

Pro-Life Report by Marie Fleisner, Pro-Life Liaison

I am happy to serve the LDCCW for the next 3 years as your Pro-Life Liaison. This is an exciting yet troubling time for the Pro-Life Community. In this historic era, as we move toward electing our next president, much is on the line for those of us who promote and defend life at all stages.

Let me tell you a bit about myself. I have been involved in a number of pro-life ministries for the past 20 years, including Silent No More Regional Coordinator for Central/Northern Wisconsin; core team member, Central Wisconsin Rachel's Vineyard; planning committee, Stevens Point 40 Days for Life; board member, Diocese of La Crosse Respect Life Committee; volunteer, Marshfield Birth Right; liaison, First Choice Pregnancy Resource Center. I have spoken publicly in the pro-life arena and am available to speak at your parish functions. I welcome questions and invitations!

Disturbing Trends

There have been several disappointments in the pro-life world recently, which many of you may already be aware.

- The US Supreme Court struck down regulations in both Texas and Wisconsin that (1) required abortionists to have admitting privileges at a hospital within 30 miles and (2) required abortion centers to meet the same health/building standards as ambulatory surgical centers. Because of this victory, Planned Parenthood now plans to target similar legislation in Arizona, Florida, Michigan, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Virginia.
- An Indiana judge blocked a law (called Dignity for the Unborn) that would have banned abortions on babies with Down Syndrome.
- The American Medical Association, despite its long-standing opposition, has called for a resolution (Opinion E-2.211 Physician-Assisted Suicide) to study the question of assisted suicide. This is being praised by the Compassion and Choices Society (formerly known as the Hemlock Society) who believe anyone should be able to choose when their life will end.

It is crucial to elect a pro-life president!

Pro-life voters can make or break the upcoming election. Pro-life means protecting each human at all stages of development and in all circumstances, including those whom it is not politically correct to protect. For example: the child conceived in rape; the child with a mother whose life is perceived to be in danger; the disabled preborn baby; the tiny embryo vulnerable to experimental research; or the elderly and terminally ill who are viewed as burdens on society. There may never be legal exceptions to a person's inalienable right to life. When voting for a candidate, we can't think, "well, s/he is mostly pro-life." We know that if a pro-abortion candidate wins, life loses. How do we know "who is the right candidate"? It can be hard to sort through all the campaign rhetoric. Fortunately, we have resources that have sorted through the issues for us.

- **Pro-Life Wisconsin** (<https://www.prolifewi.org/legislation-and-elections/endorsements#content>). Provides lists of endorsed pro-life candidates as well as summaries of various pro-life issues.
- **Wisconsin Right to Life:** their Political Action Committee has issued a list of candidates that they endorse as pro-life (MyElectionCentral.com). The list is updated as they receive updated information on each candidate.
- **Wisconsin Family Council** (<http://wifamilycouncil.org/election-central/voter-information-publications/>) informs citizens about pro-life/pro-family issues, promoting marriage, family, life, and liberty.

Pray for our nation, Blessed Mother, that the values of life may take root in our land and grow to the glory of God, and that our country might turn from darkness and embrace the infinite love and light of God. Amen [Pray an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be.]

