Homily Outline for the
March for Life Diocesan Pilgrim Mass
January 19, 2018

Saint Peter Church
Washington, D.C.

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Bishop of Springfield in Illinois

S.S.P.: We are all called to give ourselves totally to the Lord.

I. Why are we here?
   A. Many reasons
      1. To give witness to human life from the moment of conception
      2. To support each other
      3. To lobby politicians
      4. To pray
   B. Other reasons
      1. Because we were asked
      2. It seemed it would be fun
   C. My reason:
      1. To call you to a deeper commitment to the pro-life movement
      2. To call you to a deeper commitment to the Lord

II. Before we protest that we are already deeply committed, let us recall St. Peter’s protests to Jesus that he would never deny Him.
   A. This is not a “once and done” deal, not “been there, done that.”
   B. To be pro-life is a life-time commitment.

III. Test of our commitment: are we willing to follow the Church’s teaching on contraception as well as abortion?
   A. What’s the connection?

IV. We are all called to give ourselves totally to the Lord – cf. Diocesan Synod and today’s Gospel parable about the rich young man (Matthew 19:16-30).

V. May God give us this grace. Amen.