

Legislative Advocacy – Annual Project Recognition Award Winners 2022

Name of Program - **“Stand for Life”**

This affiliation wanted to bring awareness and foster collaboration for the sanctity of life. They established an outreach to Pro-Life Partners in Catholic and non-Catholic Churches. They prepared a flyer to announce the event, contacted all affiliations in their Deanery, announced the event in the parish bulletin, church website and prolife organizations in their area. They asked that the event be publicized verbally to the congregations. The event was held in January 2022 before the anniversary of Roe v Wade. A public event with signs at a busy intersection was well received. Many people gave them thumbs up and shouted thank you. One motorcyclist came back to join them and said he had never seen an energetic, positive gathering to help stop abortion. During the gathering, the group prayed and then recited the rosary.

They received positive feedback and pledged to return next year.

Prince of Peace – Eastern Deanery

Name of Project – **“Letter Template – Urging Florida Legislators to Pass Pro-Life Laws Similar to TX SB8 and Support Florida HB 167”**

This affiliation began in September 2021 researching and seeking information regarding laws passed in other states so they could prepare a letter template for CCW members in their Deanery to urge Florida’s legislators to pass similar legislation. Their research also included seeking passages in Scripture and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The Legislative Commission received input from the affiliations in their Deanery after providing a draft letter seeking their guidance and suggestions. The Final Sample Letter was presented and shared during a Deanery General Meeting and then it was distributed to all Parish Affiliations.

The affiliation believes this letter campaign along with prayer and advocacy paved the way for the recent legislation that was passed in the Florida Legislature.

St. Mary Magdalen – Central Deanery

Name of Project – **“Focused Persistence Moves the Needle”**

This affiliations program, “Focused Persistence Moves the Needle” took the time to educate and advocate Catholic values in the public square. Their main focus was the sanctity of life. They decided to keep members informed on a regular weekly schedule. They provided their members with information in which they could interact with elected representatives in Tallahassee and Washington, D.C. They began this program on September 1, 2021 and completed it December 31st. They utilized email to keep all the members informed and used resources which included links from the USCCB, FCCB, Prolife Action Ministries and the Florida Family Policy Council. Each of the emails had “Urgent” in the subject line.

Members communicated with state and national elected officials and they believe this helped to move the needle in Tallahassee and may help in Washington, D.C.

St. Joseph – Central Deanery