



# DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

## **March for Life: A Pilgrimage of Prayer and Penance**

On January 21-24, more than 213 youth and adults from our diocese will travel to Washington, D.C. to participate in the annual March for Life. Please pray for all those making this pilgrimage, and advocate for the sanctity of life.

Annually, Catholics from all the over the U.S. have joined with thousands of others in Washington for the March for Life in an effort to do two things – to protest the Supreme Court’s decision of Roe v. Wade and to promote the gift and sanctity of life.

There are 161 youth and their adult chaperones attending, representing Catholic Central High School, West Catholic, Muskegon Catholic Central and St. Patrick High Schools and the following 31 parishes:

Assumption BVM, Belmont  
Blessed Sacrament, Grand Rapids  
Holy Spirit, Grand Rapids  
Holy Trinity, Comstock Park  
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Grand Rapids  
Our Lady of Consolation, Rockford  
Our Lady of Grace, Muskegon  
Our Lady of the Lake, Holland  
Prince of Peace, Muskegon  
Sacred Heart of Jesus, Grand Rapids  
Sacred Heart, Muskegon  
SS. Peter & Paul, Grand Rapids  
St. Alphonsus, Grand Rapids  
St. Anthony of Padua, Grand Rapids  
St. Francis de Sales, Muskegon  
St. Jean, Muskegon  
St. John Vianney, Wyoming  
St. Joseph, Belding  
St. Jude, Grand Rapids  
St. Mary, Lowell  
St. Mary, Miriam  
St. Mary, Muskegon  
St. Michael, Muskegon  
St. Patrick, Grand Haven  
St. Patrick, Parnell  
St. Patrick, Portland  
St. Paul the Apostle, Grand Rapids  
St. Simon, Ludington



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St. Stephen, E. Grand Rapids  
St. Thomas the Apostle, Grand Rapids  
St. Thomas the Apostle, Muskegon

Area college students attending represent the following schools/parishes:

Five from Ferris State University (St. Paul & St. Mary, Big Rapids)

Ten from Aquinas College, will be joining the student group at Notre Dame, IN

Nineteen from Grand Valley State University (Holy Spirit & St. Luke University Parishes)

Additionally there is group of nine adults, together with the student group from Big Rapids, who represent Holy Family, Caledonia, Our Lady of the Lake, Holland, Holy Redeemer, Jenison, St. Mary, Lowell, Holy Spirit, Grand Rapids, Sacred Heart, Grand Rapids, and Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Belmont.

In all the dioceses of the U.S., January 22 is observed as a particular day of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion, and of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life (General Instruction of the Roman Missal, no. 373). To assist parishes in observing the day, educational and resource materials are available from the U.S. Bishops Office of Pro-Life Activities at <http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/>