



**Knights of
Columbus®**

Chisholm Trail Council #9368

February 2021: Culture of Life – News

January recap:

- Our council supported the Retired Priests fund for the John Paul II Residence next to St. Helen
- Texas Catholic Pro-Life Day was January 23rd followed by a drive through March for Life
- Garden of the Holy Innocents at McNeil entrance, was displayed January 16th - 30th
- Novena for Life – the St. Joseph Adoption novena was held January 24th - February 1st, attendance ranged from 7-16 participants, this novena also supports our council qualification for the Columbian Award

February plans:

- Heroic Media Support
 - Budgeted council contribution is \$500 – check requested at this meeting
- Central Texas Coalition for Life – 40 Days for Life Spring Campaign
 - Starting Ash Wednesday Feb 17th through March 28th
 - Budgeted council contribution is \$500 scheduled for March
 - Sign up at <https://www.centraltexascoalition.com/signup/>
- Texas Pro-Life Advocacy
 - Consider contacting the Texas House Speaker's office to encourage appointment of Pro-Life legislators to the Calendar Committee
 - See page 2 for details on how to contact the office and an example of how to express the concern of the Catholic Community

Knights of Columbus Texas State Council

- Earn your Pro-Life ACE Wings Award by participating in at least of 5 public Pro-Life events, see details and apply at updated link:
<https://www.tkofo.org/starguide/programming/pro-life-ace-wings>

Dear Pro-life Advocate,

During the last legislative session, several very good pro-life laws that were passed in the Senate never made it to the House because they were stopped in the Calendar committee. These occurred because people appointed to the committee were not strongly pro-life legislators or were not pro-life. Pro-life legislation for the 2021 session will soon be considered in the Texas Legislature, and they have a strong probability of being passed - **IF** once they pass in the Senate, they are placed on the Calendar - by the Calendar Committee - to be voted upon in the House.

To encourage the new Speaker of the House to appoint strongly pro-life legislators to the Calendar Committee, please consider calling the new Speaker's, Phelan Dade, office to make your Pro-life voice heard.

A sample script is shown below.

Thank you for your help in support of pro-life legislation, and advancing a civilization of life!

The phone number for the Speaker is: (512) 463-1000

The Speaker's info page is here: www.house.texas.gov/members/member-page/?district=21

Talking points when calling the Speaker's office: (use as a guide to say in your own words)

Remember to write down the name of the legislative aide who takes your call and use their name during the conversation. Use a careful and deliberate tone - strong but kind.

Introduction: My name is _____ and I live in _____. I attend _____ church.

I'm calling today because I want to log my concerns with the Speaker of the Texas House who will be appointing committee chairs.

The Catholic pro-life community is concerned with what we perceive to be a lack of effort with pro-life agenda items. We have noticed that Committee Chairs, who would likely hear pro-life legislation, have been overseen in the past by legislators that were not strongly pro-life.

Also, we have noticed when legislation that is pro-life makes it to the House - even if it is passed by the Senate, the legislation is not heard on the floor because it dies in Calendars (ie, the Committee which directs which bills will be heard on the floor).

I have recently learned how Calendar members are appointed so I understand the Speaker's ability to appoint true pro-life representatives there. And I understand his influence could make the difference of whether bills defending life progress or die. We know that the House Freedom Caucus is very pro-life and would like to see their members better positioned.

I am asking the Speaker to be committed to pro-life issues and to assist the pro-life mission this session.

(Remember to use the aide's name, and confirm that your call will be logged at the end.)

Thank you for logging my concerns.