



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 20, 2022

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Inspiring a New Vision for the Pro-Life Movement: Sisters of Life and Knights of Columbus to Host *Life Fest*, an All-New Morning Rally at the 2023 National March for Life

New York, NY – In response to an increased need to support vulnerable women and to form hearts in receiving every human life as a gift, the Sisters of Life and the Knights of Columbus announced today an all-new morning rally, *Life Fest*, to be held in conjunction with the 2023 National March for Life in Washington, D.C. *Life Fest* will be held on January 20, 2023, at the 4,200-seat Entertainment & Sports Arena in Washington D.C. Doors will open at 7:00 a.m. Eastern Time. *Life Fest* will feature dynamic speakers such as Sr. Bethany Madonna, SV; music; Holy Mass; and a time of Eucharistic adoration.

“The 2023 National March for Life is one of the most crucial in the history of the pro-life movement. In the wake of the recent Dobbs decision, we see a profound opportunity to build the culture of life in a new way,” Sr. Maris Stella, SV said. “We want to serve the Church in her most urgent need - that of the cause of human life, sharing the good news of God’s plan for life and love. So, let’s return to the heart of the matter. Let’s renew our commitment to love. Let’s be agents of healing in a broken world.”

“50 years ago, the Knights of Columbus helped launch the National March for Life. Tens of thousands of Knights have marched, year after year, and it’s become the largest annual human rights demonstration in the world,” said Patrick Kelly, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus. “The end of Roe is a crucial milestone, but we should not mistake the ruling as the end of abortion. The fight to protect life will now evolve at the state level but a united stand before national lawmakers is still essential. We’re delighted to partner with the Sisters of Life to inspire the next generation, and together, we’ll push forward in the states and as a nation, with all the courage and compassion we can summon.”

This event hopes to inspire and educate a new generation on the next steps for a new spirituality of love and life, one foundational to building a culture of life in the post-Dobbs era. The Sisters and Knights aim to reignite the faithful in an appreciation of the gift of their own lives, and love and empathy for women

who are unexpectedly pregnant and for women and men who have suffered after abortion. They also hope to encourage the attendees to continue to participate in the March for Life as a celebration for life.

“Why do we rally, and why do we march?” said Sr. Marie Veritas, SV. “Because abortion is more than a political issue, or a legal term, or a medical procedure. Abortion has a face and a name. We march because we stand with women who are pregnant and in need. We march because no woman who has experienced abortion is left unseen by God’s love and mercy. We march because God wants to heal broken hearts and lives. We march because your life, and every life, is a gift.”

For more information about Life Fest, or to register, visit: lifefest2023.com

ABOUT THE SISTERS OF LIFE

The Sisters of Life is a Catholic religious community of women founded in New York in 1991 by John Cardinal O’Connor. Consecrated completely to Jesus, the Lord of Life, they commit themselves to the protection of human life and to the promotion of new life in Christ, acknowledging the sacredness of every person, and sharing the good news of God’s abundant mercy. In this way, they seek to help reveal to each person their own innate goodness, the particular love God has for them, and the call to a life of abundant truth, joy, and hope. Immersed in Eucharistic prayer within a vibrant community life, their missions include caring for vulnerable pregnant women and their unborn children, inviting those wounded by abortion into the healing mercy of Jesus, fostering a culture of life through evangelization, retreat works, spiritual accompaniment of college students, and upholding the beauty of marriage and family life. For more information, visit sistersoflife.org.

ABOUT THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

In 1882, Blessed Michael McGivney, a young parish priest in New Haven, Connecticut, founded the Knights of Columbus to serve the needs of a largely immigrant Catholic community. What began as a small fraternal benefit society has since grown into one of the world’s leading international charitable organizations, with more than 2 million members in over 16,000 local councils. Last year, Knights around the world donated nearly 48 million service hours and nearly \$154 million for worthy causes in their communities. The Knights of Columbus also offers extensive life insurance products to members and their families. Knights of Columbus currently has more than \$120 billion* of life insurance in force and was named by Forbes as one of America’s Best Insurance Companies 2023. In addition, the Knights provides investment services in accord with Catholic social teaching through Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors, which holds more than \$25 billion in assets under management. Based on the founding principles of charity, unity and fraternity, the Knights of Columbus is committed to strengthening Catholic families and parishes and to practicing faith in action through service to all in need. To learn more or to join the Knights of Columbus, please visit kofc.org/join.

*As of June 30, 2022

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