

HB272 Targets “Thought” Crimes

The General Assembly seems determined to continue its relentless assault on life with the bills it is attempting to pass already this session. Not only is the prospect of a constitutional amendment to enshrine “reproductive freedom” into the Delaware state constitution still looming, but a chilling bill was introduced on January 20 that seeks to criminalize free speech and assembly rights as they pertain to abortion.

HB 272, sponsored by Rep. Debra Heffernan, seems a direct attack on anyone trying to “discourage” a woman from procuring an abortion. Ostensibly a bill pertaining to “interference with reproductive health services or exercise of religion,” it is a state version of the FACE act (Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances). Couched in vague language with undefined terms, it targets pro-life sidewalk counselors outside of abortion clinics, as well as anyone who desires to “discourage any person from obtaining or providing reproductive health services.” Rather

a large net is being cast in that one loaded phrase. Republican Rep. Hilovsky brought up several excellent arguments against the bill

at the committee hearing on Jan. 28, pushing Rep. Heffernan into stupefied bumbling in its defense.

Even those who defended it cited numerous flaws in the language of the bill, which would

leave it open to wide interpretation and obvious abuse, to say nothing of constitutionality challenges. Still, in typical Delaware fashion, it easily passed out of committee and will go on to be heard in the House and the Senate when they return from session March 10. In the meantime, please contact your representatives to vote against this dangerous bill.

Unlawful “to discourage any person from obtaining or providing reproductive health services.”

HB272



If Planned Parenthood escorts can show up in this snow and on the coldest winter days, SO CAN YOU!

40 Days Lenten Campaign Underway in DE

“Could you not watch one hour with me?” was Our Lord’s plaintiff plea to the disciples – and to us. One hour a week in prayer and fasting for an end to abortion doesn’t seem like much to ask during the penitential season of Lent.

This year’s 40 Days for Life

Wilmington campaign runs from 9 a.m. – noon, Monday through Friday, outside Planned Parenthood at 7th & Shipley Sts. **On Thursday, March 19, they will start the day with 8 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral of St. Peter’s celebrated by Fr. Stephen Imbarrato, followed by**

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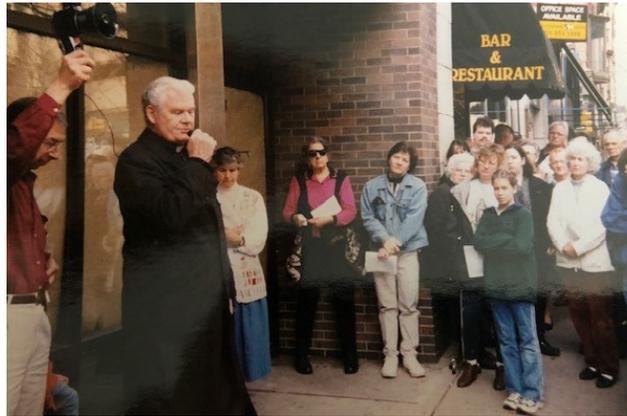
Fr. John McFadden—Pro Life Hero

Fr. John McFadden, a pro-life priest with a passion for the unborn who left a beautiful example of how to live out your convictions, passed away on January 2. He was honored by about 35 people at a memorial Mass on January 31 at St. Hedwig's Church, where his life and legacy were celebrated.

The event was organized by Eileen Siter, our "pro-life hero" for December, 2025, who cited him as her motivation for becoming involved in pro-life activities, even getting arrested with him during the Rescue movement of the early 90's. (Eileen contributed most of the pictures and remembrances you see here.)

"Abortion is the killing of an innocent child and we must act. We cannot pretend that these killings are not taking place." This was Fr. McFadden's mantra and he acted on it, going so far as to get arrested multiple times while praying at abortion clinics in the early 90's when Operation Rescue was in full swing in the United States.

He began his priestly duties in Florida, while serving as Navy chaplain in Key West. There, he learned of and joined a prayer vigil against abortion at the local hospital. Later, as a priest in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia for 63 years, he managed to make pro-life activities a priority while running his parishes. His great compassion for the



Fr. McFadden leading a prayer vigil at an abortion clinic in Pennsylvania years ago.

unborn was tested early in his assignment to Immaculate Heart of Mary in Chester, PA. On one occasion, an abortion-minded woman showed up at his rectory and he talked her out of it by making arrangements for her to be able to carry the baby to term. Another time, funeral directors rang the rectory bell with a horrific disclosure – they had received 40 bodies of aborted babies (these babies were from the same group rescued in Chicago in 1990 and of which, 63 were from Delaware and buried in Cathedral Cemetery) and asked Fr. McFadden for a burial plot in the church's cemetery. Father immediately arranged for a Mass and an annual memorial Mass to take place in his "babyland" section of the cemetery. He celebrated the 28th annual October Mass in 2022. It continues to this day.

During the Rescue movement of the early 90's, Father got arrested several times, often by officers reluctant to arrest a priest. "I always found the police officers thoughtful and kind," he remembered, and added that he was also "proud of our pro-life people who were disciplined and kind," even when the crowds swelled into the hundreds outside of the clinics where they gathered to pray. That compassion followed them to jail, where he once, with the help of fellow jail mates, cleaned up a notoriously filthy holding cell, causing the warden to say, "Father, could you get yourself arrested again in a

few weeks?"

Fr. McFadden also spoke wherever he could about the necessity to become involved in pro-life ministry. His example was often the strongest motivation, pulling many into the movement. He showed up at events all over the area, including many DRTL events; he celebrated his 90th birthday at our annual brunch last April.

Looking back over his many years of involvement, he stated, "Pro-life is a story we will only understand in Heaven. How many have we helped? How many children were saved? I don't know, but I do know how great is the gift of rescuing a mother from killing her own child."

May Fr. John McFadden rest in peace

Fr. McFadden with DRTL founder, Dee Becker in Wilmington.



Rabid Pro-Aborts Take Over St. Patrick's Day



A place to “see and be seen” is the theme at the annual St. Patrick’s Center communion breakfast and this photo from last year’s event shows how it has been sabotaged into a political pro-abortion rally, featuring some of our state’s most egregious Catholic politicians. Last year featured this assortment of smiling advocates for child murder.

(photo editing mine)

Every year the St. Patrick’s Center hosts a Communion Breakfast on St. Patrick’s Day to raise funds for the Center’s programs. For over 25 years it has been attended by the elite of Delaware’s political, business, and legal communities, who file into the early morning Mass dressed in green and ready to be seen. Many are Catholics who openly advocate for abortion, walk up to communion, and then attend the gala breakfast afterwards. Never is a word said about the grave scandal they cause by doing this.

For most of those 25 years, a small cadre of pro-lifers have made it a point to show up at 6:30 a.m. to stand outside the church for an hour before 7:30 Mass begins holding signs that say, “You can’t be both Catholic and pro-abortion.” Attendees must walk past this little line of defense of the Catholic Faith and the rights of the unborn; the looks on their faces reveal much. Some higher-ups are squirmed in through the back of the church to avoid having to see our signs.

NO donation is worth the blood of innocent children and no Catholic feast day should be allowed to be overtaken by those who defy the Catholic Faith. PLEASE JOIN US →

Join our annual prayer vigil outside St. Patrick’s Church on King St. in Wilmington on Tuesday, March 17, from 6:30—7:30 a.m. Hold a sign that says, “You can’t be Catholic and pro-abortion!”



Special Event March 19 in Wilmington

Adoration and a procession to Planned Parenthood where prayers will be offered until noon. Following this, a luncheon will be served at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church on Lea Blvd. Participants are welcome to join any part of the events this day. Contact wilmingtonpro-life@gmail.com for more info.

Campaigns are also happening in Dover and Seaford until March 29. Information is available at www.40days.com

Few realize just how important a pro-life presence is outside an abortion clinic, when a young woman may be dissuaded from taking her child’s life because she saw someone

on her way in who was praying or offering help. Keep in mind that the number of abortions in Delaware has been steadily climbing since the Dobbs decision, due to not only lax laws, but the easy availability of the abortion pill. (See stats p. 4) Here is a concrete way to bring awareness to these facts and try to change them.

DE Nurse Sued by Texas AG

Last February, we reported about a Delaware nurse practitioner mailing abortion pills out of her house to states with restrictive abortion laws. The nurse, Debra Lynch, of Newark, is being sued by the state of Texas for illegally mailing abortion pills to the Lonestar State, which outlaws abortion. The January 29, 2026 Austin American Statesman reported, “Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton has filed a lawsuit against a Delaware-based nurse practitioner and clinic that allegedly defied Texas’ abortion laws by mailing abortion-inducing drugs into the state.

Debra Lynch, the nurse practitioner, is named in the suit along with the women’s reproductive and sexual health clinic that she founded, called Her Safe Harbor, and a related healthcare entity also owned by Lynch.

The suit also accuses Lynch of violating state laws that require medical providers to be licensed in the state of Texas.”

Lynch’s abortion pill business was first revealed in a January, 2025, article in the Austin American Statesman. Delawareonline reprinted it in its entirety in the Opinion section in glowing approval. The article described how Lynch sends abortion pills to basically anyone who asks without an examination; neither risks nor informed consent are mentioned. Lynch stated how she has no fear of Paxton or of going to

jail. Rightfully so.

Texas has sued a New York abortion pill pusher as well with dismal results – the charge was ignored and the case ultimately dismissed, which is the likely scenario for Lynch and she knows it. Delaware “health professionals” are protected by so-called shield laws that prevent them from prosecution for providing “reproductive healthcare” to patients from out of state, even though abortion may be illegal in that state. They are “shielded” even if they injure or kill someone by their actions.

A quick look at Lynch’s “Her Safe Harbor” Facebook page reveals how, in addition to incredible fear-mongering on her part, the lawsuit is a monster cash cow for her, as every post calls urgently for donations.

Here is a woman ordering abortion pills online, most likely from China, so she can pack them up on her dining room table, send her husband to the post office to mail them out to patients she doesn’t even know, and defy state law in the process. In each package she includes a “hand-written note” to the receiver, someone who could die because of this type of “healthcare.” Like all abortion advocates, she won’t be there if something goes wrong with the abortion and their “client” ends up at the emergency room. Or in a grave.

Abortion pills account for 77% of abortions in Delaware.

Delaware averages 340 abortions per month.

Delaware’s abortion rate has been steadily rising since the Dobbs’ decision.

[Gutmacher.org/monthly-abortion-provision-study](https://www.gutmacher.org/monthly-abortion-provision-study)

*We greatly appreciate your continued prayers and financial support. If you’d like to donate **today**, you can go directly to our website or use the QR code*
THANK YOU!



DRTL and DFPC Join Lawsuit

Delaware Right to Life and Delaware Family Policy Council, two of the state’s largest organizations dedicated to the right to life, have signed on to an amicus brief challenging Delaware’s assisted suicide law. At least a dozen national organizations, as well as individuals, have also signed onto the suit filed by the Life Legal Defense Fund.

The End of Life Options Act (EOLOA), signed into law by Gov. Meyer last year, took effect in January. As stated in the challenge summary, it “violates a core value of our democracy reflected in our founding documents—the right to life—by removing legal safeguards against medically assisted suicide. It erodes the role of government as protector of the right to life and instead makes it the enabler of an individual’s desire to kill himself. This practice violates nearly 1,400 years of Anglo-American law which continuously criminalized assisted suicide and viewed suicide itself with disapproval either by criminalizing the practice or, as in modern times, discouraging it in various ways. The EOLOA violates Fourteenth Amendment substantive due process and procedural due process protections and should be struck down.” The brief was filed at the U.S. Court of Appeals Third Circuit on February 27.

Upcoming Events

March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 	18	19 	20	21
22	23	24	25 	26	27	28
29	30	31				



Tuesday, March 17—peaceful prayer rally outside St. Patrick's Church at 1414 N. King St. in Wilmington, 6:30—7:30 a.m.



Thursday, March 19—40 Days for Life special Mass with Fr. Stephen Imbarrato at St. Peter's Cathedral in Wilmington at 8 a.m., followed by Adoration and Procession to Planned Parenthood for prayer vigil. Luncheon afterwards provided at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church.



Wednesday, March 25—International Day of the Unborn—Rosary Walk around Legislative Hall in DOVER at 1 PM.

April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 
26	27	28	29	30		



**Friday, April 3, 10—12 or 12—2
GOOD FRIDAY LIFE CHAIN IN ALL 3 COUNTIES**

www.derighttolife.org/calendar for details on all events



**SATURDAY, APRIL 25—ANNUAL DRTL LUNCHEON
11:30—2, NEWARK COUNTRY CLUB**