News



John Moore, before launching on his 2,800-mile cross-country walk to the Jan. 18 March for Life in Washington, D.C. (Voice of the Southwest/Suzanne Hammons)



by Dan Morris-Young

View Author Profile

Join the Conversation

January 16, 2019

Share on BlueskyShare on FacebookShare on TwitterEmail to a friendPrint

What is the church doing to help single mothers? <u>Kaya Oakes takes a look</u> at the question in America magazine.

In turn, <u>Jenny Uebbing</u>, mother of five and a well-known Catholic blogger, posts a humorous and helpful look at <u>minimalism and family life</u>. A parishioner of <u>St. Mary Parish in Littleton</u>, Colorado, Uebbing introduces her reflection by noting, "I've been an armchair minimalist since before minimalism was a buzzword. Eight moves and 5 kids in less than 10 years of marriage means I've honed the fine art of 'do we really need this?' to a science."



Bridget Bowers (The Criterion/Katie Rutter)

Chicago's <u>Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph Parish</u> fields an active group of parishioners dedicated to "finding opportunities for ICSJ Parish to assist refugee families in finding a safe haven from persecution and war." The ICSJ Parish Refugee Effort recently worked with its sister parish, <u>St. Teresa of Avila</u>, to <u>welcome a widow</u> with a 14-year-old son and 8-year-old daughter.

A member of <u>St. Luke</u> the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis, <u>Bridget Bowers has embraced</u> helping visually impaired Catholics enhance their faith lives. Blind since birth, Bowers converted to Catholicism nearly three years ago, aided by materials produced by the <u>Xavier Society for the Blind</u>. Here is <u>an audio version</u> of a feature story on Bowers.

Also out of Indianapolis: Shea McMahon, who grew up in the city's <u>St. Jude Parish</u>, says he walked away from his Catholic faith in college. <u>The young man shares how</u> he found his way back through encouragement of friends and walking nearly 600 miles through France and Spain on El Camino de Santiago.

Related: 'Walking the Camino': Six Ways to Santiago

<u>Speaking of walking long distances</u>, John Moore of <u>St. John Vianney Parish</u> in Gallup, New Mexico began walking on behalf of "the unborn and all human life" <u>last April in San Francisco</u>. Supported logistically along the way by his daughter, Laura, the 68-year-old Knight of Columbus hopes to arrive in Washington, D.C., in time for the <u>Jan. 18 annual March for Life</u>. He spoke with <u>Columbia magazine</u> about the nearly 2,800-mile endeavor.



Patti and William "BJ" Harrison stand with their three children, from left, Austin, Brooklyn and William, in Ontario. (Derek Cookson)

There is also <u>an annual March for Life</u> in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, this year set for May 9. One of the speakers last year was Patti Harrison, a young woman who survived teen pregnancy, substance abuse, abduction and brutal abuse to arrive today at a stable family life.

Patti and William "BJ" Harrison candidly share with journalist Agnieszka Ruck <u>their</u> road to establishing a stable, combined family, acknowledging central support of the Knights of Columbus, notably St. George Preca Council 17070.

[Dan Morris-Young is NCR's West Coast correspondent. His email is dmyoung@ncronline.org.]

Editor's note: We can send you an email alert every time <u>The Field Hospital</u> is posted. Go to this page and follow directions: <u>Email alert sign-up</u>.

Advertisement

This story appears in the **The Field Hospital** feature series. <u>View the full series</u>.