

SONOMA COUNTY PRO LIFE NEWSLETTER
JANUARY, 2024
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COME TO THE RALLY

**Sonoma County Pro-Life Rally
Sunday, January 21**

2:30 P.M.

**Santa Rosa Christian Church
1315 Pacific Ave. Santa Rosa**

This event is suitable for the entire family and will include music, informative speakers, essay contest winners reading their work, prayer, and lots of encouragement!

A number of leaders in the Pro-Life movement will be in attendance and sharing about our local efforts for life on many fronts. There will be lots of literature and an opportunity to learn about ways you can be involved and make a difference locally. Refreshments will be served.

We should wrap up around 4:00, and everything will be inside in case of inclement weather. We hope to see you there!

Lawrence Lehr

WALK WITH US

Join us in our own **Walk for Life** before the Rally. Meet on the steps of St. Eugene's Cathedral, Montgomery Drive at Farmers Lane, at 1:15. We will depart promptly at 1:30 and walk from there to the rally at Santa Rosa Christian Church, about 1 mile.

This is a highly visible route, and signs (positive messages only) are welcome.

The 2023 Sonoma County Pro-Life Essay Contest is over; records were set; and

THE WINNERS ARE!!!



The 2023 contest had a record number of entries, with one small private school, Stony Point Christian Academy, alone flooding us with 23 entries! And they SWEPT the prizes!!!

The school is a K-12 school founded in 2014, with an enrollment of 32. Their stated mission is to “offer a Classical Christian education in an ever-changing world.”



Grades 3-5:

First Place: Elijah Hertz

Second Place: AlliGrace Maniscalco

Honorable Mention: Galilee Clark

Grades 6-8:

First Place: Praise Clark

Second Place: Kaydence Souza



Grades 9-12:

First Place: Stellar Clark

Second Place: Amabella Smith

The Clark siblings are all members of a family that includes ten children: Three biological, three adopted (all with special needs), and four fostered.

Elijah lives with his mom, Whitney, and loves building with legos. He does gymnastics, is a huge Star Wars fan, and is always tinkering with a new “invention”.

A Note from a Judge:

I have had the privilege of being one of the judges for all of our essay contests. It has always been difficult; it has always been a blessing. But this year was special.

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I was struck by the positive attitude of most of our entrants, and all of our winners. The word “abortion” appears in only one of our winners. Yet the message comes through loud and clear. Every essay extols LIFE! A 7th grader, born in extremely difficult circumstances, says “My life is not to be pitied; it is to be celebrated.” A 5th grader thoughtfully reminds us “God says we are all wonderfully made.”

Our goal, as a Pro-Life organization, is to end abortion in our nation, and our essay contest is focused on that noble goal. But these essays make me wonder if we adults, Pro-Life activists, have not, perhaps, become so entangled in outlawing abortion that we forget the “PRO”

These young people may not pass a pro-life amendment, or outlaw abortion in our country, but perhaps they will be the ones to make abortion unthinkable.

Do read all the winning essays on our website, sonomaproplife.org. Your heart will be melted; your soul set on fire!

Jean Grant

We Need



Your Vote

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ELECTION YEAR

The 2024 primary election will be held on March 5th with information going out in February. You can check our local voters’ guide at sonomaproplife.org and a state-wide guide at californiaproplife.org. We also plan a special election issue of our e-newsletter, also available at sonomaproplife.org, in mid-February.

Primary elections generally attract fewer voters so every vote has more impact; be sure to participate. Elections have more importance than ever since the Dobbs court decision. We can’t win if we don’t fight!

Lawrence Lehr

40 Days-February 14 to March 24, 2024

The Fall, 2023 40 Days for Life campaign was quite successful. It ran from September 27 to November 5. Nationwide, there were 501 babies saved. Three individuals who had been working in abortion facilities quit and 2 Clinics closed down. In Santa Rosa, we had people praying for several hours on most days.

The Spring, 2024, 40 Days for Life Campaign begins Wednesday, February 14th (Ash Wednesday) and runs until March 24th. Forty Days is an international movement which now has peaceful prayer vigils at more than 600 sites. World-wide, we help women choose not to have an abortion.



Here in Santa Rosa, we plan our usual strong presence at 1140 Sonoma Avenue. Our group has been praying for 32 campaigns; although for the first six campaigns we were meeting at a clinic which moved to an inaccessible location and later closed! We will measure our success for the vigil this Fall by the amount of reaction we receive from pro-abortion advocates. We have, to date saved 4 babies. It

would be nice to add another.

We will have our usual evening kickoff on Tuesday, February 13 after the 5:30 Mass-at St. Eugene's Parish Life Center, Montgomery Drive and Farmers' Lane. If you can't come to Mass plan for 6:30 to 7 p.m.

We will also have an opening prayer session at 1140 Sonoma Avenue on Wednesday morning at 11 a.m. We pray in front-of-the Planned Parenthood office at 1140 Sonoma Avenue, and hope to have volunteers there from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day.

For more information or to sign up visit www.40daysforlife.com or call Judy at (707) 579-2941 or Mary at (707) 321-8948. For information in Spanish, call Theresa at (707)795-8890.

After the main event

Beyond the 40 Days for life people are going to Avenue to pray. A group regularly on Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. groups, we are told, “after school”, and on afternoon.

If you are praying Sonoma Avenue during “off-season” and would invite others to join you, our web site www.sonomapro-life.org. not publish your name, include the times in our newsletters.

Pro-abortion have been coming out to presence. There has been no violence, but they are sometimes rude. It’s a good idea to have at least two people there. And if you come, be prepared to keep your temper.



scheduled campaign, Sonoma gathers mornings Other gather Friday

on the like to please visit

We will but will future

individuals protest our

Mary Heeney



WALK FOR LIFE WEST COAST

The 20th annual Walk for Life West Coast will be held in San Francisco on Saturday, January 20.

Speakers: Lila Rose of LiveAction
Kaya Jones, a post-abortive woman
Kimberley Henkel, of Springs of Love
Reverend Clenard Childress, of BlackGenocide.org, and a perennial favorite.

Event Schedule:

9:30 A.M. Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral – all welcome
10:45 to 12:15: Silent No More Awareness, Civic Center Plaza
11:00 AM to 12:30 PM: Info Faire, Civic Center Plaza
12:30 P.M. Main event at Civic Center Plaza
1:30 P.M. Start walking

Buses will leave St. Eugene's, in Santa Rosa, at 8:00 AM, drop passengers at St. Mary's Cathedral, and leave S.F. at 3:30 for Santa Rosa. Tickets are \$30, and may be purchased at St. Eugene's Church Office, or call 1-707-542-6984.

