

March For Our Lives, In Chicago March 24



The March for Our Lives was started after the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., in February, 2018 when 17 people were killed. These high school students planned a march on March 24th for student safety and gun control. The march was originally planned just for a demonstration in Washington D.C. but it quickly spread to over 100 cities across the world including Chicago. The Chicago March For Our Lives was organized by local students.

Members of St. Elisabeth church organized a sign making event (plus pizza) on the Friday night before the march. A number of St. Elisabeth students and parents participated. The next day, Daphne Cody, Anne & John Tuohy, Sally Graver, Izzy and Robert Fischer met up with 500 other Episcopalians at UE Union Hall near Union Park on the morning of March 24th. After a blessing from Bishop Lee, we all marched to Union Park. The show of support was astonishing and made the march that much more powerful.

The Union Park rally began at 11 a.m. The park is located on the west side of Chicago. After a series of student speakers, participants marched down the streets toward the Loop. The rally was expected to attract about 30,000 demonstrators. It is estimated about 85,000 attended as the crowd grew into neighboring streets. Police cooperated with the demonstrated and allowed the March to continue east down Washington Street. Over 500,000 attended the March For Our Lives demonstration in Washington DC. Millions attended the hundreds of local marches around the world.

The future of our nation depends on the children growing up now and being exposed to gun violence this often has a monumental impact on all our lives. Students have recently decided to take control of their rights to demonstrate –to protect themselves and future generations from gun violence.

I found the march inspiring and moving. I feel that I now have a sense of this issue and how to make a difference. If we work together we can change the world and make it a better place. Walking with hundreds and thousands of other people made me realize that it does not matter how much you have gone through it only matters what you do about it. The experiences and the stories told at the march were tragic yet empowering. I am thankful to not encounter a horrific event like some of the Stoneman Douglas students had to go through. However, I am still going to take a stand in the fight for survival. I want to be part of the change that helps students in the future. I'm proud that St. Elisabeth helped participate in the March For Our Lives.

-- Izzy Fischer



St. Elisabeth's joined up with 500 other Episcopalians including the bishop at March for Our Lives Chicago.