



*Despite their  
circumstances,*

*Mary and*

*Joseph*

*CHOSE LIFE.*

*And changed*

*the world*

*forever.*

## PRO-LIFE NEWS

### Jesus Christ: The Best Thing in Life Was Unplanned

by Ryan Bomberger, The Radiance Foundation,  
*By popular demand, we are reprinting Ryan's commentary which  
appeared in a prior edition of Pro-Life News.*

*An unplanned pregnancy. A courageous teenage mother. A father who chose adoption over abandonment. This is Christmas. Without this scenario, we wouldn't be honoring the most history-altering moment for humanity.*

*Christ's birth could not have been orchestrated by man or woman. From the human side of the equation, it was entirely unplanned. And that's just like many instances in our own lives. No matter how hard we try, we're always colliding with moments of unexpected challenges.*

*And the world has become a more inspiring place because of people who, despite the seemingly impossible, embrace the hardship, the pain, the confusion, and the unknown to journey through the unscripted to craft triumphant story lines.*

*The birth of our Savior wasn't just a singular unplanned human moment, but a string of impossible challenges, royally jealous pursuits and religious persecution. These required continual commitments of love, self-sacrifice, obedience, and down-on-your-knees tearful prayers from parents who chose the plan of the unplanned life...*

*Every Christmas serves as a reminder that our most precious gift is being loved by a God who makes all things possible. He takes the meaningless and makes it meaningful. He takes the miry and makes it miraculous. He took the meek and made Him the Messiah.*

#### Upcoming Events

*Wednesday, January 22  
Annual March for Life  
Washington D.C.  
**Save the date!!***

# A “Natural Death” for NJ’s Proposed Assisted Suicide Bill?

Almost 500 postcards from Mater Ecclesiae parishioners were sent to elected officials throughout New Jersey urging lawmakers to reject the proposed “Death with Dignity” law which would allow terminally patients to end their lives with a suicide pill. Other parishes around the state also joined the postcard campaign.

If the bill is not acted upon by December 31, it dies a “natural death” and must be re-introduced in the new year.

Participants in a recent, informal poll by radio station 101.5 OPPOSED assisted suicide by a margin of 75% to 24%. Legislators, take heed!

There is still time to write or call your legislators. Find your district’s officials by going to: <http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/members/legsearch.asp>

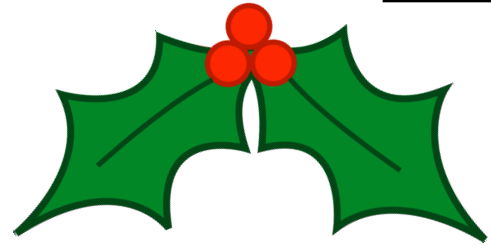


## Plans Underway for 2014 March for Life

Our Oblates of St. Jude are preparing for their annual raffle in support of our pilgrimage to Washington DC on January 22, 2014.

Some beautiful icons have been selected for this year’s fundraiser.

Watch for details soon!



## Christmas Wish List for Good Counsel Homes/SJ

Many of the mothers at Good Counsel Homes have never been part of a family at Christmas. Mater Ecclesiae has “adopted” one of the mothers, Jennifer, and her baby for Christmas to help her experience the spirit of the holiday as well as a family’s love.

Please contact Tracye at 856-770-8488 by **December 15** if you would like to participate in this effort by purchasing one of the items on Jennifer’s wish list:

### For Mom: Small or medium Sizes

|                    |                         |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Blouse             | Winter Jacket           |
| Pants (Size 5 - 6) | Winter Coat             |
| Sweats             | Sneakers (Size 8.5 - 9) |
| Sweater            |                         |

### For Baby Boy: Size 3 to 6 months yellow or blue colors

|                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Onesies            | T-shirts    |
| Undershirts        | Hat/Mittens |
| Booties            | Sweat Suits |
| Outfit             | Socks       |
| Sneakers           | Shoes/Boots |
| Winter Coat/Jacket |             |

**New Items Only Please**