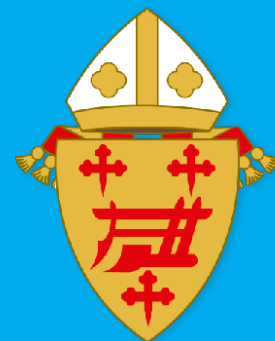




- 02 WELCOME
Culture of Inclusion
Coordinator's Corner
- 03 Being Pro-Life
Recognizing Racism
Archbishop Naumann
Now and at the Hour...
- 04 Project Rachel
Mater Filius
Contact Us

RESPECT LIFE NEWSLETTER



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

Taking Care of the Whole Person in the Midst of Pandemic *By: Kara Ross*

As we adapt to living with the "new normal" of the COVID-19 Pandemic, we must also adapt how we advocate for the most vulnerable in our society. In this time of social isolation, those who are already prone to loneliness are feeling even more forgotten. This includes those with mental illness, our elderly brothers and sisters who may be unable to visit with family due to their high risk status, and those recovering in hospitals with no visiting hours.

In light of the stay-at-home order issued in our state, there has been great concern that the isolation produced by the pandemic could result in a higher suicide rate both among those with pre-existing mental illness and among those who are unable to cope with this unprecedented situation. A recent healthline article explains some ways we can watch out for each other's mental health amidst the crisis. Even those who had strong coping mechanisms in place before this may feel this is a stressor they cannot handle. We must take time to check in with

our friends and loved ones, asking questions that may have been awkward before but that now may open a needed dialogue. We have been offered a unique opportunity to invest in those closest to us. It may be a phone call to a friend, a meal dropped on the porch, a text with a prayer or uplifting quote. It may be chatting in the drive way while six feet apart!

Recently the director of the Euthansia Prevention Coalition shared the story of a woman whose father died because of dehydration and starvation while in a nursing home because of his dementia. His family was unable to supplement his care and as a result, he died before his time. Our Lord asks us to act with mercy towards those who are sick or dying. Mercy in this time is ensuring that caretakers have the resources and support they need to care for their



patients in nursing homes and in hospitals. We can lessen the number of people lost to this pandemic by being sure every person is being treated with the dignity they deserve and being sure we take time to care for the elderly and the sick, even from afar.

All of us have felt the stress and fear this pandemic has caused. We all went months without receiving the sacraments, including missing our highest feast day at Easter. We are all missing our families and, even as things slowly begin to open, are wary of the future. This is a time that calls us to great faith and trust in our loving God. He is providing for us even now. It is our job to rest confidently in that provision and to remain vigilant to how we can love, even from six feet away.

¹ <https://www.healthline.com/health-news/what-covid-19-is-doing-to-our-mental-health>

² <http://alexschadenberg.blogspot.com/2020/06/a-different-type-of-covid-19-death.html>

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!

Gene Wangelbacher

Director, Office for Respect Life Ministries

Creating a Culture of Inclusion

By: Noelle Collis-DeVito

Before our world was struck by the COVID-19 Pandemic, we were making great strides here in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati to create a culture of inclusion and meaningful participation for persons with disabilities and their families. With the beginning of Sensory-Friendly Liturgies and the start of listening sessions across the Dayton Area, we have begun to identify needs within our parish communities and have worked to better meet them. While these efforts have been temporarily delayed due to social distancing and quarantine restrictions, they have not been halted. As we begin to return to parish life, we have a fantastic opportunity to start anew. We have been given the time and pause to evaluate the way we do ministry in our parishes and to make the necessary changes to create a better church for all. It is important to assess our current parish climate and ask ourselves what we are doing well and what we could do to enhance ministry with persons with disabilities. An excellent tool for such evaluation is the LAMB Assessment created by the NCPD (National Catholic Partnership on Disabilities). This resource and others can be found [HERE](#). It is essential that we work together as a church to provide the necessary means for inclusion and now is the perfect time to put measures in place, so that we can return to our parishes with a renewed spirit.



OL

Walking with Moms in Need

The 25th anniversary year of Evangelium vitae gives us a wonderful opportunity to assess, expand, and communicate resources to pregnant moms and families in need. Join the nationwide effort to reach out through assessment and prayer. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

18 & 19

Now & at the Hour of Our Death

Due to popular demand... The Office for Respect Life Ministries along with the Office for Divine Worship will AGAIN be presenting a virtual workshop on Catholic Medical & Funeral Planning for End of Life. See more information [BELOW](#) or [CLICK HERE](#) to download a flyer.

Coordinator's Corner

- 01- Word of Life & Pray for Life
- 02- Novena to Saints Anne and Joachim
- 03- NFP Awareness Week
- 04- Virtual Check-In Resources

Parish Respect Life Coordinator Resources

- 01 The July edition of Word of Life is available: [English](#) / [Spanish](#). Suggestions are provided for adapting the resources for digital use. In the July edition of Pray for Life, we pray that mothers receive ongoing care and support in raising their children. (Prayer guide: [English](#) / [Spanish](#))
- 02 Saints Anne and Joachim are powerful intercessors who faced life's challenges with trust in God. Copies of the "Faith and Perseverance" novena to Saints Anne and Joachim are available to download ([English](#) / [Spanish](#)) or purchase ([English](#) / [Spanish](#)). (Note: Because this July 26th falls on a Sunday, the memorial isn't officially observed, but the novena can still be shared for private devotion.)
- 03 NFP Awareness Week will take place July 19 - 25. Many tools and ideas are available online to help parishes and dioceses celebrate and promote God's design for married love and the gift of life. This year's theme is "Live the truth and beauty of God's plan for married love!". [CLICK HERE](#) to access these resources.
- 04 It was great to see some of you on our Virtual Check-In in June. If you did not attend one of these meetings, but would like the resources that were mentioned during the conversation, please contact us at respectlife@catholiccincinnati.org. We would be happy to provide you with the any information that you missed. We look forward to seeing you all in September when we will discuss iVote Catholic.

A Call to Recognize Racism

By: Noelle Collis-DeVito

In the past month, our country has experienced a great deal of turmoil over the issue of racism. It has created a divide in our society, and has sadly become increasingly politicized. As Catholics, we are called first and foremost to belong to Christ and to embrace the Gospel of Life that he boldly proclaimed. We are called to “resist racism courageously” and to work towards eliminating all forms of racism in our church and in our culture.



In order to live out the Gospel of Life, we must take the time to fully understand the impact of racism and listen to the call to action of our bishops. Below are some excellent resources that touch on the sin of racism and our call to work towards eliminating it in our Church and country. Take time to read through these resources and spend a little time in personal reflection on this subject.

[Archdiocesan Anti-Racism Task Force Op-Ed](#)

[Archbishop Schnurr's Pastoral Letter](#)

[Article by Archbishop Naumann](#)

[Open Wide Our Hearts](#)

Racial injustices have presented themselves in a very obvious way through the recent deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery, but the evidence of racial injustice is also fully present in the disproportionate effects of the COVID-19 Crisis within the black community as well as other minorities.



Being Pro-Life Labor Trafficking

Labor Trafficking is exploiting someone to work through force, fraud or coercion. Bob talks with Harold D'Souza, a survivor of human trafficking in the U.S., as well as several others about what human trafficking looks like in the U.S., who is vulnerable, how to recognize it and how to report it. Each of these interviews are featured individually in our weekly podcasts with a new episode available each week. There are also resources available on our Being Pro-Life July 2020 Page. [FOLLOW US](#) on Social Media, [READ OUR ARTICLE](#) in the Catholic Telegraph, [WATCH](#) the video interviews, and [LISTEN](#) to the Podcast for more!



NFP Awareness Week

NFP Awareness Week will take place July 19 - 25. This year's theme is "Live the truth and beauty of God's plan for married love!" For more information about this campaign [CLICK HERE](#).

19
- 25

26

Feast of St's Anne & Joachim

The Feast Day of Saints Anne & Joachim, the mother and father of the Blessed Virgin Mary, will take place on Sunday, July 26. Because the 26 falls on a Sunday this year, the feast day will not be officially observed, but you are invited to join a Novena in their honor. [CLICK HERE](#) to receive the novena in your inbox.

A Response from Archbishop Naumann

WASHINGTON— Today, the Supreme Court of the United States announced its decision in an abortion case out of Louisiana, June Medical Services v. Russo. The Court ruled 5 to 4 to strike down the Louisiana law that requires abortion doctors to have hospital admitting privileges. Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City in Kansas and chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Committee for Pro-Life Activities issued the following statement:

"Abortion violently ends the life of a child, and often severely harms women. Abortion becomes even more destructive when basic health and safety standards are ignored, and profit margins are prioritized over women's lives. As Catholics, we condemn abortion as a grave injustice that denies the fundamental human right to life. Yet even as we seek to end the brutality of legalized abortion, we still believe that the women who seek it should not be further harmed and abused by a callous, profit-driven industry.

"The Court's failure to recognize the legitimacy of laws prioritizing women's health and safety over abortion business interests continues a cruel precedent. As we grieve this decision and the pregnant women who will be harmed by it, we continue to pray and fight for justice for mothers and children.

"We will not rest until the day when the Supreme Court corrects the grave injustice of Roe and Casey and recognizes the Constitutional right to life for unborn human beings. And we continue to ask all people of faith to pray for women seeking abortion, often under enormous pressure, that they will find alternatives that truly value them and the lives of their children." ... [CLICK HERE](#) to read the rest of the response.

Now & at the Hour of Our Death

Catholic Medical & Funeral Planning for End of Life

In case you missed this workshop the first time...

It's never too soon to begin thinking about our own funeral, end-of-life care, and who will be making those decisions. Join us to learn about how to get started on planning a Catholic funeral and what the Church teaches on key end-of-life issues. Join us Tuesday, August 18 7:00pm - 8:30pm OR Wednesday, August 19 1:30pm - 3:00pm for a virtual workshop to address these important issues. [REGISTER HERE](#) to receive an email with the online meeting information. Topics will include:

- Pre-planning the three stages of the Catholic funeral
- What the Church really teaches about cremation
- How to approach difficult end-of-life decisions with your loved ones from a Catholic perspective (life support, medical power of attorney, etc.)



Pope Francis' Prayer to Mary

During the COVID Crisis



O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you,

Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. **Amen.**

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

House Mother Needed

We have an immediate opening for a house mother. The house mother is the centerpiece of the operations of the Mater Filius home which is located in the west side of Cincinnati. The Mater Filius home will allow us to serve up to three women at a time. The ideal candidate must be a single woman, mission driven and embrace her Catholic faith. This is a full-time paid position which will offer room and board as part of the compensation package. Interested or have further questions, please contact the director: Betsy Jacquez – 513.351.3368, mfqcity@gmail.com To learn more about us visit our website at MFQC.org



OL

Rosary for Life

Join us on Monday mornings at 10:00am on Facebook LIVE as we pray the **ROSARY FOR LIFE** together. We offer up these prayers for an end to abortion and for all those who have been impacted by the coronavirus.

OL

Divine Mercy Chaplet

On Fridays at 3:00pm we will join our voices in praying the **DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET** with special guest Carson Kissell. Carson is an inspiring boy, who despite suffering from Epidermolysis Bullosa, has developed a strong faith and devotion. He was recently featured on EWTN. [CLICK HERE](#) to watch on Youtube.

H:PE
AFTER ABORTION
project rachel
Peace starts here
www.catholiccincinnati.org/project-rachel/
Helpline (513)784-0531

Contact Us

BOB WURZELBACHER
Director
bwurzelbacher@catholiccincinnati.org
(513) 263-6674

NOELLE COLLIS-DEVITO
Associate Director
ndeviso@catholiccincinnati.org
(937) 281-4128

KARA ROSS
Associate Director
kross@catholiccincinnati.org
(937) 281-4128



Edited by: Noelle Collis-DeVito

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

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