



Reverence Life Committee

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*Supporting, empowering, and
educating members in spirituality,
leadership and service; reaching
out with Gospel values to meet the
needs of Church and society*

Reverence Life Newsletter September 2023

October is Respect Life Month and October 1 is Respect Life Sunday. Be sure to find something to do in your parish. In 1973, the United States Council of Catholic Bishops designated October as Respect Life Month. It is a time to reflect more deeply on the dignity of every human life and how we can build a culture of life from conception to natural death.

This year's theme is Radical Solidarity. You can find a lot of information at <https://www.usccb.org/es/resources/respect-life-graphics-respect-life-month-2023>. There is a flyer that has information on Radical Solidarity. You can get information from there. There is a Respect Life Novena that runs from October 13-21 that people can sign up for at the website and receive it in their email. You can also print it and put it in your church. There are prayer cards that can be ordered, or you can print the prayer. It has petitions, Mass announcements and bulletin announcements. Visit with your priest on what you can do in your parish. I have included a few of the examples below taken from the website materials.

Petitions: That on this Respect Life Sunday our resolve may be strengthened to uphold the dignity of every human life; We pray to the Lord:

That during this Respect Life Month our resolve will be strengthened to cherish and protect the gift of every human life; We pray to the Lord:

That the life of every human person, from conception to natural death, might be protected in our laws and cherished in our hearts; We pray to the Lord:

Mass Announcements: Option 1: Respect Life Sunday (First Sunday of October) Today is Respect Life Sunday, which kicks off Respect Life Month. We consider more deeply why every human life is valuable and reflect on how to build a culture that protects life from conception to natural death. See the bulletin for more information.

Option 2: Respect Life Month (Any Weekend in October) Every October, we celebrate Respect Life Month. We consider more deeply why every human life is valuable and reflect on how to build a culture that protects life from conception to natural death. See the bulletin for more information.

Bulletin Announcement: Today is Respect Life Sunday! Join Catholics nationwide in celebrating Respect Life Month! respectlife.org/celebrate.

www.respectlife.org/celebrate that is listed in the bulletin announcement above is a page you need to look at. It has 3 Actions. 1. Pray - here everyone is invited to sign up with their email to receive the Respect Life Month Novena and then pray it. 2. Reflect – the Radical Solidarity article is there to read and reflect on. 3. Pledge – they are invited to take the pledge to prayerfully support pregnant women in your local community.

<https://www.usccb.org/resources/word-of-life-2023-10.pdf> has other petitions, pulpit announcements, bulletin quotes, etc. They have recommended dates but state that they can be used at any time during the year.

Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life came out with a short YouTube video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Ftp8cqps3Q> which is under 2 minutes. It is worth looking at. Note there is “content advisory” on the second part of the video.

There is a new science base program available called “A Glimpse Inside” that was to be launched August 31. It is a web-based video series with a supplement curriculum for middle school and high school students. It is designed to help young people discover the dignity of every human life. A school/church license is \$49.99 for a year. You can find more information at glimpseinside.org. Check it out and then share the information with your Faith Formation Coordinator and your pastor.

Attached is a flyer on the Opening Rally for 40 Days for Life from Judy Haag that you can use to promote in your parishes. The opening rally features Dr. Hayword Robinson and is on Thursday, September 28 at 6 pm at St. Augustine’s in St. Cloud.



Life Resources

Diocese of New Ulm Office of Family Life <https://www.dnu.org/familylife>

MN Catholic Conference – *End of Life resources*; public policy voice that supports the ministry of the state’s Catholic bishops. <https://www.mncatholic.org/about>

Abortion – 40 Days for Life <https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/>

Assisted Suicide <https://ethicalcaremn.org/about/>

Encourage <https://couragec.org/encourage/>

Ethics/Morality – National Catholic Bioethics Conference <https://www.ncbcenter.org/>

Gender/Sexuality – Person and Identity Project <https://personandidentity.com/>

Pastoral Letter on Human Sexuality (Nordic Bishops) <https://youtu.be/VLBRqLQV0CU>

Euthanasia, Marriage, Natural Family Planning, Respect Life, Suicide – United States Conference of Catholic Bishops <https://www.usccb.org/topics>

Pornography <https://www.covenanteyes.com/victory/> <https://www.reclaimsexualhealth.com>

Surrogacy <https://surrogacyawareness.com/>

Questions? Or need further resources, contact Sr. Candace Fier (507) 233-5328 cfier@dnu.org