

 Dubuque County  
Right To Life, Inc.

# LIFE TIME

DECEMBER 2024 VOLUME 27 NUMBER 12



35th Annual  
*Night of Prayer for Life*

**Thursday, December 12th  
6:00 - 8:00pm**

**St. Joseph the Worker Parish  
(2001 St. Joseph St., Dubuque)**

It was on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception in 1531, (then celebrated on December 9th), that Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas and the Unborn, first appeared to St. Juan Diego. We will be doing an evening of prayer on the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe celebrated on December 12th. Everyone is invited to participate, as we ask Our Blessed Mother to protect Life and the Family, to renew the Church, establish peace, and inspire courage in the soul of our nation: Even though the Supreme Court has overturned Roe vs. Wade, much more needs to be done to protect the unborn in each state.



During these two hours, we will be united with churches across the country and the world to pray for an end to abortion, in reparation, and for the healing power of Jesus to bless us with growth in our respect for the sanctity of all human life.

This local National Night of Prayer for Life includes the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Scripture and a Reflection, the Prayer to St. Michael, the Holy Rosary, Silent Adoration, and Benediction. All are welcome!



## DCRTL CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Saturday, December 14th 1pm - 4pm**  
**Dubuque County Right to Life, Inc. Office**  
**(2205 Carter Road, Dubuque)**



Please join us for this year's DCRTL Christmas Party! We will have cookies, hot cocoa, crafts, fun Christmas treats, and everyone's favorite Christmas music in the background for you. As a special surprise for the kiddos, Santa will arrive at 2:30pm! So come and have a grand time, and be filled with Christmas cheer. **EVERYONE** is invited!



This year we are honoring Clarity Clinic with gifts at our Christmas Party and they are in need of the below items. Please consider blessing them by bringing to the party one of the following:

Laundry Soap, Stain Stick, Ziploc Bags (Quart Size), Stamps, Bottled Water, Printer Paper, Batteries (C, D, AA, AAA), Disinfectant Wipes, Baby Wipes, Baby Wash, Diaper Ointment, Pacifiers, Paper Towels, Kleenex Tissues

# December 2024

Volume 27, Number 12  
Published Monthly

### Office Personnel:

Augustine Payne  
*Executive Director*

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*Outreach Coordinator*

Grace Van Petten  
*Outreach Associate*  
(part-time)

### Board of Directors:

Cait Dolehide  
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Liz Cushman  
Laura Dolehide  
Jessica Pennington  
Cassie Schetgen  
Judy Tigges

### Contact Us:

2205 Carter Road  
Dubuque, Iowa 52001  
(563) 556-5960  
dcrtl@dcrtl.org  
www.dcrtl.org

### Office Hours:

Mon - Fri: 9am - 4pm  
Weekends: Closed

### Dyersville Office:

1657 15th Avenue S.E.  
Dyersville, Iowa 52040

Dubuque County Right to Life, Inc. is a non-profit, non-sectarian, education organization dedicated to preserving and fostering respect for human life from conception to natural death. We educate the public about the dangers of abortion, euthanasia and infanticide.

## December 2024

Monday, December 2	• Final Day to order Butter Braids
Thursday, December 12	• Night of Prayer for Life 6-8pm <i>St. Joseph the Worker Church</i> (2001 St. Joseph St., Dubuque)
Saturday, December 14	• DCRTL Christmas Party 1-4pm <i>DCRTL Office</i>
Tuesday, December 17	• Butter Braid pickup. <i>DCRTL Office</i>
Thursday, December 19	• Board of Directors meeting
Tuesday-Friday, December 24-27	• Merry Christmas! DCRTL Office closed.
Tuesday, December 31	Office closes at 12:00 noon ( <i>still available for phone calls that day</i> ). Normal business hours will resume on January 2nd. Happy New Year!

## January 2025

Wednesday, January 1	• Happy New Year!
Thursday, January 16	• Board of Directors meeting
Friday, January 24	• National March for Life
Thursday, January 26	• Holy Hour 7pm <i>St. John the Baptist, Peosta</i>



### Praying Outside of the Abortion Facility

Every Thursday morning, Arthur Gilloon and a couple other members carpool down to Iowa City to pray and offer life-affirming options to the mothers entering Emma Goldman abortion facility. They leave by 5:45am and return to Dubuque by 12 noon. They have open spots in the car. If you would like to join them on any Thursday, give our office a call (563-556-5960) by Wednesday (day before) at 4pm to sign-up.



## A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We are going to break from the usual educational focus of this section to provide a family update and a reflection on the impact this community has had on me in my three years here.

On November 22nd, we finalized the adoption of our son, Luke Greyson. We found out about Luke through our office, as we received an email from Lutheran Family Services in early February seeking a family for him. Luke was born two months premature and has a medical condition called Prader-Willi syndrome. The condition is a result of not having a complete set of chromosome 15. A few of the primary ways that it manifests itself are: weak or slow muscle development, low metabolism, and around the toddler stage, the child typically develops a condition where the stomach is not telling the brain it is full (always being hungry and feeling he needs to eat more), which, if not closely monitored, can lead to other conditions such as obesity, diabetes, or a heart disease. There are other possible symptoms, but those are the primary ones this condition is known for. This is also a spectrum condition, so no two children with the condition are the same when it comes to symptoms. Some children with this condition hardly move or cry in the first year of life outside the womb, but Luke has started babbling and most recently rolling around the floor as we approach his first birthday. We praise God for the progress Luke is making, and for blessing our family with him. He is a bundle of joy and someone who will gaze at you for an extended period of time. I can't wait for you to meet him at an upcoming event.

I'm grateful to my wife Molly for taking Luke to all of his doctor and therapy appointments, and for all of the resources that exist for children who need more care. Though Prader-Willi syndrome is a rare condition, there is a national support group and smaller support groups in various states. The state of Iowa also has many programs to support children with Luke's condition and give him the care he needs (I'm still learning about all of the resources that exist).

### **The power of stories and the Dubuque area community**

I believe one of the main things that has opened our hearts to adoption is getting to know some of your stories in the three years since moving here. There are people in our community who have been part of the adoption process, who have fostered kids with a loving home, who have taken pregnant moms into their own homes before we were blessed with Mary's Inn in our community, and the list could go on—the example you all have shown by your lives has been a witness to Molly and me. I encourage you to share your stories more broadly; it will have an impact not only on pro-life people, but it will also have an impact on people who do not agree with us. Stories can cause change in people's lives, and your story matters.

### **Support through Luke's hospital stay and the adoption process**

When we shared that we would be adopting Luke, we received an abundance of support through the adoption process and Luke's hospital stays. Whether it be flexibility at work, people caring for Max and our family when traveling to Iowa City when Luke was in the hospital, or all of the positive words of congratulations and encouragement that have been shared with us, we will never be able to thank you all for the blessings we have been blessed with in being part of this wonderful community, so please accept my humble thanks. Thank you for being an awesome pro-life community! And thank you again for your support of Dubuque County Right To Life! It is through your support that we can organize such a community of great people and proclaim to the culture that every life is valuable and killing an innocent human being should never be an option.





# PRO-LIFE COURT & LEGISLATION UPDATE



by Arthur F. Gilloon, DCRTL Board Member & Attorney

Dear Friends for Life,

Well, the election of November 5 is over.

### State News:

Here are the results of all the abortion-related ballot issues in the 10 states where constitutional amendments and other laws were proposed:

State	Date	Measure	Description	Outcome
Arizona	November 5, 2024	Right to Abortion Initiative	Question was whether abortion should be a fundamental right in Arizona's constitution so that abortion on demand be allowed up to 24 weeks, and then even after that point if necessary in the opinion of the treating doctor to preserve the "life of physical or mental health" of the mother. By including "mental health" as an exception, the amendment would allow abortion on demand up to birth. It passed 61.6 % to 31.2 %.	Pro-abortion amendment passed
Colorado	November 5, 2024	Right to Abortion Initiative	Abortion on demand was already allowed under state law. Question was whether to install an unrestricted constitutional right to kill babies and harm women on demand, allow the use of public funds for abortion, and require Medicaid and private health insurance to pay for abortions. It passed 62% to 38%.	Pro-abortion amendment passed
Florida	November 5, 2024	Florida Amendment 4	Current state law protected babies after 6 weeks. Question was whether to install an unrestricted constitutional right to kill babies and harm women. (i.e., abortion on demand). Needed 60% to pass. It only received 57.2%	Pro-abortion amendment DEFEATED
Maryland	November 5, 2024	Right to Reproductive Freedom Amendment	Question was whether to install an unrestricted constitutional right for an expectant mom to make all "decisions to prevent, continue, or end one's own pregnancy...i.e., abortion on demand. It passed 75.5% to 24.5%	Pro-abortion amendment passed

State	Date	Measure	Description	Outcome
Missouri	November 5, 2024	Right to Reproductive Freedom Initiative	<p>Question was whether to allow baby-killing and women-harming abortions while supposedly giving the state legislature power to enact laws regulating but not prohibiting abortion after fetal viability. In sum, the vote would decide whether to allow abortion on demand. It passed in a close vote 51.6% to 48.4%</p> <p><i>Abortionists and Planned Parenthood are preparing lawsuits to challenge any current Missouri law that regulates necessary abortion clinic health and safety requirements, hospital admitting requirements, counseling and informed consent requirements to protect women, waiting periods so women can consider alternatives, abortion pills, and rules that require a doctor (not a midwife or nurse or abortion staffer) to be involved in doing the abortion.</i></p>	Pro-abortion amendment passed
Montana	November 5, 2024	CI-128 Right to Abortion Initiative	<p>The current state law allowed abortion on demand and allowed non-physicians to kill pre-born babies. The question was whether to put abortion expressly into the Montana constitution by prohibiting “the government from denying or burdening the right to abortion before fetal viability,” and whenever the abortionist believes it is needed to protect “life or health.” In other words, it was an abortion on demand vote. Unfortunately, it passed 57.8% to 42.2%</p>	Pro-abortion amendment passed



Merry  
Christmas

*and a very happy and blessed new year!*

**Please remember DCRTL in your end of year giving. We rely on the generosity of our supporters to continue serving in our community.**

State	Date	Measure	Description	Outcome
Nebraska	November 5, 2024	Prohibit Abortions After the First Trimester Amendment	There were two competing abortion constitutional amendments proposed. Amendment 439 was pro-abortion. Amendments 434 was pro-life. Amendment 439 was an abortion-on-demand amendment. It failed with the pro-life "No" vote of 51.25% and a pro-abort "Yes" vote of 48.75 %, a difference of 22,004 votes out of over 900,000 cast. Amendment 434 was a pro-life amendment to install Nebraska's current 12-week protective law in the state constitution and allow the legislature to pass additional protective laws in the future. So a "yes" vote was a pro-life vote to amend the state constitution to protect unborn babies and women from abortion after the first trimester unless necessitated by a medical emergency or the pregnancy is a result of sexual assault or incest. It passed 51.09 % to 49.91%, a difference of 92,774 votes where total votes were over 900,000.	Pro-abortion amendment DEFEATED. Pro-life amendment WINS.
New York	November 5, 2024	Equal Protection of Law Amendment	Question was whether to add language to the New York state Bill of Rights to provide that people could not be denied rights based on their "ethnicity, national origin, age, and disability" or "sex, including sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes, and reproductive healthcare and autonomy." In other words, kill babies, harm women, and have abortion on demand. It won 61.9 % to 39.1%	Pro-abortion amendment passed
Nevada	November 5, 2024	Right to Abortion Initiative	Question was whether to install a constitutional right to kill babies and harm women before 24 weeks, and after if ok in the judgment of the abortionist (i.e., abortion on demand). It won 64.24 % to 35.76 %	Pro-abortion amendment passed



State	Date	Measure	Description	Outcome
South Dakota	November 5, 2024	Constitutional Amendment G	Question was whether to install Roe v. Wade’s abortion on demand language in the state constitution. It was defeated on a vote of 58.59% pro-life and 41.41% pro-abortion.	Pro-abortion amendment DEFEATED

In a related development, a proposal regarding assisted suicide was on the ballot in West Virginia. The question was whether the state constitution should be amended to prohibit “people from participating in the practice of medically assisted suicide, euthanasia, or mercy killing of a person.” In other words, West Virginians were voting on whether to make it illegal to help people kill themselves and prohibiting doctors from doing it also. A yes vote was a pro-life vote. Fortunately, the ballot measure passed by 6,129 votes out of more than 650,000 votes cast.

Also, on October 14, 2024, Missouri, Kansas, and Idaho amended their lawsuit now pending against the FDA and HHS in Texas federal court, challenging the weakening of safety rules for the use of abortion pills. The FDA currently allows the abortion pill to be mailed to women without medical supervision. These dangerous pills have sent countless women to emergency rooms, with many experiencing severe side effects like hemorrhage and infection. (For proof, see page 5 of our DCRTL October Newsletter regarding the sad case of Amber Thurman, who died from so-called safe and legal abortion pills.)

These states are fighting to restore basic safeguards, such as the requirement for in-person medical consultation, limits on gestational age, and mandatory follow-up appointments—all to help protect women from the often devastating physical and emotional effects of the abortion pill. They’re also calling attention to the illegal mail-order distribution of these drugs in violation of the Federal Comstock Law, which prohibits the mailing of abortion-inducing substances.

Women who turn to abortion pills need proper medical help, not abortion.

To see a copy of the actual lawsuit, click on this link.  
<https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.txnd.370067/gov.uscourts.txnd.370067.195.1.pdf>

Lastly, our pro-life neighbors in Wisconsin are engaged in a serious battle before the Wisconsin Supreme Court, which currently has a 4-3 pro-abortion majority of Justices. At issue is whether, after the overturn of Roe v. Wade in 2022, an 1849 pro-life Wisconsin law that totally protects unborn persons and their mothers from abortion should be reinstated, or whether a 2015 state law that only protects babies after 20 weeks gestation should be the law in Wisconsin. The court is also being asked by the pro-abortion lawyers to rule that the Wisconsin state constitution contains a right to abortion, and that both the 1849 law and the 2015 law should be struck down....resulting in abortion on demand in Wisconsin. Currently, babies are being killed and mothers harmed in Wisconsin, as the pro-abortion state attorney general is not enforcing any pro-life law, and a Dane County Circuit Court judge ruled in 2023 that the 1849 law did not even apply to abortion. A ruling is expected in the coming months.

**National News**

Now that national elections are over, please follow congressional and executive branch developments regarding current government policies mandating abortion on military bases and funding abortions overseas (the Mexico City policy). Also, what will be the Department of Justice’s policy regarding prosecution of peaceful pro-life activists who try to help women and stop the killing at abortion clinics?

## Note from our Director

...continued from page 3

Many people do not know the love and support that exist within the pro-life community. As we prepare to celebrate the Christmas Season, we thank our Heavenly Father for sending His Son, Jesus, to redeem us, and for adopting us as His sons and daughters. May people you come in contact with experience the love God has for them, that they are unrepeatable, and that their life has immeasurable value. Thank you for your support of this organization and this mission!

May you and your family have a merry Christmas!

In gratitude,  
Augustine



### Now Hiring - Outreach Coordinator

We are seeking a candidate who passionately wants to make abortion unthinkable, support pregnant mothers, and advocate for the right to life for the disabled and elderly.

We need an Outreach Coordinator who is ready to make a difference. Some of the responsibilities include coordinating large and small events, running social media pages, coordinating and participating in community outreaches, designing marketing materials, being part of a team to create a monthly newsletter to over 2,000 people, connecting with our donors and other key people in the community, and much more. No two days are the same.

As one of the main people that our members and the general public will interact with, we are in search of someone who has strong interpersonal skills, while also working in a role that is results driven. The applicant must also have technology skills. As a small team, we also do the little things such as cleaning the office and keeping it organized. If you, or you know someone who desires to build a culture of Life in the Tri-state area, we would love for you to apply.

You can apply by sending your resume and letter of introduction to Augustine Payne at [apayne@dcrtl.org](mailto:apayne@dcrtl.org). If you have any questions, you can email or call us at 563-556-5960.



## BUTTER BRAIDS



The perfect opportunity is available to ALL, to purchase these delicious pastries while supporting the Pro-Life cause. These pastries are perfect to have on hand for a quick treat, or of course breakfast during the busy Christmas season. Below are the available flavors. Whichever one(s) you choose, we promise you'll be satisfied!

*Cost: \$16/each (\$6.50 of that will go directly towards DCRTL).*

To order your Butter Braids, contact the DCRTL office at 563-556-5960 or via email at [dcrtlevents@gmail.com](mailto:dcrtlevents@gmail.com).

**Final Order Deadline: Please call or email your order by Monday, December 2nd.**

**Pick-Up Date & Time:** Please pick up your order on Tuesday, December 17th, at the DCRTL office!

### Available flavors:

-Apple -Blueberry Cream Cheese -Cinnamon -Cream Cheese -Raspberry  
-Strawberry Cream Cheese -Caramel Rolls (9 per pkg) -Cinnamon Rolls (9 per pkg)

## Pro-Life Court & Legislative Update

...continued from page 8

In other news, the City of Detroit passed an ordinance on October 1, 2024, requiring pro-life advocates trying to help women within a 100-foot radius of an abortion clinic to stay 8 feet away from anyone entering a clinic if they are handing out pamphlets, displaying signs, or engaging in verbal protests.... unless the person going into the clinic consents. Protesters are also required to stay 15 feet away from the abortion clinic entrance at all times. This is known as a “buffer zone” law, as it imposes a requirement on the advocate to stay a certain distance away from people and the clinic.

I wrote about a similar case involving a Louisville, Kentucky, 10-foot buffer zone on page 6 of last month’s DCRTL Newsletter. That 10-foot buffer was struck down by the Federal 6th Circuit Court of Appeals and a permanent injunction was issued preventing enforcement of it.

Michigan is governed by rulings of the 6th Circuit so hopefully the Detroit ordinance will be similarly struck down.

Buffer zone laws are also beginning in England and Wales. As of November 1st, there is a 492-foot buffer zone around abortion clinics which prohibits handing out pro-life leaflets to offer aid to pregnant women, protesting against abortion, and prayer, even arguably silent prayer if it considered an attempt to influence a person’s decision to have an abortion. It will be interesting to see how pro-life advocates overseas deal with this new law. For more, click on this link: <https://www.liveaction.org/news/buffer-zones-abortion-facilities-england-wales/>

That’s all for now, friends. Stay informed. DCRTL will help you!

Arthur F. Gilloon, Attorney at Law



### Board Member Updates

We are thrilled to share that all individuals running for election during our recent board elections were successfully elected!

Additionally, we are excited to announce that Liz Cushman was voted onto the board during the meeting and will also join the Dubuque County Right to Life Board. We are grateful for their commitment and look forward to their contributions to our mission!

Thank you to Anna Durr and Colleen Myers for their service on the Board! We are grateful for the initiatives they led during their time on the Board.

At our last Board of Directors meeting, the board elected Cait Dolehide as Chairman, Art Gilloon as Vice-Chairman, Sara McDonald as Secretary, Kris Pregler as Treasure! We thank them all for being willing to serve in this capacity.



#### Board Member - Liz Cushman

Elizabeth (Liz) Cushman is a longtime supporter of DCRTL with her husband, Dave. She and Dave have been married for almost 50 years and were blessed with 7 children and 20 grandchildren. Liz is a past president and board member of DCRTL working with Marian Bourek when she was Executive Director. Serving and supporting an organization like DCRTL that informs and courageously promotes life issues is a privilege and an honor.

# Trivia Night

February 22nd, 2025

St. Columbkille's parish hall  
(1240 Rush St, Dubuque, IA 52003)

5-6:30pm - Doors open and Food provided by Knights of Columbus for a small donation. Games start at 6:30. Costumes & Table Themes encouraged. Tables of 8 for \$200 (\$25 a person). Babies and Toddlers are welcome to attend.

Register by February 10th by calling DCRTL office at 563-556-5960 or email us at [dctrl@dctrl.org](mailto:dctrl@dctrl.org)

Funds raised will be put towards a Memorial Wall for women who have had a miscarriage or an abortion so they have a place to memorialize their babies.



## Highlights from Pro-Life Awareness Week with Sarah Hurm





## SALVATION ARMY

Most of us are aware of the good work done by Salvation Army, but few people are aware that they promote contraception (which can be abortifacients) and approve of abortion in the traumatic cases of rape and incest. The Salvation Army's International Headquarters states their position:

"The Salvation Army believes that termination can occur only when carrying the pregnancy further seriously threatens the life of the mother; or reliable diagnostic procedures have identified a foetal abnormality considered incompatible with survival for more than a very brief post natal period. In addition, rape and incest are brutal acts of dominance violating women physically and emotionally. This situation represents a special case for the consideration of termination as the violation may be compounded by the continuation of the pregnancy.....A serious commitment to the protection and care of the unborn calls us to a commitment to the prevention of unwanted pregnancy through means such as access to reliable birth control..."

DCRTL believes that rape and incest are violations of human dignity and agree with Salvation Army that they are "brutal acts of dominance." We also believe that it is very hard for a Mom and a family to receive a prenatal diagnosis that your child will not live much longer. These are hard circumstances and we believe these mothers and families in these situations need an abundance of support. We also believe that all life is sacred, no matter the circumstances of conception or how long you are supposed to live.

This Christmas season, please consider dropping a note in the kettle (example below) rather than giving money to the Salvation Army.

Dear Salvation Army,

According to your International Headquarters, the Salvation Army approves of abortion in cases of rape, incest, and fetal deformity. As a pro-lifer who believes that every human being has value, in good conscience I cannot contribute to your kettle. If your position were different, I would most certainly donate to your cause. Please reconsider your position.

Thank you!




### Mimes for Life

We are looking to get a Mime for Life Troupe active in Dubuque once again.

Mime for Life is a group who prays and does an Abortion presentation through songs, mimes and prayers. The Mime for Life's goal is to see hearts and lives changed through this ministry.

The Mime for Life was established in 1990 and became a part of the DCRTL Speaker's Bureau. Since then, several Mime for Life troupes developed and have performed in front of government leaders, priests, bishops and many places in Iowa.

If you are interested in learning more or joining the Mime for Life group, please email us at [drtlevents@gmail.com](mailto:drtlevents@gmail.com) or call our office at 563-556-5960

	<p>Love them <b>BOTH!</b></p> <p>St. Columbkille Catholic Church 1240 Rush St., Dubuque 563-583-9117 <a href="http://www.stcolumbkille.net">www.stcolumbkille.net</a></p>	<p><b>GET THE LOWDOWN - DOWNLOAD THE APP</b></p> <p><b>Keyword: KCRD</b></p> <p><b>America's Catholic Radio Download</b></p>
<p><b>Freund Law Firm, P.C.</b></p>  <p><b>John D. Freund</b> <b>Ph: (563) 587-8050</b> <a href="http://www.jdfreundlaw.com">www.jdfreundlaw.com</a></p>	<p>The determination of the need for legal services and the choice of a lawyer are extremely important decisions and should not be base solely upon advertisements or self-proclaimed expertise. This disclosure is required by the rule of the Supreme Court of Iowa.</p>	 <p><b>McCullough</b> CREATIVE</p>

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+Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta



If you would like to know more about being a regular adorer at the **Power of Prayer Adoration Chapel**, or if you are willing to sub occasionally, please contact Melissa Noel, 563-564-6365 or powerofprayerchapel@outlook.com

*Catholic Parishes of the Emmaus Pastorate:*

St. Patrick, Colerburg, St. Mark, Edgewood, St. Joseph, Elkader, St. Mary, Strawberry Point, and Sacred Heart, Volga.

*"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you."*  
Jeremiah 1:5

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**LIZ CUSHMAN**  
USA Coordinator



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*Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.*  
Jer. 1:5

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PRO LIFE - PRO LOVE - PRO GOD

**OUR LADY OF LIFE, PRAY FOR US.**

Drs. Clark & Ann Williams





Pray for  
an end  
to abortion.

*In Memory of  
Larry & Renee  
Friedman*



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**In Loving Memory of:**

**Bud Portz  
&  
Mary Mormann**



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Jesus exclaimed to  
St. Faustina,

*"How very much  
I desire the  
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