



- 02 WELCOME  
USCCB Resources  
Coordinator's Corner
- 03 March for Life 2021  
The Ultimate Guide...  
Being Pro-Life
- 04 9 Months with Christ  
Project Rachel  
Contact Us

# RESPECT LIFE NEWSLETTER



*Working together to spread the Gospel of Life across the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.*

## Pro-Life Mom Needs a New Home

*By: Bob Wurzelbacher*

Nyasia already had four kids at home when she found out she was pregnant again. She knew that her local pregnancy center offered free ultrasounds, so she made an appointment. There she learned that not only was she pregnant, but she was going to have triplets. She went back home and worried, wondering how she could possibly take care of 7 young children in a two-bedroom apartment. That's a lot for anyone, but she thought it would be too hard for a single mom. She started making plans for an abortion, but after thinking about the three children she learned about at the ultrasound, she just couldn't do it. Remembering how helpful and encouraging they were at the pregnancy center, she made another appointment. "Ask for anything", they said, "and we will help you." They gave her not only material assistance like diapers, clothes and even three cribs, but also counseling and

a lot of moral support. Thanks to God she gave birth to three healthy babies, and along with some family support, she is making it work. "Its hard," she says, "but its all working out." Now she still needs something the pregnancy center can't offer—more space. The triplets (and their cribs) are all in her bedroom, and the four others are in two sets of bunkbeds in the second bedroom. Laura Curran of Pregnancy Center East said, "We believe that there are angels out there. Maybe you have a house that's empty that you're just looking for someone

to occupy for awhile, or maybe you can rent her someplace cheaply." If you have some means of helping this eight-person family get out of their two-bedroom apartment, contact Pregnancy Center East at 513-321-3100, or leave a message online at [www.supportpce.com](http://www.supportpce.com) by clicking on the "Ways to Give" and "Volunteer" tabs. If you can't help Nyasia, pray about how you can support your local pregnancy care center, whether financially, with your time, or your prayers. They are making a real difference in this world, and we can all be a part of it.





# Welcome

Thank you for your openness to God's call to foster respect for human life at all its stages, from conception to natural death. We live in a time when so many in our culture promote values contrary to human life itself. These include life issues such as abortion and euthanasia, and issues of human dignity such as advocacy

for those with disabilities or victims of violent crime. It is a monumental task, but one worth pursuing. What is needed is people of love and humility, devoted to God, immersed in the Sacraments of Jesus Christ, and open to the direction of the Holy Spirit in helping others bring a greater respect for all human life to the lives of all.

May God bless you in this work. Know that I am truly grateful to work with you in this. Together, let us build a culture of life here in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati!

*Bill Wunzbacher*

Director, Office for Respect Life Ministries

## Resources from the USCCB

### A January Action Guide

By: Kara Ross

The USCCB ProLife Secretariat continues to produce resources for parishes to make use of during this year. While many of us used the resources for Respect Life Month in October, here are some highlights of what is available during the month of January. This January will be the 48th anniversary of Roe v Wade. We have a responsibility as people of God to continue showing the nation that Roe v Wade does not protect women, but opens them to a choice that they should never feel is the right decision. May our work this January remind men and women that life is sacred from the moment of conception and mothers have many options that bring life into the world rather than snuff it out. We hope these resources help you to further a kingdom of life in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

**9 Days for Life**--Once again, you can spread the word about the 9 Days for Life Novena that will begin on January 21st. You can download the app, put information in your parish bulletin, and share the daily prayers on social media! Sign up to receive the daily emails and let others know



Continued on Page 3

## DECEMBER Immaculate Conception

# 08

On the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, we reflect on the blessing bestowed upon St. Anne to bear a child without sin. Mary the Mother of Jesus was sinless upon conception and became the tabernacle of our Lord. It is also the National Night of Prayer for Life. [CLICK HERE](#) to access more information about how to participate.

# 12

## Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is a special one to all who work to spread the Gospel of Life. She is the Patroness of life, and our office has chosen to use her image in our Being Pro-Life Logo. If you look closely at the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe on the tilma, you will see that she is with child. Take time to reflect on the miracle of life on this day!

## Coordinator's Corner

This section is dedicated to providing seasonal resources for Parish Respect Life Coordinators. If there is a resource that you believe would be useful to include, please contact us at [respectlife@catholicaoc.org](mailto:respectlife@catholicaoc.org).

- 01- Word of Life & Pray for Life
- 02- 10 Ways to Support Her...
- 03- Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- 04- Planning for January



## Respect Life Coordinator Resources

- 01 The month's Word of Life includes resources for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. (PDF: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)) In the December edition of Pray for Life, we pray that the advent of the infant Jesus bring expectant mothers joy, hope and peace. (Prayer guide: [English](#) | [Spanish](#))
- 02 The season of Advent is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to preparing for the celebration of the Lord's birth on Christmas and for Christ's second coming at the end of time. During this time of preparation and expectant waiting, we also remember expectant mothers who are preparing for the birth of their children. This Advent season, consider highlighting the article "10 Ways to Support Her When She's Unexpectedly Expecting." It is provided in several different formats [HERE](#).
- 03 On December 8 we celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Although this feast is recognized as a Holy Day of Obligation, a dispensation has been issued this year due to the COVID Pandemic. [CLICK HERE](#) to download a bulletin insert recognizing the importance of this feast day. You can also access Pope Francis's [Prayer for the Immaculate Conception](#).
- 04 January is a big month for Respect Life efforts across our nation. The USCCB Pro-Life Secretariat has organized a wonderful [Action Guide](#) for Parish Respect Life Coordinators to use in planning events that focus around the issue of abortion. To learn more about what is included and ways that your parish can get involved, read the article above and on the next page.

# March for Life 2021

## Resources for Local Participation

As you may know, due to COVID restrictions and with the safety of our young people in mind, the Office for Respect Life Ministries will not be organizing a bus trip to the March for Life this year. The annual Mass for Life is also not open to the public this year, but will be live streamed ([click here for more information](#)).



Certainly any parish or school who wants to organize a trip to Washington, DC and has a way to do it safely, is welcome to do so (for example, groups of families separately caravanning). We know, however, that most groups who typically plan to bring groups of people to the March every year will not be attending in 2021.

With this in mind, we have prepared a March for Life toolkit, to help you continue to remember the cause for Life at your own parish or school. You will find content that can be adapted for middle school and high school youth both in parish and school settings. Visit our [March for Life Page](#) with lesson plans, movie nights, prayer services, local events, and more!

# The Ultimate Guide to Advent

By: Bob Wurzelbacher

The year 2020 will not likely go down in most people's memories as an easy one. The coronavirus has changed our daily lives in ways we probably never imagined when we first celebrated the new year. So many of us feel fortunate if we still have our jobs, while so many others have drastically cut pay, hours, or even completely lost their livelihoods. So many of the elderly were completely cut off from contact with their families. Normal everyday events and celebrations, from sporting events to wedding receptions, had to be cancelled. Even the ability to attend Mass was suspended, during Lent and the Easter season.

It also will likely go down as a year even louder than normal. From daily briefings by the governor to racial rioting and unrest and a political race full of turmoil, our days have been filled with a lot of noise that isn't very conducive to prayer. Perhaps that's why, more than ever, we need some easy tips on how to make Advent a time of prayer and more meaningful family activities. The Catholic Telegraph has once again put together *The Ultimate Guide to Advent*. Inside you'll find new prayer traditions, activities for the kids, tips for decorating, recipes and so much more. [CLICK HERE](#) to get yours now.

## DECEMBER Christmas for the Preborn

# 16

Christmas for the Preborn, a one-hour ceremony of song and prayer, fellowship, hot apple cider, and cookies, which commemorates the lives of preborn babies lost through elective abortion, is held each year, during the Advent season in front of the Women's Med Center abortion facility at 11:00am. For more information about this event [CLICK HERE](#).

# 25

## Christmas Day

As we celebrate the coming of our Saviour, let us embrace the call to renewal and rebirth in our faith. May we work to proclaim the Gospel of Life through our words, actions, and prayers. For resources on how to live out Christmas in the New Year [CLICK HERE](#).

## Resources from the USCCB (cont'd)

Continued from Page 2

how they can join this prayer for life. Remember, this is an excellent way to join the March for Life in Washington, even from afar. [CLICK HERE](#) to see more.

**Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection for Unborn Children**--This is the anniversary date of Roe v Wade and is remembered in the Roman Missal. Encourage your parish to offer the Mass for the unborn or hold a prayer service. The USCCB has optional readings for **Masses on January 22nd** and homily helps for any Mass wherein the pastor wants to speak about 9 Days for Life or the anniversary.

**Host a Healing after Abortion Mass** (weekend before or after Jan 22)--Many of those around us carry the unseen scars of abortion. Abortion not only kills a child but spiritually maims a mother, father, and many other lives that mourn the life lost. Consider hosting a prayer service or Mass that invites these walking wounded back into the open arms of Christ. Contact [projectrachel@catholicaoc.org](mailto:projectrachel@catholicaoc.org) for help and resources.

**Prayers of the Faithful available from the USCCB**--Check out the intercessions provided in the action guide and ask your pastor to use them.

The USCCB staff walks through all these resources and more in the webinar that can be found [HERE](#). It is very useful and informative!



## Being Pro-Life Helping Moms in Need

This month's podcasts feature different ways that organizations across the Archdiocese of Cincinnati are helping women in crisis pregnancies, and how you can be a part of that same mission. [CLICK HERE](#) to subscribe to our Being Pro-Life Podcast and check out the schedule below!

### Podcast Schedule

**Dec 1:** Jill Kingston of Brigid's Path

**Dec 8:** Henry & Betsy Jacquez of Mater Filius Queen City

**Dec 15:** Laura Curran of Pregnancy Center East

**Dec 22:** Kat Talalas of Walking With Moms in Need

**Dec 29:** Nikki Stefanow of Family & Youth Initiatives

# Nine Months with Christ in the Womb

Christ Has Come, Rejoice!

By: Kara Ross



This month we will celebrate the Nativity of Christ! 9 months ago, we began our vigil with the Virgin Mary and the Unborn Christ as He was incarnate in His mother's womb. We have seen how Jesus was formed and shaped from a tiny embryo to the incredible child Mary will hold in her arms and place in a humble manger. The gift of life within the womb is a miracle that deserves to be cherished from the

first moment of life. In this prayer vigil, we have honored all of the unborn in our community, both expected and unexpected.

The 9 Months with Christ is a Prayer Campaign put together by the Respect Life Office that follows the weekly and monthly development of the Unborn Christ while praying with both Mary and Jesus for the unborn. The monthly reflections focus on different areas of the prolife movement while asking for the intercession of Christ and His most blessed mother. We are thankful for the fruits of the campaign this past year. If you would like to participate in the 2021 vigil, you can download our app today!

# Support for the Post-Abortive Heart

By: Kara Ross

This Advent season offered by the Church at the start of our new liturgical year is a time for patient waiting as we joyfully anticipate Christ's coming at Christmas while also patiently expecting His second coming in glory. However, this season can also be one of deep sorrow as we recognize those missing from our celebrations. This year, we are all feeling that loss to some degree as COVID restrictions take a toll on our familial gatherings. For many, though, this loss is a constant part of their holiday tradition.

One in five women has lost a child to abortion. Many men and women carry the scars of an abortion experience without any support in place for them to mourn that loss. It may have taken years for a person to truly understand what was lost during that procedure, but the emotional toll can be present even when the loss is unacknowledged. Please remember those suffering from an abortion experience in your prayers this Advent. As we move closer to the coming of our Lord, may our hurting brothers and sisters find grace and mercy as they too approach the manger.

If you or someone you know needs support for an abortion experience, email us at [hopeandhealingcinci@gmail.com](mailto:hopeandhealingcinci@gmail.com)

JAN

## Anniversary of Roe v. Wade

22

One of the greatest violations of human dignity in our nation is the act of abortion. January 22 marks a shameful day in our nation. Let us take time to pray and fast for an end to abortion and for healing for all who have participated in an abortion in some way. For prayer service and liturgical resources [CLICK HERE](#).

JAN

## 9 Days for Life

21-29

9 Days for Life is a novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. [CLICK HERE](#) to download a PDF of the prayers or download the app for your [ANDROID](#) or [IPHONE](#).



ARCHDIOCESE OF CINCINNATI

## Contact Us

### BOB WURZELBACHER

Director, Respect Life & Disabilities  
[bwurzelbacher@catholicaoc.org](mailto:bwurzelbacher@catholicaoc.org)  
(513) 263-6674

### NOELLE COLLIS-DEVITO

Associate Director, Persons with Disabilities  
[ndevito@catholicaoc.org](mailto:ndevito@catholicaoc.org)  
(937) 281-4128

### KARA ROSS

Associate Director, Respect Life  
[kross@catholicaoc.org](mailto:kross@catholicaoc.org)  
(937) 281-4127



January is a time when parishes display the Cemetery of the Innocents in order to memorialize the millions of children lost to abortion. In order to also care for women and men who have experienced abortion, the Office for Respect Life Ministries would like to suggest that in tandem with these displays parishes also include Project Rachel information. Our office has printed a number of banners that are available for your use free of charge. We also have a number of printable resources for parishes on our [Project Rachel Page](#). Contact us at [respectlife@catholicaoc.org](mailto:respectlife@catholicaoc.org) to reserve your banner in advance!



Do you have something that you would like to share in our upcoming issue?  
Contact us at [respectlife@catholicaoc.org](mailto:respectlife@catholicaoc.org) or (937)281-4128.