



LIFE NEWS

a Sentinel Publication

Life Chain 2011

Respect Life Sunday, October 2, 2011

2:30 – 3:30 PM



40 DAYS FOR LIFE

a peaceful, prayerful campaign to end abortion in our community, will begin next Wednesday September 28.

There are several ways which you can help to end this terrible tragedy occurring daily in Manassas:

**Set aside time this Sunday September 25 at 3:30 for our opening rally. It will be held in the Parish Activities Center of All Saints Church (old church). There will be music, engaging speakers, and a chance to fellowship and gain motivation for the fall campaign which we hope will be our last. Please come and bring your family!

**Get a bracelet at the rally to wear for the 40 days. Show your support for the cause and build unity.

**Sign up to pray individually, with your parish, or on Seton's designated day (TBD).

**Fast. Each week we will be fasting from something different to add strength to our prayers. The first week (Sept 25-Oct 1) we'll be fasting from music.

**Consider signing up on the website for an evening hour of prayer at home or church so that we have 24 hour prayer coverage throughout the 40 Days.

**Attend the Youth Outreach to the Community on Saturday October 1 from 9AM-1PM. Youth will meet at the All Saints Parish Activities Center, enjoy some food, then distribute flyers to the homes near the abortion facility as a friendly, informative connection with the neighbors. We need parent drivers and student participants.

For more information or to sign up go to <http://www.40daysforlife.com/manassas/>

Building a culture of life one prayer at a time!

"LIFE CHAIN is a peaceful and prayerful public witness of pro-life Americans standing for one hour praying for our nation and for an end to abortion. It is a visual statement of solidarity by the Christian community that abortion kills children and that the Church supports the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception." www.lifechain.net

- Stand with thousands of pro-lifers throughout the USA!
- Bring your whole family

We need your help!

The Manassas City Police Department now requires 1 monitor for every 10 – 15 participants. The role of these monitors is to keep participants on the sidewalks, off the streets, off of private property, out of driveways, and in general to ensure that pedestrian and vehicular traffic are not impeded. The local Life Chain coordinator and permit-holder needs these names in advance. Please let me know your name if you are willing to act as a monitor. Thanks, Dave Lucas (703)380-3927.

URGENT: NATIONWIDE BULLETIN

Conscience rights violated by sweeping HHS contraceptive mandate; urgent action needed!

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has developed a Nationwide Bulletin Insert and has asked diocesan offices and state Catholic conferences to help disseminate it to parishes across the country.

The USCCB's Nationwide Bulletin Insert urges parishioners to oppose the recent U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) mandate requiring almost all private health plans to cover contraception and sterilization as "preventive services" for women. Thank you for your urgent actions and prayers on behalf of this nationwide effort!

The HHS mandate poses an unprecedented threat to individual and institutional religious freedom. The rule includes a religious exemption so extremely narrow that it protects almost no one. It covers only a "religious employer" that has the "inculcation of religious values" as its purpose, primarily employs and serves

persons who share its religious tenets, and is a church organization under two narrow provisions of the tax code. Many religious organizations -- including Catholic colleges and universities, as well as hospitals and charitable institutions that serve the public -- will be ineligible. Individuals and religiously affiliated health insurers will not qualify for the exemption.

The new rule would force insurance plans to cover "all Food and Drug Administration approved contraceptive methods, sterilization procedures, and patient education and counseling for all women with reproductive capacity." Never before has the federal government required private health plans to include such coverage. The FDA-approved "emergency contraception" (EC) drugs that are covered by this mandate can work by interfering with implantation of a newly conceived human being. Also, the drug the FDA most recently approved for EC, "Ella," a close analogue to the abortion drug RU-486, has been shown in animal tests to cause abortion. Thus, the mandate even includes drugs that may cause an abortion both before and after implantation.

Please send an e-mail message to HHS by visiting www.usccb.org/conscience. Once you send your comments to HHS, you will be automatically invited to send a message to your elected representatives in Congress, urging them to support the Respect for Rights of Conscience Act (H.R. 1179/S. 1467) to ensure that such federal mandates do not violate Americans' moral and religious convictions.

SEE THE FULL FLYER ON THE NEXT PAGE!



United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

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NATIONWIDE BULLETIN INSERT **URGENT: Respond by September 30**

Conscience Rights Violated by Sweeping HHS Contraceptive Mandate

In implementing the 2010 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (the new health care reform law), the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently issued a rule *requiring* almost all private health plans to cover contraception and sterilization as “preventive services” for women. The mandate even forces individuals and groups with religious or moral objections to purchase and provide such coverage if they are to receive or provide health coverage at all. This poses an *unprecedented threat* to individual and institutional religious freedom.

The rule includes a religious exemption so extremely narrow that it protects almost no one. It covers only a “religious employer” that has the “inculcation of religious values” as its purpose, primarily employs and serves persons who share its religious tenets, and is a church organization under two narrow provisions of the tax code. A great many religious organizations -- including Catholic colleges and universities, as well as hospitals and charitable institutions that serve the public -- will be ineligible. Individuals and religiously affiliated health insurers will not qualify for the exemption.

The new rule would force insurance plans to cover “*all Food and Drug Administration approved contraceptive methods, sterilization procedures, and patient education and counseling for all women with reproductive capacity.*” Never before has the federal government required private health plans to include such coverage. The FDA-approved “emergency contraception” (EC) drugs that are covered by this mandate can work by interfering with implantation of a newly conceived human being. Also, the drug the FDA most recently approved for EC, “Ella,” a close analogue to the abortion drug RU-486, has been shown in animal tests to cause abortion. Thus, the mandate includes drugs that may cause an abortion both before and after implantation.

The public comment period on this interim final rule ends **September 30**.

ACTION: Please send an e-mail message to HHS by visiting www.usccb.org/conscience. Once you send your comments to HHS, you will be automatically invited to send a message to your elected representatives in Congress, urging them to support the Respect for Rights of Conscience Act (H.R. 1179/S. 1467) to ensure that such federal mandates do not violate Americans’ moral and religious convictions.

MESSAGE TO HHS: “Pregnancy is not a disease, and drugs and surgeries to prevent it are not basic health care that the government should *require* all Americans to purchase. Please remove sterilization and prescription contraceptives from the list of ‘preventive services’ the federal government is *mandating* in private health plans. It is especially important to exclude any drug that may cause an early abortion, and to fully respect religious freedom as other federal laws do. The narrow religious exemption in HHS’s new rule protects almost no one. I urge you to allow all organizations and individuals to offer, sponsor and obtain health coverage that does not violate their moral and religious convictions.”

WHEN: Please send your comments to HHS by the **September 30** deadline. Thanks! 9/9/11