained it, and instilled a new mentality in the West,” states Slattery.

Also examined, not surprisingly, are the Church’s magnificent contributions to art and music, specifically, those of Gothic architecture and the Gregorian chant.

But, in my view, Father Slattery saved his most stunning and eye-opening presentation for last: that free-market economics did not originate in Protestant societies but

History points to the existence of all the key features of modern free markets in Catholic Western Europe, long before Luther came on the scene.

long before, through the principles and efforts of the Catholic Church.

“History points calmly to the existence of all the key features of modern free markets in the cities of Catholic Western Europe from the twelfth century onward, long before Luther came on the scene,” he notes drily.

“The Italian city-states of Venice, Milan, Florence, Genoa, and Amalfi all had successful market economies, and by the fourteenth century had created an economic and financial empire stretching from England to India and China.”

Why did the free enterprise system flourish in Western civiliza-

tion but not in other cultures before modern times?

Slattery names several crucial factors. First, the Church maintained the dignity of man, and fought for his rights under the law.

Canon law was the fountainhead for many of the principles and methods of the legal system of Western nations: elements such as a rational trial procedure, rules of evidence, and judging criminal intent.

A prime example of Church influence occurred when the Archbishop of Canterbury wrote the Magna Carta and forced the tyrannical King John to sign it in 1215.

The Church also nurtured a vital factor essential to free market economics: the protection of private property rights.

Catholicism proclaimed the dignity every genre of work, including manual work—and its spinoffs: trade, commerce, accounting and investing. The monks lived this teaching in their monasteries, which became prototypes of a business working in an open-market society.

Finally, Slattery points to the medieval and Renaissance Thomist Scholastics of Spain who pioneered modern economics.

“[T]heir anthropological and legal principles regarding human rights, the morality of commerce, just pricing, the legitimacy of private property rights, taxation, and contracts are the theoretical foundations for free enterprise economics,” he declares.

In *Heroism and Genius*, Father Slattery gives us an exceptional and thought-provoking perspective on the roots of Western civilization, in prose that is always eloquent, often beautiful and sometimes even lyrical.

Two grateful thumbs up.



‘Thank-you for standing up for life!’
--that’s what a young man shouted to (from left) Jim Bocklage and Mary Lou and Walt Klausmeyer as they protested Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center’s committing of abortions up to 24 weeks at Defend Life’s monthly protest December 20. Many drivers rolled down their windows and took anti-abortion flyers from pro-lifers, including drivers of an MTA bus, a Checkers cab and a Baltimore City truck.

MARCH, from page 11

the relative safety of one’s home, church, K of C hall. It is another to get active where the real need—and evil of abortion—is. Yet we are the Church Militant, not the Church Mousey.

So might our actions include politics? That certainly is an avenue worthy of attention. But political campaigns only happen every two or four years; legislative bodies are only in session at periodic times, not the entire year.

We must be working to end abortion throughout the year. I’d suggest regular prayer and sidewalk counseling in front of your local abortion centers.

There may already be ongoing efforts; join them. If not, grab a friend or two (never go alone!) to pray the Rosary in front of one. We have First Amendment rights; let’s

use them. If you’re unsure where to go, check out 40daysforlife.com to find a site near you.

Volunteer at a nearby crisis pregnancy center; many of these operate short-handed and on shoestring budgets.

Also work within the Church to stop abortion. I refer not only to working within parish pro-life committees. Sometimes, maybe many times, we need to step outside the confines of official Church structures to work effectively.

If you see an anti-life person being honored at a Church function, raise your voice in protest, even if it means you must picket the event.

If someone tries to dilute efforts to end abortion by proposing “seamless garment” efforts, refute and resist them.

If collections are taken that fund anti-life activities, such as the Catholic Campaign for Human Develop-

ment or Catholic Relief Services, call for a boycott of those collections.

The aforementioned list of ideas is by no means exhaustive. The point is that every one of us must be busy about ending abortion and all other sins against life throughout the year.

We just had the 45th March for Life. Will there be the need for many more of these?

ANGELICA, from page 4

once said, ‘Dare to be ridiculous, so that God can accomplish the miraculous.’

“I think that sums up what she did in her life.”

See *Michael Warsaw’s talk on Mother Angelica at Defend Life’s Facebook page on Facebook.com. Click on “Videos.”*

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Read Jack Ames' Tribute to Pro-Life Hero Jean Guilfoyle on page 9



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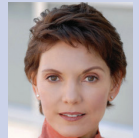
Zachary King

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| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| <i>Thursday</i> | <i>Friday</i> |
| March 15 • 7:30 p.m. | March 16 • 7:30 p.m. |
| Ascencion Church Bowie, MD | St. Mary of the Mills Church Laurel, MD |

Reggie Littlejohn

Hear America's Most Knowledgeable Authority on Forced Abortion and Sexual Slavery in China



| | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| <i>Thursday</i> | <i>Friday</i> |
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- 6:30 pm – March to State House
- 7 pm • Rally at Lawyers Mall
- 8 pm – Chick-Fil-A & Exhibits, St. Mary's High School



For more information • 410-269-6397
MarylandMarchForLife.org

3 Important Ways You Can Help DEFEND LIFE

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- 2 Make calls to update data base
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- 3 Drive DEFEND LIFE speakers
Contact Jack@DefendLife.org 410-337-3721