



RESPECT *life* FUND

02 WELCOME
Respect Life Month
Coordinator's Corner

03 Domestic Violence
A Win for Life
iVoteCatholic

04 Project Rachel
White Crosses
Contact Us

RESPECT LIFE NEWSLETTER



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

What to Do for Respect Life Month

By: Bob Wurzelbacher

Each October, the USCCB sets aside the first Sunday of October as Respect Life Sunday, and all of October as Respect Life Month. As Catholics, we are called to protect and defend all human life from conception to natural death, and especially the most vulnerable. During Respect Life Month, we are called to reflect more deeply on the dignity of all human life, and how we can better evangelize our world to become a culture of life. So what can we do this month?

First of all, pray. If you are not familiar with it, check out the [US BISHOPS' ROSARY FOR LIFE](#). And while you are praying, if you are able, come to any of a number of your local respect life prayer events. 40 Days for Life prayer vigils are currently happening in front of the two remaining surgical abortion centers in [DAYTON](#) and [CINCINNATI](#). 40 Days offers a chance to be bold for the end to abortion. If you (or a friend) need some motivation to come and pray outside an abortion center, check out our 40 Days for Life video [HERE](#) or find your local

group and sign up at www.40daysforlife.com. Life Chain events are also happening at 2:00pm on Sunday October 4th in many cities across the Archdiocese. Stand with others to share a pro-life message and pray in hopeful repentance for the tragedy of abortion in our community. [CLICK HERE](#) to find a location near you. Different this year is Cincinnati Right to Life's [DRIVE-IN RALLY FOR LIFE](#) featuring Abby Johnson on October 10th. Stay with your family or group in or near your car and enjoy music, pro-life fellowship, and hear from Abby Johnson IN PERSON! [CLICK HERE](#) to register your vehicle for this event.

Secondly, use the Respect Life materials prepared every year by the USCCB, found [HERE](#) to make

your parish aware of Respect Life Month, and enliven your parish to get involved. There you can find bulletin articles, intercessory prayers for Mass, homily helps for your pastor and much more. If you need some more help with organizing your team, have another look at our 2020 Respect Life Coordinator Handbook. If you don't have one, call your local office in Cincinnati or Dayton, or [EMAIL US](#) to get one.



Third, nominate a worthy individual for the annual [RESPECT LIFE AWARD](#). We give an award each year to a lay person and a priest or religious brother or sister who lives their faith in a visible way that "proclaims human life is a precious gift from God". The award will be given by Archbishop Schnurr at the Cathedral Basilica of

Continued on Page 2

Oct 2020

respectlife@catholicaoc.org

Issue 7



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 Wungflachen

Director, Office for Respect Life Ministries

What to Do for Respect Life Month

Continued from Page 1

St. Peter in Chains at the 11AM Mass on Sunday, January 24, 2021. Find the application online [HERE](#).

Finally, don't forget the **RESPECT LIFE FUND**, the annual collection that is used to help fund grants for local pro-life organizations. We put together a great **PROMOTIONAL VIDEO** for it this year on our website. Please share it on your social media accounts, and if your parish has the capability, invite your pastor to show it on Respect Life Sunday. Make sure all your friends know about this important second collection happening the first weekend of October. If your parish doesn't have the collection, or for those who are unable to attend Mass, you can also **DONATE ONLINE**. If you know of a qualifying organization that needs the funds, find eligibility requirements and the application link [HERE](#).

No matter how you take pause for life this month, you are a voice to those who are marginalized or forgotten. Be loud as you pray, fast, and work to see a true Culture of Life in our Archdiocese! Many thanks for all the great work all of you already do, and through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, may Our Lord grant us all the grace to courageously live the Gospel of Life.

OCTOBER

40 Days for Life Vigil

01-31

Through the month of October, people across the world will gather outside of abortion facilities to lift their voices in prayer for the women and men who enter, the workers who provide abortion services, and the innocent lives lost. Consider joining the movement of prayer and fasting in both **DAYTON** and **CINCINNATI**.

Day of Reflection (Project Rachel)

03

The Project Rachel Day of Reflection is designed for ANY PERSON affected by an abortion experience. All are welcome: mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, grandparents, etc. This event is free of charge and will take place in the Dayton Area. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information or [REGISTER HERE](#).

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.

01- Word of Life & Pray for Life

02- Respect Life Month 2020

03- A Letter from Archbishop Naumann

04- Stop Mail Order Abortion



Respect Life Coordinator Resources

01 The month's Word of Life includes extra resources that focus on Respect Life Month. (PDF: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)) In the October edition of Pray for Life, we pray that mothers in need may experience Christ's loving care as we seek to live out His Gospel of Life. (Prayer guide: [English](#) | [Spanish](#))

02 The Respect Life Month webpage for parishes and dioceses now contains many new resources in both English and Spanish: action guide, reflection, homily helps, bulletin covers, monitor displays, graphics, logos, and more. [CLICK HERE](#) to access these resources. Respect Life Month would also be a wonderful time to begin the Walking with Moms in Need program in your parish. For access to the introductory webinar [CLICK HERE](#) or visit the website [HERE](#) for more resources.

03 Each year, Archbishop Naumann, the Chairman for the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities, issues a **PASTORAL LETTER** in honor of Respect Life Month. This year's statement the Archbishop speaks to this year's theme, "Live the Gospel of Life," which commemorates the 25th anniversary of Pope John Paul II's encyclical The Gospel of Life. He also draws from the cover letter of Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship where the full body of bishops reiterated that abortion remains a preeminent priority.

04 A new bill has been introduced that could help protect mothers and babies from chemical abortion. The Support and Value Expectant (SAVE) Moms & Babies Act ([H.R. 4399](#) / [S. 3072](#)) could help improve regulation of chemical abortion pills. [ACT NOW](#) and share with your friends!

Domestic Violence Awareness

By: Kara Ross

Respect Life Month is a time to reflect on the dignity of all human life. We have an opportunity, given to us by our Bishops to pray, fast, and protest on behalf of the unborn, the dying, the elderly, and all of those who need our voices. This includes victims of Domestic Violence. In the most recent statistics, 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men have experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate partner. In Ohio, 36% of women and 30% of men have experienced domestic violence. We can help end the cycle of violence by praying and advocating for those who are afraid and unsure of how to get help. We can educate ourselves about the issue and believe those who tell us they are being menaced in their relationships. Last year, Being ProLife featured many great interviews on Domestic Violence. Take a moment to explore the video, podcasts and resources that can be accessed [HERE](#).

Women, men, and children, including the unborn, are all potential victims of domestic violence. Building a culture of life means we work to reestablish the home as the domestic church. If there is fear and



Continued on Page 4

iVoteCatholic

We are called to live our faith in all aspects of our lives, but – when it comes to voting – this can be difficult. Over the next several weeks, immerse yourself in the Church's teaching and gain a fuller understanding of the Church's commitment to a consistent ethic of life which guides us to be advocates for a variety of issues related to life and human dignity. To learn how your parish can become involved in this important reflection, and to access resources that are focused on forming your conscience, go to www.ivotecatholic.org.

Pray a Minute

What might happen if every Catholic would pray just one minute more than they already do, every day, for the specific intention of peace, justice and goodwill? From now until January 1, the World Day of Prayer for Peace, Catholics from across the Archdiocese of Cincinnati are invited to unite in prayer for the spiritual renewal of our country. Together, we will pray one million hours! Learn more and commit to doing your part at <https://www.prayaminute.com/>

OCTOBER Life Chain

04

Life Chain is a peaceful, pro-life protest that takes place on October 4th at 2:00 PM across the nation. Join other members of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati in one of six locations: **Dayton, Troy, Springfield, Hamilton, Champaign County, and Clermont County**. Click the location above for a detailed flyer.

10

Drive-In Rally for Life

Cincinnati Right to Life will now be hosting a pro-life rally at a drive-in movie theatre featuring the well known subject of the movie Unplanned, Abby Johnson! Doors open at 11:30 a.m. and the rally begins at 1:00 p.m. For more information and to register [CLICK HERE](#).

A Win for Life during COVID

By: Molly Schutte

Clara* spoke no English, and her boyfriend could not translate. When she came to Women's Center-North Dixie with an intention to abort, the staff knew they had to get creative. Flash back to a few months earlier. Elizabeth's New Life Center's new Women's Center-North Dixie in north Dayton had just opened on February 25, 2020. Little by little, clients started to come seeking services, but March brought coronavirus and a world in chaos. The staff of Elizabeth's New Life Center redoubled their efforts to keep all of the Women's Centers open, knowing how critical pregnancy services would be. Sure enough, the abortion industry began pushing chemical and telemedicine abortions harder than ever before as the virus swept the nation.

Hannah Carr, the manager at Women's Center-



**ELIZABETH'S
NEW LIFE CENTER**

North Dixie, reflected recently, "I've definitely noticed that most of our clients have been affected by COVID in some way or another. Some have lost jobs, which causes them to lose insurance. Others are just living in fear of the unknown and are worried about their health."

She also pointed out that Women's Center-North Dixie is located in a community heavily impacted by the 2019 Memorial Day tornados, the effects of which still impact many of our clients on a daily basis. The anxiety of the times has pushed women to make hasty decisions out of fear, but the staff members at Women's Center-North Dixie are standing strong and continuing to bring hope and light to the women they serve.

Growing this new center during the pandemic has been challenging, but Elizabeth's New Life

Continued on Page 4



Being Pro-Life Gender Identity

This month's podcasts are on gender dysphoria. What do we teach as Catholics, what are the dangers of where the medical community is heading in transgender "treatment", and what is the best way to care for someone who experiences a disconnect between their biological sex and what they believe their gender to be? Check out the podcast schedule:

Podcast Schedule

October 6: Fr. Tad Pacholczyk, on Catholic Teaching

October 13: Erin Brewer, former "trans kid"

October 20: Walt Heyer, a former transgender woman

October 27: Dr. Jennifer Morse, dangers of the transgender movement

November 3: Lynn, parent of transgendered adults

Domestic Violence Awareness

Continued from Page 3

violence at home, there is little room for Christ's love to be shared in that family. However, we can be Christ to these families, we can listen and help them to find organizations, like Artemis Center in our area, that will help them to escape their situation and leave for good. Many find leaving to be something unthinkable because they are afraid of what their partner may do to them if they are caught. They think that the abuse is better than being dead or they have been so manipulated, they no longer see the abuse in the relationship. What greater calling can we have then to bring truth and love to these broken hearts?

Prayer for Victims of Domestic Violence

Lord, we adore you and give you thanks for creating each person to be just who they are. You created each one of us to enjoy the fullness of life. Please heal those who have been victims of domestic violence, who have suffered abuse. Help them to rebuke feelings of worthlessness, inferiority, guilt, or shame. Surround all your children with your light and may that light illuminate all areas of darkness. Help us all to receive your love and healing where it is most needed. **AMEN.**

A Win for Life...

Continued from Page 3

Center's six other Women's Centers rallied around Women's Center-North Dixie to help. When Hannah realized that Clara needed an ultrasound as well as a consultant who could speak Spanish, she coordinated with the staff at Women's Center-Dayton to schedule a same-day ultrasound that ultimately changed Clara's mind and saved the life of her baby. A Spanish-speaking consultant from Women's Center-Sidney then continued caring for Clara and is currently helping her navigate online Spanish pregnancy and parenting classes so she can earn needed material items.

Opening a new pregnancy resource center always comes with many challenges, but the kind and compassionate staff members at Women's Center-N. Dixie have risen to the COVID challenge and are already changing hearts and minds. Clients often comment that "there's something different" about Elizabeth's New Life Center's Women's Centers. "For clients to recognize that there's something different about us in the midst of incredible chaos," says Hannah, "can only be credited to the work that God is doing through us. Praise Him for His blessings!"

**the client's name has been changed for privacy purposes*

OCT Respect Life Award Deadline

30

Do you know someone who exemplifies the Gospel of Life in your community? Each year the Archdiocese of Cincinnati honors one lay person and one person in religious life who embodies the call to proclaim the sanctity of human life. Please submit all nominations [HERE](#). All nominees will be recognized as well!

NOV Respect Life Grant Deadline

02

The Respect Life Fund is used to provide grants to organizations within the Archdiocese of Cincinnati that promote the Gospel of Life. To read more about who is eligible to apply [CLICK HERE](#). All grant applications are due by November 2nd at 4:00pm. Please encourage any eligible organization to [APPLY HERE!](#)



ARCHDIOCESE OF
CINCINNATI

Contact Us

BOB WURZELBACHER

Director, Respect Life & Disabilities

bwurzelbacher@catholicaoc.org

(513) 263-6674

NOELLE COLLIS-DEVITO

Associate Director, Persons with Disabilities

ndevito@catholicaoc.org

(937) 281-4128

KARA ROSS

Associate Director, Respect Life

krass@catholicaoc.org

(937) 281-4127

This is the time of year when many 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. Please contact us at respectlife@catholicaoc.org in order to borrow one of our signs or to obtain more information about Project Rachel.



Do you have something that you would like to share in our upcoming issue?

Contact us at respectlife@catholicaoc.org or (937)281-4128.