



Diocese of Birmingham in Alabama

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Office of the Bishop

June 10, 2010

Dear Brother Priests and Faithful of the Diocese of Birmingham in Alabama:

Greetings in Christ!

The Pro-life Freedom Rides Campaign is an initiative of Priests for Life, which will begin in Birmingham, Alabama this July 23-24.

This Pro-life Freedom Rides Campaign highlights the fact that the pro-life movement is the civil rights movement of our day. For this reason Dr. Alveda King, niece of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., is at the forefront of this campaign. In a peaceful, prayerful, interdenominational and non-partisan way, these rides and related activities, will give greater visibility and unity to the pro-life effort. The Freedom Rides are meant to encourage effective pro-life activity that is already going on and to show that those who are pro-life are promoters of authentic freedom and of human rights.

The campaign includes (on the dates July 23rd and 24th):

7:00 PM. Friday Evening Assembly/Concert, BJCC Theater.

9:00 AM, Saturday Prayer Vigil at Planned Parenthood.

11:30 AM. Freedom Ride Caravan to The King Center, Atlanta, GA.

4:00PM (ET) Pro-life Service at the Grave of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Freedom Rides Campaign will extend over subsequent months to many other cities. Moreover, in addition to the rides themselves, pro-life people will be encouraged to take part in simultaneous activities as "Freedom Riders for the Unborn." Such activities include a national prayer campaign. I especially urge you to take part in the prayer effort if you are unable to participate in the Freedom Ride pro-life effort.

May the Lord, who is the source of all freedom, give success to the efforts of all who stand with the unborn, and with the pro-life principles that are at the heart of our nation and of the Gospel.

With prayers and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert J. Baker".

Most Reverend Robert J. Baker, S.T.D.
Bishop of Birmingham in Alabama

RJB/wzs