



Annapolis Vigil Guidelines (Spring 2026)

Vigil Mission

Be a visible loving and prayerful presence to pregnant moms approaching Planned Parenthood (PP) so they may consider alternatives to abortion and serve as a peaceful, prayerful witness for the end of abortion.

Comply with the Statement of Peace

Read the Statement of Peace found at <https://www.40daysforlife.com/annapolis> or in the 40 Days for Life storage cabinet to the right of the **prolife Annapolis Women's Clinic**. When standing vigil at PP during a 40 DFL campaign ***you must abide by the Statement of Peace***. You agree to do so by: (1) electronically signing it when you sign up for vigil hours at the above website, or (2) giving a signed copy of the statement to a leader or coordinator, or (3) leaving a signed copy in the campaign cabinet.

Praying

Prayer may be informal or formal, silent or spoken, individual or group. Prayer guides are in the cabinet. Please return them.

- Pray for the babies, their moms/dads/families, abortion facility staff, those with past abortion experiences, our government leaders, and those who work to end abortion.
- Keep the focus on peaceful prayer. Be respectful and considerate of varying prayer traditions.
- This is a peaceful prayer time; please limit socializing.

Physical Presence

Stand on the sidewalk in front of the Planned Parenthood facility to the left or right of the driveway, and/or the sidewalk behind PP on Smithville St. outside the walled area. Always stand with at least one other person.

- Ideally if four or more people are present, they should split up between the front and back side to allow better coverage. The main door to PP is at the backside of the building. You can better see people approaching the entrance from the Smithville St. sidewalk.
- Do not block the view of cars coming out of the driveway.
- **Do NOT stand on the sidewalk directly in front of the Women's Clinic.**
- Ensure the sidewalks always remain open and passable for pedestrians. When standing in front, stay away from the telephone pole, as it restricts the usable sidewalk width.
- Those who need to sit while participating in a vigil will find there is more room in the back.
- **Do not trespass on PP property, driveway, or the parking lot.**

Parking

Park on side streets, St. Mary's Cemetery, or public garages off West Street. See the website for a map with parking information.

- Parking on Smithville St., on the back side of PP, is permitted between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM. Park only on the homes' side of the street and away from the parking lot entrance to PP and the adjacent car dealership.

- Note that some cars parked in the PP-owned parking lot are those of the car dealership employees or cars awaiting service.
- Leave three spaces open on Woodlawn Road adjacent to the Women's Clinic for their clients.

Sign and Materials

Use a variety of signs so women considering abortion and passersby know why you are there.

- 40 DFL signs and materials are stored in the cabinet to the right of the Women's Clinic.
- You may bring your own signs but: (1) they must be prayerful, (2) contain no graphics or words that could be offensive or hurtful, and (3) may not lobby for or against specific existing or proposed laws or political candidates.
- When you depart the site, if no one is available to replace you, please return all signs to the cabinet.
- Upon request to campaign leaders, a 40 Days for Life sign may be provided for personal use if available.

General Health Guidelines including Covid-19

Follow local guidelines when published. Wear a mask and practice social distancing when appropriate.

Safety and Security Considerations

Peacefully greet passersby. Do not engage in confrontational or angry conversation, or negative behavior. Pray for them. Our Annapolis campaigns have not had any serious issues but **if you are threatened or touched, your pathway blocked, or for other emergencies, call the police or other emergency services at 911.**

- It is best to ignore passing cars with negative comments. Pray for them.
- Always have a prayer partner. Do not pray alone.
- Keep a mobile phone with you and use your camera to safely record any confrontations.
- For safety purposes, remain conscious of the street and passing vehicles. Remain on the sidewalk.
- Because of safety concerns, the Annapolis Police may make frequent patrols.
- If police arrive on the scene, remain respectful and answer questions – show that we are peaceful and prayerful. The police have always been very supportive of our efforts.
- A copy of our City of Annapolis permit to stand vigil is contained in the plastic box stored in the cabinet.

Counselling Potential PP clients or Consoling Those Suffering from Abortion

- If approached by or you have an opportunity to talk to a person going to PP or requesting information or assistance, only provide information of which you are certain. Check the box in the campaign storage cabinet for resources you can provide. **It may be best to refer them to the prolife Women's Clinic** which has trained counselors and medical staff. The Women's Clinic has a container by their side entrance that holds business cards to hand out. You may escort a person to the Women's Clinic when open. They may be reached at 443-333-8856.
- If approached by someone who regrets her abortion, offer to pray for them. Inform them about counseling services the Women's Clinic provides as well as programs like Project Rachel at archbalt.org/project-rachel/.

Inform campaign leaders and your church coordinator after contacting 911 for assistance, visits by police, or after being contacted by women considering or who have suffered from abortion so leaders can share the information as appropriate.

Go to the website for additional information, to register, and to schedule vigil hours.