

Family & ProLife News Briefs for Catholics

February 2018

Busy Month: Groundhog Day, Presidents' Weekend, Lent and Ash Wednesday falls on Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday

Valentine's Day is America's romantic holiday, with plenty of **chocolate hearts** and **red roses** being given to loved ones. The world has lots of meanings for the word "love," but our culture doesn't emphasize the true nature of **long-lasting love**, that it is a commitment of the will and mind as much as it is of the heart and passion. We **choose** to stay faithful to our spouse; we **choose** to cherish and care for our children no matter what; we **choose** to show compassion to those in need. Loving is a lifestyle, not a passing feeling. And that lifestyle comes directly from following Jesus as our model. But, as they say, it ain't always easy. The ashes we receive on Ash Wednesday are a reminder of our short stay on this earth and what awaits us for eternity. It also kicks off the season of Lent when we try to up our game and extend our love and compassion to others. Jesus taught us to put the needs of others first; that's a good rule to follow in our relationships, be they boy or girl friends, spouses or children. [from the editor]

A Tale of Two Marches

The annual March for Life and the other side's Women's March make for a comparison that will help determine the future of America. Pro-life Americans stand with those who see abortion as one of a **whole spectrum of evils**, from the attack on marriage to euthanasia, that is destroying our nation's moral fiber.

For 45 years we have legally, peacefully and prayerfully attacked the Culture of Death. Many battles have been won. For the first time in decades, **the majority of Americans call themselves pro-life**. People are no longer afraid of being on the right side. The January 14, 2012, cover of *Time* said it best: "40 years ago, abortion rights activists won an epic victory with *Roe v. Wade*. They've been losing every since." Now, the so-called Women's March does not allow pro-life women's groups to participate.

The only way for America to return to order is a return to God, the Ten Commandments, and Christian morality. Victory will go to the side not with the biggest numbers but to those with **strong convictions** & enthusiasm, convinced that what we are doing is viewed by God with favor & grace. That is the calling of each and every one of us. [brochure, 1/19/18, www.TFP.org, The American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Prosperity]

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Feminism Hijacked

In recent decades, feminism has been hijacked by single-minded pro-abortionists. Something they hide is that **early feminist leaders** were against abortion. Past abusive "traditional" patriarchal values sought power over women through control and domination. That tradition condoned violence on the grounds of personal privacy and used **baby killing as a solution** to problems.

In contrast, like the early American suffragists, today's pro-life feminists envision a better world in which no woman would be driven by desperation to abortion. These views represent a renaissance of the original American feminism. Our feminist foremothers didn't oppose abortion because it was less safe at the time. While they were certainly concerned for women's health, their terminology for abortion included phrases like "child murder," "infanticide," and "ante-natal murder," indicating a concern for the other individual involved as well.

● **Victoria Woodhull** (1875): "Men must no longer insult all womanhood by saying that freedom means the degradation of women. Every woman knows that if she were free, she would never bear an unwished-for child, nor think of murdering one before its birth."

● **Susan B. Anthony** ©. 1870s): "Sweeter even than to have had the joy of caring for children of my own has it been to me to bring about a better state of things for mothers generally, so their unborn little ones could not be willed away from them."

That's why today there are groups like **Feminists for Life** (www.womendeservebetter.com) organized to uphold the rights and dignity of both women and their children, and the **Susan B. Anthony List** (www.SBA-List.org) dedicated to electing pro-life women at national & state levels. [Marilyn Kopp, "Early Feminist Leaders Were Pro-Life on Abortion," *LifeNews.com*, 1/19/18]



What's Your Score? 1. A developing baby's heart begins to beat at ___ days. 2. Abortions in the U.S. are legal through the ___ month of pregnancy. 3. Most abortion facilities are located in a) hospitals, b) medical facilities, c) strip malls, d) minority neighborhoods. 4. The age group of females who have the most abortions is a) 12-14, b) 15-18, c) 20-24, d) 28-32. [Answers on page 2]

March for Life Photos The photos in this issue show some of the many signs www.LifeSiteNews saw at the 2018 March for Life. They range from funny to cute to inspirational to sobering and heartbreaking.



Answers to What's Your Score? 1. 21 days 2. 9th 3. d 4. c [Sources are available from the editor]

Teaching Resource for Teen Education: A "Manual for Adulting" covers pro-life issues from a young perspective. Topics include reasons people do and don't support abortion, abortion and breast cancer, the overpopulation myth, when life begins, abortion and racism, birth control & abortion, adoption as a solution, and more. The glossy, attractive publication may be obtained from www.humanlife.org, the Human Life Alliance.

Reclaiming & Restoring Family Culture

Doing research in high school, Cristina Barba discovered that 87% of abortions were performed on unmarried women. "We don't have an abortion issue as much as a sex issue. If people were living according to the **Church's teachings on sexuality**, we wouldn't be dealing with abortion." In various ways, she has devoted her life to educating others about these teachings. Then, in 2014, she and 30 friends formed The Culture Project.

Based in Philadelphia, it has hubs in L.A. and Toledo, with a travel team based in San Francisco. The Culture Project invites **recent college grads** to live one year in community and minister to youth via talks on human sexuality, life and love. Barba strongly advocates that every family have meals together; share life together. Each family should be one "that loves one another, that forgives each other because we're going to screw up. Love your kids fiercely and share your faith." [Gretchen R. Crowe, "One Group's Mission," *Our Sunday Visitor*, 1/21/18]

Actor Stephen Baldwin to Star in Roe v. Wade Film [www.lifenews.com, Micaiah Bilger, 1/19/18]

Actor Stephen Baldwin is slated to join the cast of an upcoming film detailing the true story behind *Roe v. Wade*. Baldwin, known for his role in "Usual Suspects" and many other films, joins Academy Award-winning actor **Jon Voight** and actor/producer **Nick Loeb** in the project. **Alveda King**, the niece of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and other pro-life leaders also are involved as co-producers.

Baldwin has been vocal about his conservative beliefs, sometimes causing tension with his equally famous brothers, Alec & Billy Baldwin. His role in the film is a strong sign of his support of **unborn babies' right to life**. The film will follow key advocates in the abortion fight in the 1970s, including former abortionist Dr. Bernard Nathanson and Betty Friedan on the pro-abortion side and Dr. Mildred Jefferson, the first African American woman to graduate from Harvard Medical School, on the pro-life side.

"Bernard and Betty, along with the team at Planned Parenthood, search the country to find a pregnant girl they can use to sue the government for her right to have an abortion," states the film's description. They find the "perfect pawn" in **Norma McCorvey**, the **Jane Roe** of *Roe v. Wade*, the U.S. Supreme Court decision that allowed abortion on demand in 1973. McCorvey later became pro-life and fought to overturn the infamous ruling that bears her name. She and others attested to her being used by abortion activists to achieve their deadly agenda.

The film will examine the **lies & manipulative tactics** of abortion activists, people like McCorvey and Nathanson who later had a change of heart, & dedicated pro-life advocates like Jefferson who fought valiantly to defend the right to life for babies in the womb. It also will address the racism intertwined in the abortion industry through Planned Parenthood founder **Margaret Sanger** and others, and Jefferson's fight for unborn babies as well as people of color. [www.RoevWadeMovie.com]

Incredibly, **Facebook** is banning fund-raising ads for the movie. King is trying to raise \$2 million to pay for the cost of making the documentary, and has already secured 1,000 screens. To help her, go to www.indiegogo.com. Let's send



Facebook and all the other censorial activists in the pro-abortion industry a lesson—we will not be silenced in our campaign to promote the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death. [www.CatholicLeague.org]