



# DEFEND LIFE

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

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## MCC supports ‘snake bill’ that helps PPMD get in schools

The Maryland Catholic Conference supported a bill passed by the Maryland General Assembly that will help Planned Parenthood get its pro-abortion foot further into Maryland public high schools.

HB401/SB438 – Support for Pregnant and Parenting Students, enacted by the Maryland General Assembly this spring, is what lawmakers call a “snake bill”—one that has an innocuous-sounding title, but lurking in its nest of verbiage is some poisonous venom.

In an April 9 email, “Maryland Respect Life Update from Annapolis,” MCC’s Molly Sheahan cited her organization’s support for HB401 as a “highlight” of the session.

The bill, says Sheahan, “specifically requires schools to provide student moms with a private lactation space, outlet for a breast pump, access to a fridge to store breast milk, information about childcare, and requires a model policy ‘to support the educational and parenting goals of pregnant and parenting students.’”

MCC supported the bill despite three “red flags”:

- The Maryland Coalition of Medical Pregnancy Clinics opposed HB401.
- Maryland Right to Life also opposed it.
- But NARAL Pro-Choice Maryland *supported* it.

### ‘Carte blanche’ for PPMD

The National Abortion Rights Action League, of which NARAL Pro-Choice Maryland is a member, exists for one reason: to support abortion.

As NARAL proclaims on its website, “Like 77% of Americans, we believe in the legal right to abortion. We are the foot soldiers who work to ensure that abortion access is not only protected but *expanded*”



**Molly Sheahan, of the Maryland Catholic Conference, testified in favor of a NARAL-supported bill.**

(emphasis added).

Why would NARAL Pro-Choice Maryland go to bat for a bill that makes a point of providing a private lactation space for breastfeeding high-schoolers?

The enacted bill states that the

Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) must “establish a model policy to support the educational and parenting goals and improve the educational outcomes of pregnant and parenting students.”

The bill mandates that all county boards of education establish a policy based on MSDE’s model policy.

“This will create an opening for outside agencies with controversial histories and service, such as Planned Parenthood, to enter the public schools and influence the implementation of any forthcoming policy,” Maryland Right to Life (MDRTL) Legislative Director Laura Bogley told the Senate Ways and Means Committee at its bill hearing.

“Planned Parenthood is already in our schools,” said Bogley. “They are focused on expanding abortion services, which they are profit-motivated to do.”

With the passage of this bill, “the state would essentially be giving PPMD [Planned Parenthood of Maryland] or similar agencies *carte blanche* to create school policy and implement it through their own educators/clinics/professionals,” she warned.

### Not allowed to tell parents

Maryland law recognizes the

See SUPPORT, page 17

## Video exonerates pro-lifer of pro-abort's assault charges

“Pro-choice escort” James Rives’ Petition for a Peace Order against pro-lifer Mark Des Marais was clear and succinct:

“On March 11, 2021, I was volunteering at Planned Parenthood, 330 North Howard St.

“Mr. Des Marais, on two separate occasions, assaulted me by shoving me and pushing me against a wall.

“In addition, he has previously threatened to kill me.”

Rives checked off boxes on the petition that charged the pro-lifer with “punching,” “hitting with object,” “shoving,” and “threats of violence.”

“I solemnly affirm under penalties of perjury that the contents of this document are true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief,” the pro-abortionist con-

firmed with his signature.

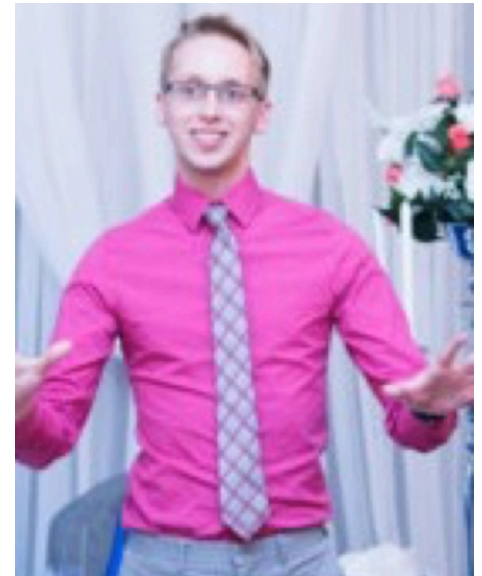
According to John Roswell, leader of the pro-lifers at the abortion facility, Rives filed the petition to try to legally bar Des Marais from volunteering at the abortion mill.

Planned Parenthood has been targeting individual pro-lifers in order to pick them off, one by one, Roswell charged.

Rives was prepared to buttress his allegations with a clip from a Planned Parenthood surveillance video showing Mark actually shoving Rives that day.

In the hallway outside the courtroom before an April 19 Peace Order hearing at U.S. District Court for Baltimore, Des Marais admitted he had shoved Rives—after the pro-abort had shoved him first.

“I was going up to a lady getting out of her car to hand her a [pro-life]



**A judge has dismissed a peace order petition by James Rives (above) against Mark Des Marais.**

brochure,” Mark told his attorney, Charles Balint. “He blocked me and forced me to back up.

“I told him, ‘If you push me again, I’ll push you back—and he *did!*’”

Inside the courtroom, Balint (who represented Des Marais pro bono) asked the judge for a postponement of the hearing to allow him time for “discovery.”

In legal terms, “discovery” is the formal process that an attorney uses to compel the opposing side to disclose material facts and documents concerning the case.

“I don’t care if we postpone the case, just so we win,” said Mark, who has been volunteering in front of Planned Parenthood for about two years; “I simply want to get outside there again!”

Balint also asked for a post-



**Outside the courtroom after his May 19 hearing, Mark Des Marais displays the sign he held on March 11; with him are his attorney, Charles Balint (center) and John Roswell.**

**See DISMISS, page 6**

## Pro-aborts, mean manager gang up on 40 Days for Lifers

The 40 Days for Life Spring Campaign at Belair Beltway Plaza—the location of the Whole Women’s Health abortion mill—began on Ash Wednesday, February 17, without a hitch.

Campaign leader Diane Alvarez had led the previous Fall Campaign there in Fullerton, Md., and had been a volunteer at three previous peaceful campaigns.

So Alvarez led twenty volunteers in their regular Wednesday group prayer on the public sidewalk along Belair Road without a problem.

Then she and a few of the pro-lifers went to the shopping plaza’s sushi restaurant for lunch.

But when they came out of the restaurant, they saw a woman harassing two of the volunteers who were praying on the sidewalk.

The harasser “was disturbed, angry and hostile—very vulgar and aggressive,” said Alvarez.

One of the volunteers was an older woman with a cast on her leg.

“Out of concern for her, I let [the harasser] know we had a permit to be on the sidewalk,” Diane recalled.

“She was hopping around, putting up her middle finger, and telling us she wished we would all die! She also shared her tragic story of abuse, rape and abortion.”

The following Wednesday, said pro-lifer Mary Hollingshead, the agitator “came back with a guy, who videotaped her. She was getting in [the pro-lifers’] faces, yelling at them and calling them names.”

A week later, on March 3, things got really rough, recalls pro-lifer Kelly Frederick,

“When I pulled into the parking lot to pray, I saw three ladies hold-



**Lots of rainy days don’t keep pro-lifers from praying at the 40 Days for Life Spring Campaign at Belair Beltway Plaza.**

ing signs for 40 Days, and three young people standing in front of them, holding signs for abortion.

“When I got my two signs out of my trunk, they started cursing, saying, ‘Here comes another [m----- f-----].’”

As Kelly went to stand between the sidewalk and the curb with her signs, “the three came over to harass me. One of them stood in front of me with *her* sign, and when *I* moved, she would move again to block me.

“One of them said, ‘You touch my friend and I will hit you!’

“Go ahead!” retorted Frederick. “She was a lot bigger than I am, and told me she was younger and could move faster!”

Kelly laughed but didn’t reply.

The pro-abortion kept trying to block her, so she decided to run down to the end of the sidewalk and stand near the traffic signal, where her harasser would have to stand in the street to block her.

“She couldn’t get there before me, so she left me to go and harass other people!” said Kelly.

The pro-lifers called the police that day, and seven or eight police cars showed up.

“The police were supportive, but were unable to persuade the pro-abortionists to leave,” said Alvarez. “They even showed disrespect for the uniformed police officers.”

Diane was especially concerned about the safety of the older volunteers.

“The pro-abortionists seemed to be particularly aggressive toward the elderly and made it clear their dislike for the older generation.

“They believed that it’s the older generation that is oppressing them from living as they choose,” she observed.

Alvarez was really concerned about the safety of one 90-year-old volunteer who, she said, “is not afraid—but she *needs* to be afraid!”

That same day, worried about the threats and “in-your-face” aggressiveness by the pro-aborts, Diane called 40 Days for Life’s corporate headquarters, who agreed that it would be prudent to hire security

guards.

After two guards were hired, the pro-abortionists stopped their harassment, said Alvarez.

### Manager nixes parking

On March 10 the property manager for David S. Brown Enterprises, managers of Belair Beltway Plaza, told the two security guards that they were not allowed to park in the shopping center and asked them to move their vehicles.

He said that the property owner does not give permission to the 40 Days for Lifers to park in his shopping center.

He also wanted to know why several of the pro-lifers had parked their cars on Carrabba's Grill parking lot.

The female security guard told him that Carrabba's gave them permission.

The manager replied that he would talk to management at Carrabba's because the shopping center owner doesn't allow the pro-lifers to park *anywhere* on their parking lot.

Pro-lifers have been holding the

40 Days for Life Fullerton Campaign at the shopping plaza since 2013.

They started getting warnings from police to move their cars from the parking lot back in 2015, according to pro-lifer Hollingshead.

"The police threatened to tow the vehicles if they had to keep being called."

One of the volunteers went to Carrabba's management, who gave them permission to park there, said Hollingshead.

"We also went to other businesses in the shopping center, and let them know what was going on," she recalled; "they said that if we bought something from their place of business, we could park there for the hour we were praying."

Many of the volunteers go to the local restaurants, stores and bank during their visit, she pointed out.

Eventually, the police stopped bothering the pro-lifers because there are no signs restricting their parking on the lot, she added.

"The property management is discriminating against the pro-lifers!" protested Hollingshead.

"Many of our volunteers are pa-

trons of the businesses in the plaza," agreed Alvarez.

"Many of their tenants appreciate our prayerful presence," she added; "we would like to work with the management in a way that is mutually beneficial.

"We are not against them, we just do not support the evil that is occurring on their property."

### 'Thumbs up' from drivers

Alvarez said that the pro-lifers prayed for the very disturbed woman who initially confronted them, and have continued to pray for her.

"The pro-life community is not about condemnation, but healing and love," she explained.

Because the abortion facility is located at the other end of the shopping plaza, well out of sight of the pro-lifers, they have very limited ability to know about possible "saves" of babies intended for abortion; "they are typically known by the family and God," said Diane.

But at last fall's 40 Days Campaign, "one grandmother did stop to thank us. We had saved her granddaughter, who was now 3 years old!"

Also at the fall campaign, a young man stopped by "to thank us and pro-lifers in general.

"He told us that he had been 17 and in high school when his girlfriend got pregnant, but because of the pro-life movement, they didn't get an abortion. He had his son, who was 'unplanned,' and his 'planned' infant daughter with him!

"Of the thousands of cars that pass Belair Beltway Plaza every day, we get ten 'thumbs up' for every middle finger," said Diane.

"The community supports life and wants the abortion mill closed!" she concluded.

**A young father with his baby daughter and son stops to thank pro-lifers at the Fall 40 Days for Life Campaign in Fullerton.**



## Pro-lifers save babies from abortion via Double Rock Park

Jonathan Roiz had a problem.

The young Christian evangelist and founder of the Hope Movement wanted to bring the message of Jesus Christ and offer help to women headed into Whole Women's Health abortion mill in Fullerton, Md., where abortions are committed on unborn babies up to 22 weeks gestation.

But the mill was safely ensconced in Belair Beltway Plaza—tucked away out of sight in the back of the large shopping center.

There was no way pro-lifers could talk to abortion-minded women without getting the police called on them for trespassing on private property.

Or was there?

Roiz decided to scope out the situation.

When he went to the mill, sure enough, it looked hopeless. Until he noticed that behind the plaza, just across a street adjacent to the building holding the abortion mill, was a large, wooded area.

Ruiz went online and did some research. He found out that the woods was Double Rock Park—a large Baltimore County park, open to the public.

Wasting no time, Jonathan found a pathway through the 107-acre woods to its edge directly across the street from Whole Women's Health.

Soon, every Saturday, with the help of an electric bullhorn, he called out to women as they got out of their cars and walked toward the abortion mill entrance.

His messages were simple and direct:

"We're coming here because we love you! There are places that can help you!"

"Murder is never the option: babies feel these things."

"If you do nothing today, that baby will be here and be born! I know it's hard but it's worth it!"

"Turn away from your sins! The blood of Jesus Christ is the only



**Jonathan Roiz leads efforts from a public park to save babies at an abortion mill in Beltway Plaza.**

thing that can cleanse you."

"The Lord is not mocked; there will be a day of reckoning."

And to any man walking toward the mill, the message was:

"If you have someone inside, call them, text them, do *something*—but get them out of there—and you will know the freedom of forgiveness."

Gradually, more evangelists joined Roiz at his post across from the mill each Saturday morning.

Patrick Hanley and Bob Blandeburgo began coming several months ago.

"We're going out first and fore-

most to preach the Gospel and call people to repentance," explained Hanley; "the fruit of that is that hearts will be changed and women won't kill their babies."

They arrive when the clinic opens at 7:00 a.m. and stay there until about noon.

### "We can even adopt!"

At first they had used an electric bullhorn to call out to the women, but the abortionists called the police, claiming they were violating the law by using the bullhorn.

So they switched to a plastic cone, which the police said was legal. The pro-lifers have found the plastic cone is just as effective as a bullhorn.

Hanley was using the cone to amplify his messages on May 1.

"If you've got a lady in there, we would love to offer you help," he called out to a man getting out of his car; "we'll even adopt the child!"

"We care just as much about these ladies as we do about their babies," he added. "We have resources: food, clothing, shelter to help you.

"We can even adopt your child! Please, let us adopt your child, if you can't keep it!"

"Learn to trust in Jesus Christ. He's the Way, the Truth, and the Life!"

Despite the fact that they were only using a plastic cone that day, the abortionists called the police, claiming they were using a bullhorn.

Two police cars and four officers arrived on the scene. But when the police saw they were using a plastic cone, they told them they were acting legally and could stay.

An officer gave Blandeburgo a copy of Baltimore County park regulations. The police talked amicably for a while with Roiz, then headed back to their cars.

“Have a good day, guys; we’re praying for you guys!” Roiz called out.

Hanley says that they know “for sure” of two “saves”—“people that came up to us and told us they had changed their minds.

“But we’ve had a lot of people that drive in, listen to us, and then drive away without going in!” he said.

**Photo right: Pat Hanley walks in the park across from the abortion mill in Belair Beltway Plaza.**



## DISMISS, from page 2

ponement of Des Marais’ scheduled criminal trial on charges Rives had brought stemming from the same incident.

The judge granted both requests.

Balint asked Rives’ lawyer not just for the surveillance clip in ques-

tion, but for a longer segment of the Planned Parenthood video—one that included the several minutes before Des Marais shoved Rives.

The longer video shows Mark, wearing two large pro-life signs, suspended from shoulder straps front and back, being shoved twice by Rives.

The 75-year-old pro-lifer (who has had two knee replacements) is clearly forced several steps backwards by his 29-year-old assailant.

In self-defense, he shoves Rives back, knocking him slightly off balance.

With Des Marais and Balint armed with the exculpatory video, the subsequent Peace Order hearing on May 19 began with private consultations between each party and his attorney.

Rives’ lawyer appeared to be explaining the hard facts of the case to him, patting him on the shoulder and chuckling quietly at one point.

Although Balint had the video with him, it would not have been possible for the judge to view it because the courtroom was not technically equipped to access it.

But it did not seem to be necessary.

Des Marais had countercharged Rives stemming from the March 11 events.

But Balint told Judge Diana Smith, “We are willing to dismiss our case if his case is dismissed as well.”

Judge Smith then explained that due to certain legal irregularities regarding the manner of the filing of Rives’ peace order petition, she was dismissing Rives’ case.

The criminal case against Des Marais is still scheduled for trial in U.S. District Court for Baltimore on June 8.

But Balint says he will send the extended video to the Baltimore City State’s Attorney’s office in hopes that they will see the futility of proceeding with the case.

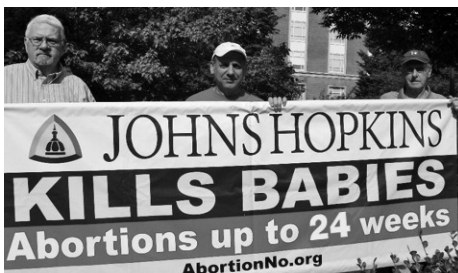
Mark had brought the signs he wore on March 11 to the May 19 hearing as evidence.

He said he planned to wear those same signs when he volunteered at Planned Parenthood the next day.

On his Linked in page, James Rives describes himself as a Graduate Student Researcher at Johns Hopkins University.

Under “Volunteer Experience,” he states that he is a member of the Speakers Bureau and a Multi-Purpose Volunteer for Planned Parenthood of Maryland.

He also says he is a Pro-Choice Clinic Escort for the Washington Area Clinic Defense Task Force ([https://www.linkedin.com/in/james-rives-a8870550?trk=people-guest\\_people\\_search-card](https://www.linkedin.com/in/james-rives-a8870550?trk=people-guest_people_search-card). Accessed May 20, 2021).



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3rd Wednesday Monthly Vigil  
from 9 – 10:30 am  
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## Classical high school opens this fall in Southern Md.

Parents looking for an affordable, authentically Catholic, classical education in St. Mary's County, Maryland, plan to open a Chesterton Academy in the County seat, Leonardtown, in September.

The school joins the growing Chesterton Schools Network, which includes 27 schools, with 14 new academies slated to open this year.

Tom Bengtson and Dale Ahlquist, of the G.K. Chesterton Society, co-founded the first Academy in 2007 with the mission to provide an affordable classical education which is also faithful to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

After several years, the Chesterton Schools Network was formed in 2013 to guide other parents who wanted to found similar schools using the same model of education.

"As a Catholic, this is the high school of my dreams," explains board member and homeschooling mother of seven, KC Schnitker.

"I want an education for my high schoolers where they will find a wholesome community and learn to know, live, love and share their faith."

What sets a Chesterton Academy apart and makes it such a successful model that they are popping up across the U.S. and worldwide? The unique model and the six hallmarks of a Chesterton Academy are the key to this success:

1. **An incarnational environment** where the primary goal is for students to come to know Christ and where the Incarnation is the central mystery explored across the entire curriculum
2. **A focus on truth, goodness and beauty** through a strong liberal arts education and an



Chesterton Schools Network

**A new Chesterton Academy, offering an authentically Catholic, classical education, is set to open in Leonardtown, Md. in September.**

3. **A joyful environment** where a sense of wonder in learning is fostered, and sports are reclaimed for camaraderie and fun
4. **The lost tools of learning are rediscovered** through a curriculum centered on skills seemingly forgotten in our modern society: reading, writing, oral presentations, and the development of critical reasoning skills through logic and philosophy
5. **The Socratic seminar** is followed as teachers guide dialogue with directed questions which bring ideas and knowledge to life
6. **The wit and wisdom of G.K. Chesterton** permeates the curriculum, and through his clarity, humor and humility, students gain a solid defense of the faith and some good old-fashioned common sense.

Like the other schools in the Chesterton network, the Chesterton Academy of St. Mary's comes at a

time when the Church is in crisis. Only 30% of people raised Catholic remain so into adulthood, and 70% don't believe in the real presence of our Lord in the Holy Eucharist.

Chesterton Academies serve as antidotes to the prevailing culture by inculcating deep and faithful Catholicism. "Chesterton Academies are catechesis on steroids," said Schnitker.

Wanting to continue their child's Catholic education, many middle-class families struggle to make the financial jump from the cost of a parochial K-8 to a high school.

Instead, they face enrolling their children in a public school system, one often burdened with cultural and religious hostilities.

But tuition at a Chesterton Academy is generally only slightly more than that of a parochial elementary school. Thus, these parents have the opportunity to protect and form their children's education in the faith through high school.

Because tuition is kept modest, new schools like the Chesterton

## Sign-grabber at 40 Days rally gets probation, \$250 fine

The 40 Days for Life Youth Rally on Sunday afternoon, March 24, 2019, went off without a hitch.

For two hours, about 25 young pro-lifers and assorted adults peacefully prayed, sang, and held non-graphic signs on the public sidewalk in front of Belair Beltway Plaza, home of Whole Women's Health abortion clinic in Fullerton, Md.

After the rally started breaking up, about ten of the young pro-lifers stayed behind on the sidewalk, holding signs and chatting.

Suddenly, a car pulled up and parked in the shopping center lot close behind them.

The driver jumped from his car and, cursing and screaming, lunged at Chiara Hollingshead, yanking her sign from her hands.

"He grabbed the sign with such force that it hit me in the leg and tore," said the 19-year-old pro-lifer. "I felt my life was being threatened and that he was going to do me further harm!"

"Call 911!" someone yelled. The assaulter backed off when he heard that, but tried to grab more signs as he ran back to his car.

He sped away, nearly hitting brothers Alex and Duane Palmateer on his way out, according to witnesses.

But not before Daniel Fournier snapped a photo of his license plate, which the pro-lifer gave to the police officer who arrived in response to their calls.

The officer advised Chiara to charge the attacker with second-degree assault, attempted theft, and destruction of property.

With the license plate information, police easily identified the per-

petrator as 26-year-old Dustin Philip Betz of Essex, Md.

Chiara remembered Betz; she had seen the young man with his distinctive blonde, curly hair and black earrings driving by and cursing at them at previous gatherings on the sidewalk.

### Made 'plea deal'

Two years after the incident, Betz's case was heard on May 5 in District Court of Maryland for Baltimore County.

The prosecuting attorney for the Office of State's Attorney, Baltimore County, Andrew Wagner, "had encouraged us [by phone] to stay home, since with the Covid-19 pandemic, there was no requirement for us to attend," recalled Chiara's mother, Mary Hollingshead.

"But we reassured him that we would be there, and that several of

us would be attending."

At the hearing, although Chiara had received a subpoena as an "essential witness," she was not called to testify.

Instead, she learned for the first time from Wagner that Betz had made a "plea deal"—he would plead guilty to the lesser charge of malicious destruction of property in exchange for the more serious charges of assault and attempted theft being dropped.

"What was worse, as [Wagner] read my police report to the judge, he left out half of what I wrote down," said Chiara.

"He only left in the part that made it clear that Dustin was guilty of malicious destruction of property."

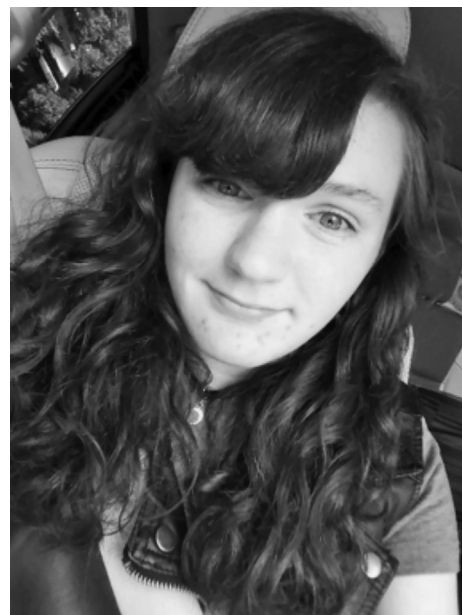
After Betz pled guilty to the lesser charge, the judge asked Chiara if she wanted to make a victim impact statement.

Since the prosecuting attorney had failed to tell her in advance of this, she had not prepared one.

"I had to come up with what I wanted to say off the top of my head," said the pro-lifer.

"First, I stated that our gatherings on the sidewalk were always peaceful because we were only praying for the women who had abortions and holding signs asking others to pray for the end of abortion.

"The last point I made was that Dustin had infringed upon our freedom of speech" through his violent behavior by intimidating the pro-lifers, who were trying to exercise those rights.



**Chiara Hollingshead says there was no reason to dismiss two of 3 charges against her assailant.**

**See PROBATION, page 15**



## In My Humble Opinion

# Let's take a hard look at the morality of vaccines

By Janet Baker

After over a year of draconian shut-downs of various sorts, the various governmental overreaches are starting to be lifted.

Many of these “restored privileges” (once known as freedoms) are predicated on receipt of one of the several vaccines that have been thrown together with little (if any) real testing and study prior to release.

In our own state of Maryland, we have seen a major push to get 70% of residents vaccinated.

I contend that these vaccines aren't much more than witch's brews, designed to test us, to see how blindly compliant we are towards the so-called “experts.”

Sadly, but not surprisingly, the Maryland bishops have jumped on the bandwagon, with Cardinal Gregory engaging in a photo-op showing him receiving one of the morally tainted vaccines.

A reminder: when the shutdowns of churches were first imposed, the area bishops showed themselves to be greater tyrants than even the civil authorities.

How many people died in mortal sin because parish priests were ordered not to provide the Sacrament of Confession to anyone?

So let's take a look at these vials of goop that we're supposed to have injected into our bodies (Hey! Whatever happened to “my body my choice”?).

An excellent source of pro-life information about the vaccines and other matters of bio-ethics is Chil-

dren of God for Life (cogforlife.org).

For a detailed description of each of the vaccines currently being foisted on the populace, see cogforlife.org/guidance. Every one of them, no exception, was produced and/or tested with cell lines from aborted babies.

Consider that for a cell line to grow (necessary for massive vaccine production), it had to be taken

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### **The question is whether we pro-lifers are going to justify the murders of children whose cells are found in the vaccines.**

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from a child while that child was still alive.

The Children of God site summarizes some Church teaching about remote cooperation with moral evil. The evil in this case is the slaughter of innocent children to obtain the vaccines.

I must differ with them as they appear to allow some loopholes for the de facto cannibalizing of tiny children; they say the fact that children are being murdered for the vaccine is not the fault of those “just trying to be safe.”

Well, when we seek to benefit by said murders, we partake in that sin. Some might argue that the cell lines were derived years ago. I ask, what difference does that make? Whether

five years or fifty years ago, children were still murdered.

Further down, we read that “it is only morally permissible to get the vaccine if you need it.” How does one “need” something that resulted from the murder of another person? One can only “need” something that is inherently good.

Catholic theology has traditionally recognized nine ways in which we can find ourselves in cooperation with the sin of another, and thus be in sin ourselves. They are:

1. By counsel – The Catholic hierarchy, with a few exceptions, from the Pope on down are urging reception of these evil-tainted vaccines.
2. By command – Employees of Catholic organizations are being ordered to take the vaccines.
3. By consent.
4. By provocation – Those hesitant to take the vaccines are mocked and vilified by those who should know better.
5. By praise or flattery – The hierarchy is praising those who inject these concoctions into themselves.
6. By concealment – That doesn't seem to come into play here.
7. By partaking.
8. By silence.
9. By defense of ill done – It sounds like Children of God for Life blundered into that one a bit.

I could go into the 99.7% survival rate for those who get Covid.

**See VACCINES, page 14**



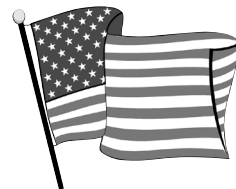
# DEFEND LIFE

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

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June 14, 2021 Anno Domini  
Flag Day



Dear Friend of **DEFEND LIFE**,

Believe it or not, it's time for our **21st Annual Truth Tour**, July 26-30. We will have 3 major **STOPS** each day beginning in West Virginia and ending in Baltimore. We might even do the **White House** again if that area continues to open up. See page 20 for a schedule of our **15 STOPS** as of now. With the **faux** President Biden in office, our **Face the Truth Tours** are needed **NOW** more than ever. How sad is the incredible capitulation of the Catholic Church to the **almighty State!** Our churches should never have been closed but our Bishops **CAVED to Political Correctness.**

## Things YOU can do to make our 21st ANNUAL TRUTH TOUR outstanding

- Be on our **26-member CORE TEAM**. Travel with us all **5** days and attend **Holy Mass** each day. Hear inspirational speakers each day. We pick up all expenses for core team members including travel, meals and housing. **10 slots filled, 16 slots remain — sign up NOW!**
- We want students, both high school and college students, as well as adults to be on our **CORE TEAM**. Students are the future leaders of our movement and this is a great opportunity to train them. Students must be **15** years old by September, or accompanied by an older sibling or relative.
- Sign up **NOW**, by contacting **Therese Rodriguez** at **301-512-7451** or [Therese@DefendLife.org](mailto:Therese@DefendLife.org).
- **As in the past, we need your generous financial support. We need to raise \$16,000 just as we did last year.** Believe it or not, there are substantial expenses including air fare for some speakers, **\$2,000** for our beautiful **PRO-LIFE** T-shirts, **\$1,600** for bus rentals, **\$2,000** for radio ads, fuel for our vehicles, stipends for our Directors and lots of other expenses.
- The good news is that several generous donors have once again promised to match **YOUR** donation **\$ for \$ up to a total of \$8,000**. To qualify for this matching grant, please send your donation **TODAY!** It must be dated **no later than August 1**. So please give generously and ask others to give. **Remember, our Good and Gracious God is never outdone in generosity!** Please use the enclosed envelope, or you can donate online at [DefendLife.org](http://DefendLife.org) by clicking on **Ways to Give**. Thank you ever so much for your generosity. Remember, your donation is **100% TAX DEDUCTIBLE!**



## Our Lady of Guadalupe Abortuary Tour

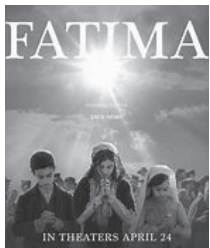
On Saturday, May 22, **DEFEND LIFE** co-sponsored an Our Lady of Guadalupe Missionary Image Tour of major abortuaries in the Washington DC / Montgomery County/Northern Virginia Area. The other co-sponsor was the **Triumph of Mary** headed so capably by Dave Michaels. Their team has been taking the Missionary Image to churches and abortuaries throughout our area since early May. We traveled on a Trolley

Bus with large banners on each side proclaiming **Pray to End Abortion** with an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. We began and ended at the beautiful Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. Major stops included Planned Parenthood Mega Mill in Downtown DC, Leroy Carhart's Late Trimester Mill in Bethesda, and Ceasare Santangelo's Late Trimester Abortion Mill in Downtown DC.



Everywhere we went, we took out the life-sized image of Our Lady of Guadalupe (1 of 4 exact replicas of the miraculous image imprinted in **1531** on the cloak of Saint Juan Diego), said one decade of the Rosary, and sang the **Ave**. One of the Mills scheduled for the Missionary Image visit was Metropolitan in Greenbelt, Maryland. Long-time **PRO-LIFER** Tom Trunk noticed that only about half the abortion-minded women that typically show up on a Saturday were there that day. Of the **9** who did show up, **8** left without aborting! Abortionist Amr Gohari was apparently so upset by this **loss of business**, he stepped outside of his Abortion Mill to talk to the **deathscorts** whose sole purpose is to prevent conversation between our sidewalk counselors and the women arriving to **abort their babies**.

As we were completing our tour, we decided on the spur of the moment to take Our Lady to visit our faux President Joe Biden at the **White House**. Lafayette Park which is across from the White House, was closed until recently, but is now open. We were able to place the Missionary Image just inside the park fence with the White House in the background only **200** feet away.



## The FATIMA Movie

On Sunday May 23, a local Knights of Columbus Council sponsored a showing of this wonderful movie at a local AMC Theater. I was entranced by the original **Miracle of Our Lady of Fatima** movie which I saw when I was about 11 years old in my home town of Clark's Summit, Pennsylvania. I also loved the documentary **FATIMA** film produced by Jean



Whalen and narrated by Ricardo Montalban in 1985. But this film, the **FATIMA** Movie-filled my heart with joy and my eyes with tears. Here are some facts about it:

- It was filmed in Portugal, in 6 different cities, one of which was Fatima itself.
- It was filmed in English.
- The photography was breathtaking
- The acting was superb.
- Film production began in 2017 on the 100-year anniversary of the Miracle of the Sun.
- It wasn't released until now because of Covid-19 restrictions.
- Bob Berney, who was a major player in **The Passion of the Christ**, purchased the North American rights to this film.
- On May 9, it opened in **385** AMC Theaters.
- The parts played by the 3 children of Fatima were so believable.
- The over-riding message was the need to **Pray the Rosary DAILY**.

I can't say enough about this wonderful movie. Strongly consider purchasing a **DVD** of it and showing it to a **large group** at your local parish, Knight of Columbus, or Pro-Life meeting!

**Long Live Christ Our King!**

*Jack Ames*

**Jack Ames, P.E., Director**

Enclosure

# Planned Parenthood and the Democrats: the destructive duo



By John Naughton

Our history is replete with individual and group acts of racism, but the worst racism in terms of its longevity and deleterious effect on black families is the systematic racism of Planned Parenthood and Democrat politicians.

## Planned Parenthood racism

Eugenicist/racist Margaret Sanger, founder of the Birth Control League (1917), later named Planned Parenthood (1940s), established the goal of eliminating black people in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

She and her compatriots (including the Ku Klux Klan) set about ways to keep black people from reproducing, which has continued to this day.

Spurred by the riots of 2020, Planned Parenthood began admitting their past and current racist treatment of black employees.

That year, 19 of its 49 U.S. affiliates confirmed their racism.

In its 2021 annual report, Planned Parenthood Federation of America stated, “Planned Parenthood is 104 years old, and we’re committed to addressing structural racism, both historic and current.”

But the organization has not changed its racist policies.

Planned Parenthood continues Sanger’s eugenicist, racist goal by targeting black women for abortion, with almost 80% of their abortuaries in minority neighborhoods.

They encourage teens to engage in premarital sex through licentious sex education programs which undermine marriage and stable two-parent families, the foundation of society.

The result is more out-of-wedlock births and abortions.

Planned Parenthood’s racism has resulted in 40% of abortions being performed on black women, who comprise only 13% of the population: black women have abortions at three times the rate of white women.

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**Over 70% of black children are born to single mothers without the guidance, encouragement and discipline of a full-time father.**

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The historical details of Planned Parenthood’s racism are found in the DVD, *Maafa 21*, available from Life Dynamics, and in American Life League’s report, *Planned Parenthood’s Racism . . . In Their Own Words*. Both are free and available on the internet.

## Democrat politicians’ racism

The Democrat Party was historically anti-black even through the 1960s with their filibustering of civil rights legislation. Democrat-controlled states were replete with onerous, oppressive racist legislation.

In 2009 Hillary Clinton claimed it a “great privilege” when receiving Planned Parenthood’s highest honor, the Margaret Sanger Award, saying, “I admire Margaret Sanger enormously, her courage, her tenacity, her vision . . . I am really in awe of her!”

Nancy Pelosi received the award in 2014.

While many Democrat politicians call others racist without evidence, Planned Parenthood goes scot-free; they are not cited as a racist organization even after admitting their racism. Democrats insist on giving them \$600 million of our tax money annually and want to give them millions more in the coronavirus relief legislation. They also want to eliminate restrictions on federal funding of abortion.

Why all the Democrat financial support of Planned Parenthood and abortionists? Because they are huge contributors to Democrats’ election campaigns.

Planned Parenthood donated \$45 million to Biden’s presidential campaign alone. Planned Parenthood and Democrats practice a highly effective and mutually beneficial system of racism.

## Effects of their racism

Planned Parenthood/Democrat racism is a disaster for black families. Over 70% of black children are born to single mothers without the guidance, encouragement and discipline of a full-time father.

Dr. James Dobson of Focus on the Family did a poll of incarcerated black men and found that over 90%

See RACIST, page 16

## Book Review

# Catholic researcher tackles the vaccination dilemma

By Diane Levero

To vaccinate or not to vaccinate—that is the question.

Every one of us has to ask ourselves whether ‘tis nobler in the mind to suffer the outrageous jab of the COVID-19 vaccine or to take arms against a sea of Fauchis and by opposing them, expose their fallacies and half-truths.

Pamela Acker tackles this dilemma in *Vaccination: A Catholic Perspective*.

After receiving her Master’s degree in Biology from the Catholic University of America, Acker went for her doctorate there, doing research for an HIV vaccine in the University’s Rao Laboratory.

But the devout Catholic resigned her position in the lab and abandoned her pursuit of a doctorate when she learned that the vaccine antigens were being produced in a strain of aborted fetal cells (HEK-293).

Spending nearly a year in the quest to create a new vaccine, however, “has given me an insight into this complex subject that has proven invaluable,” she writes.

To explain the pros and cons regarding COVID-19 vaccines, Acker attacks the subject from different angles, beginning with the history of vaccines in general.

Edward Jenner is credited with inaugurating vaccination to prevent the widespread and deadly disease of smallpox in the early 1800s.

But while popular scientific accounts tout vaccination as ending the scourge of smallpox, Acker ar-

gues that the death rate due to smallpox was dropping long before the introduction of the vaccine.

She points out that industrialization had caused many people to move from rural areas into cities, where they endured appalling living conditions: crowded slum tenements, lack of proper sewage and waste removal, filth from dogs, rats, and insects, and rotten or contaminated food.

When living conditions gradu-

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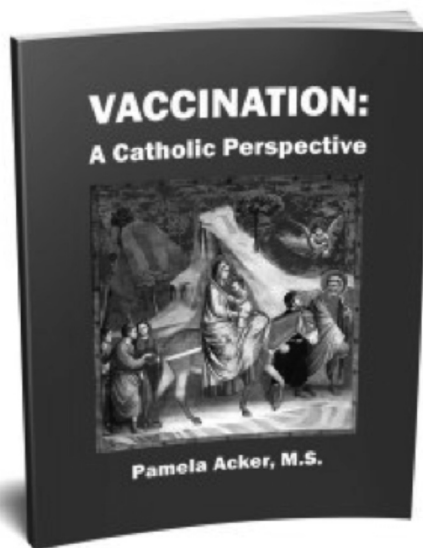
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digm, contends Acker.

Evolution, which reflects the Enlightenment philosophy, reduces the human body to “a random amalgamation of factors that can effectively be tinkered with by man, who is considered more intelligent than his random maker, natural selection,” she declares.

In contrast, the Creation-Providence Framework holds that God created the first human beings instantly, perfect in body and mind and free from any defect.

The Creation framework influenced great scientists such as Francis Bacon, who is credited with developing the scientific method.

But the evolutionary view of man led to harmful ideas, including the concept that some human organs, such as tonsils and the appendix, are useless vestigial leftovers from the evolutionary process—when in fact, they are vital organs in man’s immune system, Acker explains.

The writer takes a hard look at the morality of vaccines, many of which are derived from aborted fetal cells.

Vaccine proponents often insist that individual choice on whether to vaccinate should be overruled for the general good—that the only way

to ensure the safety of a population is by creating “herd immunity” through widespread vaccination.

For concerned Catholics, the 2005 statement of the Pontifical Academy of Life (PAL), did not provide definite guidance, says Acker.

The statement allows parents the use of aborted fetal vaccines for their children when there are no alternative vaccines, and if not using them would cause significant risks to their children’s health.

Acker lists alleged flaws in the statement’s reasoning.

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### ***New aborted fetal cell lines have been generated for laboratory use as recently as 2015.***

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She also quotes several priests who explain the moral problems with the use of these vaccines, including Fr. Phil Wolfe, who observes, “No power on Earth can give anyone the right to possess, purchase, or preserve tissue taken from a sacrificed baby.”

Acker further points out that the use of fetal-cell-derived vaccines has contributed to “an entire industry built around supporting the growth of aborted fetal cells in the laboratory.”

*New* aborted fetal cell lines have been generated for laboratory use as recently as 2015, she notes.

Addressing the current coronavirus, Acker explains that the coronavirus is nothing new: there are actually *seven* coronaviruses that affect humans.

The current, 2019 coronavirus’ proper name is SARS-CoV-2.

SARS, the first disease of international concern to be caused by a coronavirus, spread from China way back in 2002.

Acker provides much evidence that vaccines researched and developed on a fast-track basis are not likely to be safe.

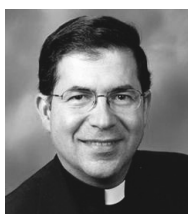
“It verges on insanity to think that a safe and effective vaccine can be developed for SARS-CoV-2 in less than a year when researchers have met with a decade and a half of failure working on vaccine candidates for a very similar virus,” she asserts.

“God’s works are wonderful beyond our imagining, and the human body is undoubtedly one of His greatest works,” says Acker.

Good health is best achieved through proper nutrition and physical exercise, she maintains.

“Rather than relying on a vaccine jab to protect us from disease, we would be much better off with maintaining a healthy immune system given to us by God.”

*Vaccination: A Catholic Perspective may be purchased at [www.kolbcenter.org](http://www.kolbcenter.org).*



***Americans will not reject abortion until Americans see abortion!***

**FATHER FRANK PAVONE**  
Director, Priest for Life

***That’s why we are doing our 21st Annual Truth Tour July 26–30!***

**Details on page 20**

#### **VACCINES, from page 9**

I could also talk a bit about the very real deaths and injuries visited upon some who have taken the vaccines; the vaccines are far from being the panaceas they are touted to be.

But I won’t, for these consider-

ations are, at most, ancillary to the morality of the vaccines themselves. The question for us who call ourselves pro-life is whether or not we are going to justify the murders of those children whose cells are found in the vaccines. I know what my answer is.

# Dad cries when he sees his baby on ultrasound

Anthony (not his real name) arrived reluctantly to meet his girlfriend at Planned Parenthood on 330 North Howard Street in Baltimore on May 20.

He told pro-lifers Brenda Bicskey and Gloria Mulinax that he really didn't want his girlfriend to have an abortion, but he didn't know what to do.

They told him that Options@328, the pregnancy center right next door to Planned Parenthood, would give his girlfriend a free ultrasound and help for their baby, and suggested a couple of things he could say to convince her to keep their child.

He went inside the foyer of the abortion mill to wait for her.

Later that morning, John Roswell saw a woman park and start walking across Howard Street.

"I had no idea that she was Anthony's girlfriend," recalled the pro-life advocates' leader.

"I met her in the middle of the street and, despite the 'deathscorts' jostling around her, trying to block me, managed to give her a 'blessing bag,'" which contained toiletries, snacks, and information about unborn babies.

Her boyfriend opened the clinic door for her—and the two immediately turned away and went to Options@328.

Roswell thinks that Anthony had phoned or texted his girlfriend while she was on her way about the help they could get at the pregnancy center.

Later, when the couple came out of Options, An-



thony, with tears in his eyes, showed the pro-lifers the sonogram of his 20-week-old son, who seemed to be waving his tiny hand at his dad.

They learned that when the proud father had first seen the ultrasound, he had burst into tears, exclaiming, "And we were going to kill him!"

Anthony also told them that, on the way to Planned Parenthood, he had seen a car with a license plate reading "ONLY SON." He already had two daughters, but this would be his first son, he said.

Betty Hendrickson got the mom's contact information, and she and the other pro-lifers are planning to give the mom a baby shower.

## PROBATION, from page 8

After she sat down, the young plaintiff was heartened when a woman in the courtroom who appeared to be an assistant to the prosecutor gave her a quiet "thumbs up."

Betz, given the chance to speak, turned to Chiara, apologized for his behavior, and asked her to forgive him.

He said he never meant to scare or harm her.

Chiara recollected that he said

his girlfriend had "just had" an abortion, and seeing the pro-lifers on the sidewalk with their signs had upset her.

"He was just sorry he got caught," she reflected.

Betz received a sentence of two years' probation and a \$250 fine.

Chiara believes that the Baltimore County State's Attorney's office treated her complaints with indifference and even reluctance because she was pro-life.

She is particularly critical of

Wagner, both in his treatment of her and her mother leading up to the hearing, and in his handling of the case in court.

On the phone prior to the hearing, and at the hearing itself, "His tone of voice was rude and sarcastic; it was like he was putting us down," she charged.

"We had over ten witnesses there to support the charges against Betz, so there was no reason why he should have dropped two of the charges," she concluded.

**RACIST, from page 12**

did not know their father or hated him.

Planned Parenthood's century-long racism has even eliminated the concept of family in some men who impregnate several women without any concept of responsibility for the child (See "Ivanla Speaks to 6 Men Who Have 87 Children with 50 Different Women" and subsequent YouTube videos for a glimpse of this problem).

Single-parent families suffer more crime, poverty, school drop-outs, child abuse, and abortion than two-parent families. They often lack the resources to provide a good education for their children, who have to take lower-paying jobs.

Thus, Planned Parenthood's racism results in lifelong educational, social and economic discrimination against blacks.

Reverend Walter B. Hoye II, founder of the Issues4Life Foundation, commented on the recent report of the U.S. fertility rate, "In order for any demographic to continue to exist, the replacement level is 2.1.

"In order for the black community to survive, every black woman of reproductive age must have an average of 2.1 children.

"In 2017, the total fertility rate for the black community was 1.8. The current rate is 1.7.

"At this rate, by 2050 the total black fertility rate will have dropped to 1.3 or lower."

Hoye said, "There's no economic model in the world that will let [us] bounce back . . . If we don't stop aborting our children at the rate that we are aborting them now , , , we're going to be facing irreversibility," he concluded.

At the rate the black population is declining it may take another hundred years, but the Planned Parenthood goal of eliminating blacks will be achieved. Indeed, the entire U.S. population may eventually suffer the same fate, because the racism birthed by Planned Parenthood has resulted in killing the preborn and has invaded all of society with disastrous trends—premarital sex, cohabitation, contraception and abortion—giving rise to the loss of faith, family and freedom, which will eventually destroy our republic

if not stopped.

The recent census found the number of couples marrying since 1970 has decreased by two-thirds. Anthropologist J.D. Unwin analyzed 86 cultures and concluded that when sexual restraint is maintained, a society flourishes, but when it engages in widespread immorality of premarital sex, it collapses.

Since our society has veered away from God's directions of how to live our lives, the obvious remedy is for people to repent. We need to live our lives in union with our Creator, pray for our country and urge others to do the same.

Hopefully, God will hear our prayers and intervene to return society to living as He wills.

Planned Parenthood's destruction of families will end when they experience enough public/political pressure. Let's hope it is very soon.

*John Naughton has served in various pro-life positions in Maryland in both state and local organizations, and writes the monthly Mustard Seed Letter, which asks corporations to stop supporting Planned Parenthood.*

**CLASSICAL, from page 7**

Academy of St. Mary's don't have an easy road, particularly in the first couple of years as they grow their student body and hire faculty.

"Of course we need financial support. We're starting a high-quality school with tuition of less than half the average of private and parochial high school tuition in Maryland—and several thousand dollars less than the national average," said Board President Peter LaPorte.

"Tuition—particularly with

only a few students in the first year—can't carry the whole load. Like any new business, capital is needed."

With twenty students pre-registered for the ninth and tenth grades, Chesterton Academy of St. Mary's has thus turned to the community for support.

"We're blessed to be located in St. Mary's County—the place where Catholicism first arrived in the English-speaking colonies in 1634," continued LaPorte. "The interest in our school is outstanding, but we're

also prayerfully asking for your help."

Director Schnitker adds, "Our prayer from the beginning has been, 'Jesus, I trust in You.' Our faith has been buoyed by both prayers and donations. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we look forward to welcoming our first students in September."

*To learn more about and donate to Chesterton Academy of St. Mary's, visit [www.ChestertonStMarys.org](http://www.ChestertonStMarys.org) Email: [info@chestertonstmarys.org](mailto:info@chestertonstmarys.org)*



**SUPPORT, from page 1**

natural and legal right of parents to provide consent to their minor child's medical care, Bogley noted.

But this bill could expand the reach of the abortion industry to school-aged children during the school day without the knowledge or consent of parents, she told the Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee.

Planned Parenthood has already done this in Los Angeles, California, high schools, where it announced it would be opening 50 new "Wellbeing Centers" in the next three years said Bogley ("Planned Parenthood plans to infiltrate high schools," *Washington Examiner*, Dec. 16, 2019).

Students at these Los Angeles in-school clinics can walk into the clinics anytime—including during class. Minors can receive emergency contraception and other forms of birth control, and healthcare providers are not allowed to inform their parents without the minor's permission.

Planned Parenthood's strategy is reportedly to use the public schools for their "catchment system."

"A 'catchment system' is a Planned Parenthood-coined term of art referring to the method by which they market and funnel new abortion clients into their facilities," according to a letter from Brian Johnson cited by Bogley.

Once established, these health care clinics within the school act "in loco parentis," (in place of the parent), supposedly acting in the best interests of the child placed in their trust, wrote Johnson, who is director of the Western Regional office of the National Right to Life Committee.

"Invoking the cloak of 'privacy,' these spaces quickly expand to be-

come the open door of Planned Parenthood's most effective catchment system," he concluded.

**More access to teens**

"We stand in opposition to SB438," Pamela Palumbo told the Senate Ways and Means Committee.

Palumbo, president of the Maryland Coalition of Medical Pregnancy Clinics, which represents 30 medical pregnancy clinics throughout Mary-



**NARAL Pro-Choice Maryland Executive Director Diana Philip lobbied for HB401/SB438.**

land, charged that the bill "is being used as a vehicle by those organizations who want to get more access to teens and 'establish policy.'"

The only actual physical example of need cited in the bill is establishment of a room for pumping for breastfeeding teens, noted Palumbo; "yet there is no proof this is not already available for use in the actual health rooms the current school health nurses occupy," she pointed out.

The bill's purpose "is not to help pregnant or parenting teens, but to end unplanned pregnancies, by get-

ting further into the school system to write and enact policy," she declared.

**Advised LA Archdiocese**

Asked by *Defend Life* why MCC supported HB401 despite opposition from two pro-life groups and support from NARAL Pro-Choice Maryland, Molly Sheahan, a legislative advocate for MCC, replied, "We supported HB401 /SB438 based on the text of the bill: [mga-leg.maryland.gov/2021\\_RS/bills/hb/hb0401t.pdf](https://mga-leg.maryland.gov/2021_RS/bills/hb/hb0401t.pdf)."

She also referred to her testimony on the bill at [mdcatholic.org/2021hb401](https://mdcatholic.org/2021hb401).

"The bill requires support services for students who courageously choose life that have never been available to them before now," Sheahan wrote in an April 17 email.

"Tragically, in Maryland, a pregnant student legally may be driven by a teacher for an abortion. Yet, until now, schools were not required to help teens who choose life."

Sheahan cited the bill's requirement for a lactation room and noted that there must be one staff person to help "teen moms" with referrals to childcare, early childhood education, and other resources.

"This bill will help the 3,000 student parents in Maryland receive the support they deserve to achieve their educational dreams and raise their children," she stated.

Sheahan's reply did not address the criticisms of the bill made by the two pro-life groups or the support of the bill by NARAL.

Sheahan became MCC's Associate Director for Pro-Life Advocacy in June 2020.

Her prior work experience includes almost four years working for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, one of the most liberal and progres-

sive Catholic dioceses in the U.S.

According to her Linked-in profile, as Projects and Programs Strategist for the Archdiocese from June 2015-August 2018, she “Managed [a] portfolio of projects, campaigns and research for all pro-life and social justice issues,” including “gender and sexuality, and women’s healthcare.”

From August 2018-January 2019, working as a Human Dignity Consultant, she was an “Advisor to [the] Archdiocese on legislative advocacy and human dignity policies.”

The Los Angeles County school system was the first to allow Planned Parenthood clinics to be located on site inside of school buildings.

The Maryland Catholic Conference also supported two other bills supported by NARAL Pro-Choice Maryland, but opposed by Maryland Right to Life:

- HB439/SB470 – Institute for Innovation and Implementation – Pregnant, Expecting, and Parenting Students – Data Collection and Report

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## FIGHT ABORTION!

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- HB359/SB437 - Maryland Longitudinal Data System – Student Data - Pregnant and Parenting Students

NARAL instituted a new project in 2020 to collect data about “reproductive health” education and services being offered in public schools.

“The goal of this legislation is to use taxpayer funds to conduct market analysis for the abortion indus-



**Pamela Palumbo testified that the MCC-supported bill would help Planned Parenthood.**

try that will be used to report select data to the state to justify the need for their expanded services,” contends MDRTL.

Both bills died in committee.

### Advocate resigns in protest

MCC’s legislative advocacy also came under strong attack by a former legislative advocate for the organization, who says she resigned in protest of their position on a bill

concerning child sexual predators.

Therese McGucken Hessler was employed by MCC for a year (September 2018-September 2019), according to her Linked-in profile.

Her duties included evaluating pending legislation and developing the organization’s response to legislation.

According to posts on her Facebook page, Hessler resigned because of MCC’s opposition, at the 2019 legislative session, to the Hidden Predator Act, a bill that would have expanded the time a victim of a child sexual predator had to file charges.

Hessler now heads a political consulting firm that supported the Hidden Predator Act at the 2021 session.

“[T]he Catholic Church spends millions each year across the country to protect their own interests... aka hiring lobbyists to fight legislation that hides child sexual predators and silences survivors,” she posted on March 21.

Replying to a commentor who wrote, “I really can’t tell you how grateful I am for your work on this,” Hessler replied, “humbled to do so. I had no idea how deep the darkness and corruption was until I saw it first hand working at the conference... leaving (because of what I saw on this issue)...”

Democrats outnumber Republicans by 2-to-1 in both houses of the Maryland General Assembly, making the passage of pro-life bills and the defeat of anti-life bills a formidable challenge.

But in light of the Church’s teaching on the sanctity of life, the Maryland Catholic Conference, representing the (arch)dioceses of Baltimore, Washington and Wilmington in Maryland, should arguably be at the forefront of the pro-life battle.

## K of C Fatima Council holds rosary rally to support police

About 40 people took part in a Rosary Rally to Support Our Police at Baltimore County Precinct 12 – Dundalk on April 16.

“We offer this rosary for the protection of our police,” said Deacon Al Bankard, of our Lady of Fatima Church in Baltimore, who led the recitation of the rosary.

The rally was sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Fatima Council 10137 and America Needs Fatima.

Fatima Council’s leader, Grand Knight Kevin Wise; District Deputy Buzzy Stockman, and Color Corps Commander Jim Bocklage took part in the rally.

So did four police officers, several of whom held rosaries.

The rally took place against a backdrop of protests, sometimes violent, across the nation against alleged police brutality and racism.

In Maryland, the State Legislature had just passed several police reform bills.

House Bill 670 struck down the current Law Enforcement Officers Bill of Rights. Opponents charge that this bill undermines protection of police officers from retaliatory activism.

Senate Bill 178 adds significant restrictions on the use of warrants, which, opponents say, can endanger police executing those warrants while not substantially protecting citizens.

SB178 also makes officers’ personnel files available for public inspection with respect to administrative discipline and even anonymous complaints (whether or not sustained).



Joining in the Support Our Police Rosary Rally are (above, from left, Knights of Columbus officers Frank Carozza, Faithful Navigator, and Tommy Ebaugh, Provincial Marshal; also taking part (below, from left, are Captain G.W. Wiedeck, Officer A. Cuddy, Sergeant S. Casey and Officer G. Wakefield.



# DEFEND LIFE

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**21st Annual Maryland Truth Tour**  
**JULY 26 – 30**

**MONDAY, JULY 26**  
CHARLES TOWN, WV 6:30–8AM  
HAGERSTOWN 11:30AM–1PM  
FREDERICK 4–5:30PM

**TUESDAY, JULY 27**  
SOUTH BETHESDA\* 7:30–9AM  
WHITE HOUSE\* 11:30AM–1PM  
CHEVY CHASE 4–6PM  
\*NEW LOCATIONS

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 28**  
BOWIE 7:30–9AM  
COLUMBIA 11:30 AM–1PM  
WESTMINSTER 4:30–6PM

**THURSDAY, JULY 29**  
TOWSON 7:30–9AM  
ROLAND PARK 11:30AM–1PM  
NORTH BALTIMORE 4–6PM

**FRIDAY, JULY 30**  
NORTHEAST BALTIMORE 7:30–9AM  
WHITE MARSH 11:30AM–1PM  
CATONSVILLE 4:30–6:30PM

Visit [DefendLife.org](http://DefendLife.org) for exact locations



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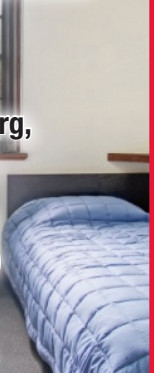
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**Watch this 3-minute video.**

## Overnight Housing Needed in These Areas:

- **SUNDAY, JULY 25**  
Charles Town, WV
  - **MONDAY, JULY 26**  
Germantown, Gaithersburg,
  - **TUESDAY, JULY 27**  
Bowie/Crofton
  - **WEDNESDAY, JULY 28 & THURSDAY, JULY 29**  
Towson Area
- Contact 443-489-6163  
[Organizer@DefendLife.org](mailto:Organizer@DefendLife.org)



## Jack Ames Needs An Assistant He Can Mentor to Eventually Be His Replacement for These Reasons:

He will be 80 in November and needs to spend more time with his bride, Mary Lou, whose health is marginal.

Please pray that several strongly motivated persons will come forth to fill the need so Defend Life can continue to be the dynamic force it has become since its founding in 1987.

Contact Jack Ames 410-337-3721 or [JackAmesPE@aol.com](mailto:JackAmesPE@aol.com). You might be that person or know someone else who might be a good candidate!