



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Office of Human Life, Family and Bioethics

40 Days for Life Spring Campaign Closing SMITHTOWN:

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for your prayers and sacrifices during this Lenten 40 Days for Life peaceful prayer vigil!

This year's 40 Days for Life campaign in Smithtown was impacted by the ongoing socio-political turmoil and uncertainty as was the entire world.

But Our Lord is faithful and so are our volunteers! To everyone who participated on site or elsewhere: THANK YOU!

Events

National March for Life Day, Friday, Jan.

29th – Dozens of volunteers endured temperatures in the mid-teens to pray for the babies at risk for abortion, and those who had died at the vigil site in the morning and early afternoon. Another group arrived at the Hour of Mercy, 3:00 pm, to pray. This day was actually prior to the beginning of the campaign but represented an opportunity to encourage new people.



Sunday, February 14th - About 130 Catholics participated in our 40 Days for Life opening Mass at St. Patrick R.C. Church in Smithtown. Monsignor Ellsworth Walden presided and gave an inspirational message during his homily. Signs and literature were handed out after the Mass.

On **Saturday, March 27th**, about 70 volunteers and parishioners attended our closing Holy Mass at St. Anthony of Padua RC Church in East Northport.

Later at the vigil site, about 35 people prayed the *Stations of the Cross for Life*. Many arrived early or stayed later to continue their prayers.

On **Sunday, March 28th**, about 25 of our faithful volunteers prayed the rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet and other prayers at the vigil site from 6:00-7:00 pm for our *Final Hour*. We were especially pleased that Monsignor Walden, Father Abraham and five other religious joined us!



Results

During the campaign, two babies were saved that we know of. A third baby that was saved late in 2020 was also brought to our attention during this campaign. We believe that there are likely several, if not many, more babies saved through our intercessory prayer, signs and witness. The estimated number of people who prayed at home, in Church and/or at the vigil site was about 300. Of that number, we estimate that 120 individuals prayed at the vigil site at various times. Approximately twelve Catholic and other Christian churches were represented.

The Vigil continues...

Volunteers have shared how moving and meaningful the 40 Days for Life experience has been for them! If you feel the same way, we invite you to continue to pray peacefully all year at the vigil site, as your schedule permits.

We recommend that volunteers pray with at least one other person. You can always come out when the regulars are there:

Mondays from (at least) 10:00-10:45 am

Wednesdays from (at least) 8:30-10:30 am

Saturdays from (at least) 8:30-10:30 am.

If you prefer to pray at a different time and need a partner, please email us at 40dfsmithtown@gmail.com with the days and times you are available and we will try to connect you with another volunteer to accompany you.

Thank you for every prayer you have prayed, and every sacrifice you have made, during this 40 Days for Life campaign! One day Our Lord will reveal the results of your prayers, including the babies that have been saved and the hearts that have been converted. We

will all be so grateful He gave us the grace to serve Him in this way. Thank you for joining with us to pray to end abortion!

We hope that you and your family had a very blessed, holy and peaceful Easter!

Sincerely,

~The 40 Days for Life Smithtown Team (local volunteers)