

Respect for Life

Purpose: The Mission of the Parish Respect Life group is to provide information and education to deepen the understanding of our Parishioners on the sanctity of human life and the humanity of unborn children, the moral evil of intentionally killing innocent human beings—whether at the beginning of life or at its end—and the mission of the Church to witness to and serve all human life. Also, it is to assist in providing pastoral care for women with problems related to pregnancy; for all who have been involved in abortion; for those who are disabled, sick and dying, and their families and caregivers; for those who have lost loved ones to violent crime; and for those in prison sentenced to death. In addition, we direct efforts at the parish level to restoring legal protection to the lives of unborn children and those vulnerable to pressures to end their lives by assisted suicide, and to providing morally acceptable alternatives to abortion and assisted suicide. And, finally, we direct and participate in the sacramental life of the Church and in programs of communal and individual prayer, that the culture of death that surrounds us today will be replaced by a culture of life and love.

We unite our efforts with the many institutions and organizations of the Church as they unite in an unprecedented effort to restore respect and legal protection for every human life—to be what the Holy Father asks us to be: *a people of life and a people for life* (*The Gospel of Life*, no.78). It is our hope and expectation that in focusing on the need to respect and protect the lives of the innocent unborn and those who are disabled, ill (physically or mentally), or dying, we will help to deepen respect for the life of every human being.

Meetings: We invite anyone interested in assisting the Holy Father in this mission, our mission, to join us when we come together to plan activities. Watch the bulletin for those times and dates! All are welcome!!