

# NEWSLETTER

## JUNIOR LEGIONARIES MARCH FOR LIFE 2020

by George Lundy

As I was reflecting on ideas for topics to submit for the upcoming Legion of Mary newsletter, it suddenly struck me that I had the perfect topic!

Several of our Junior Legionaries from Our Lady of Fatima Praesidium participated in the March for Life 2020, in both Washington, D.C. AND right here in Mobile, AL!!! I thought that firsthand accounts of their experiences may be of interest - here are two of those:

### (1) March for Life in Washington, D.C.

*by McGowin Grinstead, Junior Legionary, Our Lady of Fatima Praesidium*



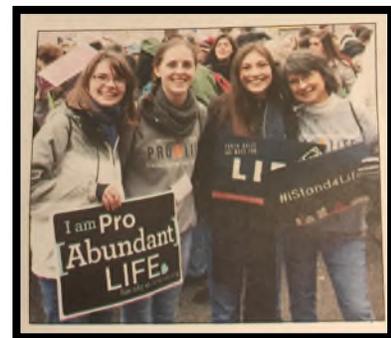
A few weeks ago I attended the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. I was so excited that I had a countdown to the trip and could not stop talking about it. But once I arrived in D.C., the power of the Pro-Life movement hit me with so much more force than I could have ever imagined.

Everything I saw, heard, felt... it all seemed to echo what my heart longed for: compassion.

Not only were people standing up for the unborn, but men and women were also marching for all of humanity. The Pro-Life movement extended to loving the poor, lonely, sick, abandoned, and lost.

As humans, we all long to love and be loved. What we were doing in D.C. was showing that incredible agape love to each other. Agape is the Greek term for the highest form of love. It's the love that lays down its life for another and it's that radical love we have for God. The Pro-Life community greeted each other with smiles, acknowledging that each one of us, personally, is a jewel of creation.

All the events in D.C. were not wonderful in themselves; they were crafted out of many wonderful people. The morning of the march we attended the Pro-Life mass in the Capital One arena. It was incredible to see so many people joining together to praise God and His creation. There is nothing more beautiful than people simultaneously offering their worries, fears, hopes, dreams, and compassion up to God.



After mass, we moved to worship God in our actions. I cannot tell you how many people I saw smile at me, especially Catholic religious. Sisters of every order and priests from all walks of life, people who

had given up everything for God, were marching with the love of Jesus Christ. I was so proud to walk along such joy, strangers and friends alike.

That day we marched for all life. We sang for babies, grandmothers, sons, cousins, neighbors and best friends. All of the small rocks in the road, the bus ride, sore legs, and discomfort- were offered up to God in one joyous breath. After marching for life with tens of thousands of people, I honestly can say that I agape love life! I love friendship, compassion, people and I love being human.

## **(2) March for Life in Mobile, Alabama**

*by Sarah Lundy, Junior Legionary, Our Lady of Fatima Praesidium*



The march for life at downtown mobile was a very enlightening and eye-opening experience.

The way the speakers told about their organizations and how they contributed to saving the innocent lives of the unborn babies and the story of redemption they went through to get back to God's grace was very moving.

I felt heartbroken over the fact that these babies are dying without a say, without the world knowing their side of how they want their life to go. Ronald Reagan once said: "I've noticed that everyone who is for abortion has already been born." And he is absolutely right.

People don't take into consideration the choice they make when they decide to abort their baby. They think it is their only option, which we know to be false.

We know that the abortion clinics want women to think that is their only option because that is how they get business. When in reality there are a few options other than killing your precious child. You could own up to your new responsibility and take your child for your own. Or if you feel you are not able to give your child the life it deserves, you have a wonderful option of putting them up for adoption.

There is no reason why anyone should think it is ok to intentionally and violently kill another living person, whether they are inside your body or not, whether they are two weeks conceived or six months conceived. We as Catholics believe that a person is alive at the moment of conception, not halfway through conception, not the day when they're born into the world. Right then, right there. It is not ok then, by any means to kill that baby, and disregard that killed baby as quote on quote "no big deal."

We believe every individual is important. In my opinion, the march for life in downtown Mobile helped me learn more about my faith, and what I believe in.

Thank you for your time.

I am literally in tears while submitting this article after reading these two accounts of these brave and devoted young women - I hope their accounts have moved you as much as they have me. These accounts give me HOPE that our future can be different than our past. All real hope begins and ends with Jesus Christ! To Jesus, through Mary...Thank you, and +God+Bless



## St. Pius School's Rosary Club

By: Cassandra Kilpatrick

The Legion of Mary at St. Pius X, Our Lady Assumed into Heaven Praesidium, is proud to offer the students of St. Pius X school and parish a unique opportunity after school on Wednesdays. The legionaries meet with a group of students for the Rosary Club. The students develop a love of the rosary in their lives. We also take little Mini-field trips around the church. We have taken them to look at the Baptismal font where they began their own faith journey. After Christmas, Sr. Beth Perkins and Sr. Janice Boykin took them to see the Creche scene so lovingly set up on the altar of our church. They learned how it started and got to look at the beauty of each and every statue. We love our little group of Rosary students. We reward each student who attends regularly with a commemorative gift at the end of the school year. The children love to receive these little tokens of accomplishment.



## The Imitation of Mary's Humility

by Sister Susan Pugh – St. Joseph Praesidium

The handbook points out that the Legionary will come to understand “humility” by reflecting on the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Our Lady was chosen by God to be the mother of His Son because of her true humility.

Mary recognized her lowliness and proclaimed that before others. God could carry out his plan of salvation because this simple handmaid was totally open to hearing God and allowing God free reign with her life. Mary recognized that God was her creator, the very



source of her life-breath. How could she not be totally obedient to this awesome God who loved her into being?

This is the level of humility that we are all called to by God. We are given the same knowledge as Mary but for some reason we fall short of that radical giving of self. God knows and understands that we are weak creatures. God is pleased when we pursue this virtue and is forgiving when we fall flat.

The handbook states that the Legionary will learn the essence of true humility when the person can recognize what “one really is” before God. The continuation of that statement really hits the nail on the head! What a person has to learn is that “one’s worthlessness alone is all that they have that is of their own. Everything else is gift from God.

If we could keep this knowledge ever present in our mind, how differently we would relate to other people in our world and to our loving God. Looking at life from this “humility perspective” would surely change our behavior.

God continues to bless his children with so many gifts and talents. How frequently do we and others take these blessings for granted and utilize these talents for our good or for those whom we love? Gifts from God are given to be shared with the whole world not just our family members and friends. Jesus said go out to all the world and proclaim the Good News. Jesus intended for us to share the wealth of our knowledge and experience not to restrict others from benefiting from God’s

generosity. It is not your treasure to pass on but it is God’s gift you are expected to share with those whom you encounter.

Jesus taught us this lesson time and again. Remember these stories from scripture: The Woman at the Well- She was a Samaritan and a lady of the night; The Woman with the Possessed Daughter - She told Jesus that even the dogs ate the crumbs from the master’s table and Jesus healed her daughter; and Zacchaeus the Cheating Tax Collector - When Jesus gazed up at him in the tree, Zacchaeus climbed down and disclosed that he would repay all those he had cheated four times the amount. It is evident that God’s generosity is not limited to those who were of the “chosen people” but all God’s children, virtuous or not so virtuous. This should give us a lot of hope.

Let us ask the Blessed Virgin to help us recognize who we are before God. May we allow this knowledge to take root in our being so that our actions spring forth from this truth. God has given us everything for the good of all his people.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS!

**Calling all Legion of Mary Active and Auxiliary Members! The annual Mobile Curia ACIES will be held March 21, 2020, at Little Flower Church and School, 2103 Government Street, Mobile, AL 36606. The Rosary will be prayed at 9:30 AM and Mass will begin at 10:00 AM in the Church. All are welcome to attend. The luncheon will be served in in the School Cafeteria. For further information, please contact Adrienne Davis (251) 654-5476, Lucy Park (251) 478-7125, or Patti Millette (251) 209-2288).**