



40 DAYS FOR LIFE™

FEBRUARY 17 - MARCH 28

The Pro-Life Committee and Knights of Columbus Council of our parish invite everyone to participate in the spring 40 Days for Life campaign, February 17 – March 28. The mission of the campaign is to bring together the body of Christ for 40 days of prayer, fasting, and public vigil with the purpose of repentance, and to seek God’s favor in converting hearts and minds from a culture of death to a culture of life, thus bringing an end to abortion in America.

During this campaign, each parish in the diocese has been assigned a day for public vigil. **The day assigned to our parish is March 15.** The vigil will take place at Planned Parenthood, 470 Pleasant St., Worcester, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

What do you do at a public vigil? We will stand on the sidewalk and pray, nothing more, nothing less. It is a peaceful event. There is no protesting, picketing, or leafleting. We will not be involved with any sidewalk counseling. You can pray in silently or out loud. Most often people pray the rosary.

The thought of praying at a public vigil makes me nervous. Most people who have never prayed at a public vigil before feel nervous and a bit scared. You don’t quite know what to expect. If you feel a bit afraid, maybe God is calling you out of your comfort zone, to come and be a witness to life, a beacon of hope to a scared woman in trouble. In the words of Pope John Paul II, **“Do not be afraid”**.

I’m worried I’ll get arrested.

The area where we will stand on the sidewalk and pray throughout the day is clearly marked. If you stay within the area, you will not break any laws. No one has been arrested at any of the public vigils during the previous 40 days For Life campaigns in Worcester.

Who can go? Everyone is invited! Come as a family, young and old; bring a friend, neighbor or co-worker. All are welcome!

What if I cannot come March 15? If you cannot come to Planned Parenthood we invite you to sign up to pray for one hour any time from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Church in unity with those who are at the public vigil. You can also sign up for an hour of public vigil on another day by calling 508- 797-5433 or at: www.40DaysForLife.org/worcester and clicking on “Vigil Schedule” at the top of the page.

You are called to stand up for life....

"You are called to stand up for life! To respect and defend the mystery of life always and everywhere, including the lives of unborn babies, giving real help and encouragement to mothers in difficult situations. You are called to work and pray against abortion." Pope John Paul II, 1995

Mary, Mother of Life, Pray for Us.