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RESPECT LIFE NEWSLETTER



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

November's Election is Just Two Months Away

By: Bob Wurzelbacher

We have about two months left in our efforts to defeat this dangerous and extreme ballot

First, continue to pray and fast. As I mentioned in the April issue, you are invited to say a quick prayer with your family every day at 7:14 (AM and PM). That time is based on **2 CHRONICLES 7:14**. Additionally, the website is now up for the 54-Day Rosary Novena starting on September 15. You can find the webpage at **CATHOLICAOC.ORG/PRAY54OHIO**. The website will be updated each day of the novena with a different saint. Be sure to share that in your bulletins and pulpit announcements so everyone knows about it and participates as they are able. Do not forget that fasting is also a key component, as Jesus reminded us in **MARK 9:29**. Your fasting can be as strict as our Ash Wednesday requirements, or as simple as forgoing sugar in your coffee, but



please do *something*. If we unite a personal sacrifice with the immense sacrifice of Christ, the graces bestowed on us from our prayers will be multiplied.

Second, get involved on the local level. Contact your local Right to Life organization to help with their efforts. With your pastor's permission, we are also seeking women who will receive training from the USCCB on how to be an official advocate to speak about these issues at parish town halls, after Mass or any other situation where the pastor needs you. We will also offer a different training for anyone to simply learn how to talk to your neighbor. Polls indicate that most Ohioans will vote "yes" on this amendment based on what they think it is about, but even most pro-choice people are against what this amendment actually does. That is why we need to know how to talk to our pro-choice friends on the truth of this amendment. Both of these trainings will be offered the week of September 11. Contact our office at **RESPECTLIFE@CATHOLICAOC.ORG** for more information on how to register for either of them.

Third, please donate. We know we will not match the other side dollar-for-dollar in ad campaigns, but we must try to reach who we can most especially with targeted ads that dispel the myths that will be told about threats to access to miscarriage and ectopic pregnancy care. If you can, give directly to **PROTECT WOMEN OHIO**, to help fund the high cost of an effective advertising campaign.

Finally, share the local videos we are creating right here in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. We have **ALREADY RELEASED THE FIRST** of 6 high quality homily videos short enough for sharing on social media. We are also creating videos from lawyers, doctors and others with personal stories to dispel the common lies that will be told by those who support this amendment. You will find all of these videos, as they come out, at **ARCHDIOCESE OF CINCINNATI - YOUTUBE**. They will also be posted on the **ARCHDIOCESAN** and the **RESPECT LIFE OFFICE** facebook pages. Share them on your parish and personal social media accounts. Then share them again.

Get the word out as much as possible for people to Vote "No" in November. If we want to keep this out of Ohio, we need to not only win, but win big.



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 we need are 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!

Director, Office for Respect Life Ministries

Ohio March for Life



Our second annual Ohio March for Life is taking place in Columbus, OH on Friday, October 6th.

Since pilgrims would come from across the Archdiocese to a location not far away, the Office for Respect Life Ministries will not be organizing a trip throughout the Archdiocese. Instead, we are encouraging schools and Respect

Life coordinators in parishes to plan and organize their own groups to attend this march.

It is very important that we make a strong showing in preparation for the upcoming November election that seeks to enshrine a right to abortion for any reason into our Ohio constitution. We clearly have a long way to go here in Ohio to ensure that every life is respected and protected.

Please consider joining us as we march peacefully in front of the Ohio Statehouse and pray for the protection of our state's unborn children, especially against the upcoming November vote! Find more information [HERE](#).

September

National Day of Remembrance

09

Gate of Heaven Cemetery will be hosting a prayer service for the National Day of Remembrance for children lost to abortion. For more information click [HERE](#).

54-Day Rosary Novena

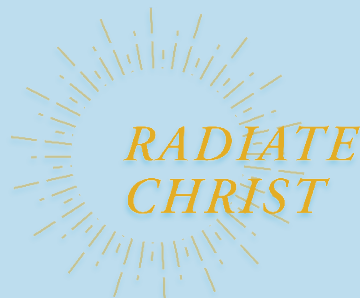
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Sign up to begin our 54-Day Rosary novena from the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows to election day. You will get daily reminders and each day dedicated to a particular saint as well. Sign up at CATHOLICAOC.ORG/PRAY54OHIO

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
- 02- RL Month Action Guid
- 03- Upcoming Training
- 04- Respect Life Fund Collection

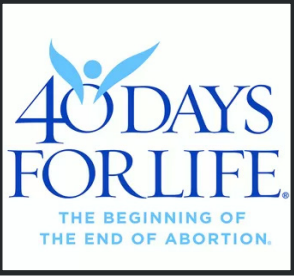


Respect Life Coordinator Resources

- 01 This month's **WORD OF LIFE** features items for the Feast of the St. Peter Claver (National Day of Prayer for Peace in Our Communities). There are also bulletin inserts, graphics, and intercessions for life for the month of September. Also available in **SPANISH**.
- 02 Check out the USCCB **RESPECT LIFE MONTH ACTION GUIDE**. In it you will find sample bulletin announcements leading up to Respect Life Sunday, intecessory prayers for all of October, and a sample activity. Also, check out the **RESPECT LIFE STORE**, where you can download for free or order printed materials as bulletin inserts to utilize throughout the month of October on different topics like Abortion, Capital Punishment and Reproductive Technology.
- 03 As we make our way closer to the Nov. 7 election, your pastor may be overwhelmed with the amount of materials he is being given about it. You can find some of them on the CCO page [HERE](#). You need your pastor's approval, but contact us to sign up for some trainings offered by the USCCB especially for this election on Sep. 11.
- 04 Parishes all across our archdiocese will be having a collection for the Respect Life Fund during Respect Life Sunday. First, please remind your pastor of this special annual collection on the weekend of September 30th to October 1st. This money goes to support the work of pro-life agencies like Pregnancy Care Centers right here in this Archdiocese. You can also put in your bulletin that you can give online [HERE](#). Thank you for your generosity!

40 Days Fall Campaigns

The Beginning of the End of Abortion



Beginning September 27, people across the world will gather outside abortion facilities once again to lift their voices in prayer for those who enter, the workers who provide abortion services, and the innocent lives lost. Those who commit to these 40 days of prayer and fasting, do so peacefully in the hope that someday we will see a world where the killing of unborn children is unthinkable.

As the most extreme abortion amendment to ever enter Ohio looms before us this November, I encourage you to get involved. If you have never prayed outside of an abortion clinic, attend one of the upcoming vigils and sign up for an hour or two. If you have volunteered before, consider becoming a day captain and help recruit others to fill needed slots. And don't forget the fasting portion. Like we all do during Lent, commit to a specific sacrifice during the 40 Days vigil, such as giving up phone games or sweetener in your morning cup of coffee.

If you are unable to physically join the vigil, you can still join us in prayer. Offer a rosary or Divine Mercy Chaplet each day, or a daily Mass each week. The battle to end abortion begins with changing hearts, and prayer is our best weapon. Sign up for a local vigil at WWW.40DAYSFORLIFE.

Deaf Ministry

By: Lisa Averion



On the Third Saturday of each month the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Deaf Community gathers for fellowship and Mass at St. Christopher in Vandalia, Ohio. Fr. Kyle Schnipple and

his parish family has welcomed the Deaf Community. Members take down the gifts during the offertory and participate fully in the mass along with interpreters provided by the Office for Persons with Disabilities. It is truly a gift to gather at the table with our hearing brothers and sisters.

On November 4th, Fr. Shawn Carey from the Archdiocese of Boston will return for the second year for a Deaf Community Retreat that will be held at St. Rita School for the Deaf in Evandale. All are welcome! More details coming soon!

September

Deaf Mass and Meeting

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Join us on at 5:00pm for a Deaf Mass and meeting at St. Christopher Church (435 E. National Rd., Vandalia, Ohio).

ASL interpreters will be interpreting Mass, followed by a meeting and fellowship.

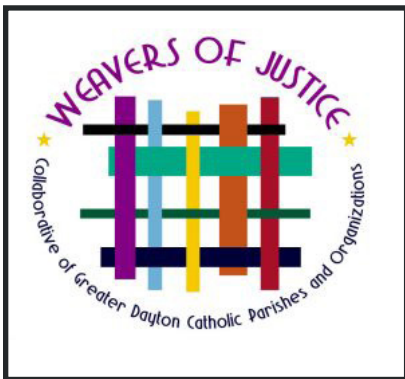
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40 Days Campaign Kick-off

The 40 Days Fall Campaigns starts with a prayer service before the vigil begins. This year, the **DAYTON VIGIL** kicks off on Sunday, September 24 at 2PM. The **CINCINNATI** hour long kick-off begins on Tuesday, September 26 at 7 PM. Check their websites for more details!

Love in Action Volunteer Fair

By: Sara Seligmann



All are invited to come learn more about organizations putting love into action. The Weavers of Justice are hosting a Love in Action Volunteer Fair on zoom on September 17th from 12:30-2:00 pm. We have over a dozen organizations that Catholics from around the Archdiocese of Cincinnati can be involved with in some way. These organizations promote the common good and human dignity (through service, justice, advocacy, charity, dialogue etc.) and their work and mission are in line with Catholic Social Teaching. Not all of the organizations are Catholic or religiously based. You'll get a quick overview of the organizations and will get to choose 3 organizations to hear more about, ask questions,

and exchange information in breakout "rooms." Participants will also be sent short summaries and contact information for each organization.

Please consider gathering a few from your parish family and register [HERE](#).

Organizations: If you would like your organization to be represented at this meeting, please register [HERE](#), in addition to filling out the participant registration above.

Being Pro-Life

Capital Punishment and Forgiveness

Bill's grandmother was attacked by a group of teen girls who skipped school one afternoon, looking for money to play arcade games. They entered her home, stabbed her to death, but only found \$10 and the keys to



her car. The trial ended with one of the teens, being sentenced to death, and Bill watched stone faced as her grandfather was led out of the courtroom for his outbursts of, "They're going to kill my baby." After months of being unable to get that image out of his head, Bill realized his grandmother would never have wanted a grandfather to watch his own grandchild die. He changed his opinion of the death penalty, and worked to get the teen off of death row. Check out his story on our Being Pro Life channel [HERE](#).

Safe Haven Baby Boxes

By: Becky Schoenfeld



Safe Haven laws, also known as “Baby Moses Laws” have been around in **all** 50 states since 2008. “What exactly are these laws?” you may ask. The Safe Haven laws allow parents to surrender their small infants anonymously without legal ramifications. The babies are often surrendered at firehouses, hospitals, or police stations. These facilities are catching onto the trend of

installing “baby boxes.” The temperature-controlled secure boxes allow the parents to remain anonymous and notifies personnel once the box is opened from the outside. A staff member is able to get to the baby within 3 minutes and then immediately take the child to the hospital for care. These babies are then placed for adoption by the state. Because of these boxes, the number of babies abandoned has decreased immensely. That was the goal of Monica Kelsey, who worked to get a box installed in our own tri-state area at the Delhi Township Fire Department, for a reason very personal to her. Read more about that story [HERE!](#) In addition to the boxes, **SAFE HAVEN BABY BOXES** has a crisis line for parents in need of immediate help. You can also donate toward a baby box in your community! Please consider including this information within your parish communications.

OPD Inclusion

By: Lisa Averion

The Office for Persons with Disabilities will be hosting Coffee & Conversation this fall.

Coffee & Conversation is about inclusion in your parish.

Who should attend? Parents, caregivers, professionals, advocates, and clergy are all welcome. We will discuss how to plan, organize,

and advocate for individuals with special needs, the blind community, deaf community, and all with mental wellness challenges.

Coffee and Conversation: 9:00am-11:30am

North: 9/23 Sacred Heart, Anna

Central: 9/16 Our Lady of Sorrows, Monroe

South: 10/7 St. Ann, Cincinnati



October Respect Life Fund Collection

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This annual collection is used to help fund grants for local pro-life organizations. Check out our **PROMOTIONAL VIDEO**, share on social media, and Inform your parish about this collection. If your parish doesn't have the collection, or for those who are unable to attend Mass, you can also **DONATE ONLINE**.

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Ohio March for Life

We are encouraging everyone to organize your parish, school or Respect Life group and join us in Columbus, OH for the 2nd Annual Ohio March for Life. For more information **CLICK HERE**. Please us know if you are going by emailing respectlife@catholicaoc.org.



ARCHDIOCESE OF CINCINNATI

Contact Us

BOB WURZELBACHER

Director, Respect Life & Disabilities

bwurzelbacher@catholicaoc.org

(513) 263-6674

LISA AVERION

Associate Director, Persons with Disabilities

laverion@catholicaoc.org

(937) 281-4128

BECKY SCHOENFELD

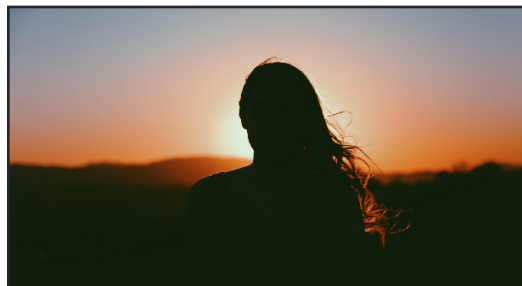
Associate Director, Respect Life

bschoenfeld@catholicaoc.org

(513) 263-3366

Project Rachel Corner

A Healing Story



“Many years ago I was young and in trouble. I went to Planned Parenthood for help. I needed someone to talk to. They presented only one option. They told me the cost in dollars. They never told me the true cost that I would pay over the years. I have suffered in silence, ashamed of my dirty little secret, no one to talk to, not even my family or friends.

This cycle of pain, anguish and silence continued until I asked for and received help from Project Rachel. The volunteers at Project Rachel helped me to come to terms with my actions. They saved me by enabling the healing process to begin. They helped me to reconcile with God.

I hope that all troubled women are allowed the free choice to go to Project Rachel without condemnation. I urge all who suffer because of their choices to seek Project Rachel and you shall be healed.”

If you or someone you know has been effected by abortion, you are not alone. Please reach out and talk to someone who understands. Our confidential helpline is always open! (513) 784-0531.