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Papal Nuncio to Join Walk for Life West Coast!

Organizers delighted with presence of Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò at January 24 event

San Francisco, January 8, 2015 – The Walk for Life West Coast is honored to announce that Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, the Holy Father's Ambassador to the United States, will be attending the 11th Annual Walk for Life West Coast in San Francisco, on January 24, 2015.

"What an honor! We are so excited—this is the next best thing to having the Holy Father himself with us!" said Eva Muntean, a co-founder of the Walk. Archbishop Viganò, appointed on October 19, 2011, the Feast of the North American Martyrs, is the 14th Papal representative to the United States. The diplomatic post was established in 1893.

Archbishop Viganò spoke at the Walk for Life West Coast rally in 2013, saying, "You can't imagine how happy I am to be here with you today. To see so many people love life . . . You are the best of the United States of America!" Organizers and those attending the Walk this year will be excited to hear his message of support again.

The 2015 event will begin at 12:30 PM in the city's Civic Center Plaza. Rally speakers include:

- Julia Holcomb, who at 16 years old became the legal ward of Steven Tyler, lead singer of the rock band Aerosmith and American Idol judge. At age 17, when she was over 5 months pregnant with Tyler's first child, she was coerced into a horrific saline abortion. She is now a powerful pro-life speaker and has been married for over 30 years and has seven children.
- **Rebekah Buell**, who will share her powerful testimony of her experience with abortion, and her successful reversal of RU-486, the "abortion pill."
- Jim and Joy Pinto, who have been involved in many aspects of pro-life ministry for over 35 years and also together co-host radio and TV programs on EWTN.
- **Rev. Clenard Childress**, the founder and director of <u>www.BlackGenocide.org</u>, a website designed to reach the African-American Community with the truth about abortion.

Following the rally, Walkers will march down Market Street to Justin Herman Plaza.

Founded in 2005 by a group of San Francisco Bay Area residents, the Walk for Life West Coast's mission is to change the perceptions of a society that thinks abortion is an answer. Walk participants are expected from throughout the Bay Area and across the United States and Canada.

For more details, and to view a powerful promo video for the walk that can be shared on social media, please visit: <u>www.walkforlifewc.com</u>

To set up an interview with any of the Walk for Life West Coast's dynamic speakers or event organizers, please contact:

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