



OXROSE ACADEMY

- Gaudio Sicut Gladii Semper in Altum -

Dear Oxrosians,

I am writing to invite you to consider participating in the 2024 March for Life in Washington, DC with a contingent from Oxrose Academy.

A group of us were in attendance in 2022. The experience was, of course, a lot of fun for the kids and the parents who attended. It also was a deeply enriching experience, combining elements of political activism, pilgrimage, civic engagement, historical study, and spiritual community.

The March is scheduled for Friday, January 19, 2024. Last time, families arrived on Wednesday and Thursday and departed at various times on Sunday after we attended mass at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception at Catholic University.

General information on the March is available here: <https://marchforlife.org/national-march-for-life/>

In addition to the March, the group took advantage of the time in our Nation's capital to visit museums, government buildings, and all the usual locations. We engaged in some very good travelling discussions about citizenship, the American idea, and the uses of power, including a chance to gather for a talk in one of the offices of Congress. This year, a parent has already mentioned that he might have a connection who could help us arrange a meeting with a Senator.

Students who attend will need to be accompanied by a parent (private arrangements for children to attend with another family can be made, but it must be expressly understood that the attending parent is taking full responsibility for those in his care). Parents should be aware that travel in and around the city, especially during a socially charged event such as the March, brings the students in contact with all types: the good, the bad, and the ugly.

I would particularly recommend the event to any students in Oxrose levels 4 and 5. Great Books 4 is titled, "The American Idea" and involves a deep dive into the founding, American ideals, and their consideration in light of Catholicity. Great Books 5 students have come through that course and are contemplating the questions raised there and elsewhere in light of tradition. Students in lower grades are welcome to attend, as well, though it is important to consider their maturity in making the decision.

As with other meet ups, Oxrose is not sponsoring the event in any official or legal capacity. Our instructors do not take on a leadership role, neither do they provide oversight. We attend as fellow travelers. Organization of the event is a community effort.

That said, if we have sufficient interest, at least one Oxrose instructor will be in attendance, and an effort will be made to be well prepared to engage with the students over the many topics the journey will bring

up. Academic credit in Great Books is awarded for the trip (replacing the regular work in the unit) and absences are counted as excused for all class times missed.



Oxrosians on the March in 2022

What to do, now?

If you are interested in learning more and being in on the discussion, please email the office and let us know.

We will build up a contact list and then begin a group email chain. Planning can then begin in earnest.

If you are on the fence, *please DO respond* and get in the discussion.

This meet-up functions both as a contribution to the richness of Student Life and as a richly American, educational and formational experience for the students and parents. I hope you will sign up and March with the Oxrosians!

God bless, everyone,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth Rolling".

Kenneth Rolling, Oxrose Headmaster