

Live the Gospel of Life

Pro-Life Notes Vol. 5 No. 11

September 17, 2025

Pro-Life Office

-Respect Life Program

We are sending packets out today to all our parishes and schools. Let us know if your parish or school does not receive it. In the packet is a self-addressed postcard or letter for your completion. **We ask that you provide the current contact information for your parish/school. Please return the postcard to our office by September 30. Thank you.**

We encourage you to watch the recently released recording of this webinar from USCCB: *How to Celebrate Respect Life Month*. Learn how to help your parish celebrate Respect Life Month in October! Get easy ideas and ready-to-use digital resources during this one-hour webinar. [Parish Webinar: Respect Life Month 2025](https://www.usccb.org/prolife/parish-webinar-respect-life-month-2025) This introductory overview gives easy ideas for celebrating Respect Life Month in your parish/school and is perfect for pro-life volunteers. USCCB staff will walk through the 2025 Respect Life materials and discuss the perennial [Respect Life Month Action Guide](https://www.usccb.org/prolife/2025-respect-life-month-action-guide)

-Nationwide Invitation to Prayer Continues to October 1

We ask that you continue daily prayers to stop the taxpayer funding of abortion. The invitation and prayer are here: <https://www.usccb.org/prolife/nationwide-invitation-prayer>.

A Prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life

Dearest St. Joseph, at the word of an angel, you lovingly took Mary into your home. As God's humble servant, you guided the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem, welcomed Jesus as your own son in the shelter of a manger, and fled far from your homeland for the safety of both Mother and Child. We praise God that as their faithful protector, you never hesitated to sacrifice for those entrusted to you. May your example inspire us also to welcome, cherish, and safeguard God's most precious gift of life. Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life —especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things. Amen.

-Life Chain

Respect Life Sunday is on October 05, Many cities across the nation will host Life Chains. Go to this site for more information on locations. <http://www.lifechain.org> If you plan to have a Life Chain in your city, please let us know. We will promote it.

-Converging Roads Health Care Ethics Conference on October 11

The St. John Paul II Foundation, the Archdiocese of Omaha, the Fr. Edward J. Flanagan Guild of the CMA, and Creighton University, are hosting the second annual Converging Roads Health Care Ethics Conference on Saturday, October 11, 2025, at Creighton University in Omaha.

Converging Roads is a regional conference series offering continuing education for health care professionals, equipping them to uphold the highest ethical and medical standards in their work. Discounted rates for students are available, making this an excellent opportunity for Catholic young adults studying or entering the medical field.

The [media kit](#) contains flyer, helpful graphics, sample mass announcements, etc. Additional information and registration details can be found at convergingroads.com/omaha.

-Students for Life Revamping Called Initiative

Jordan Moorman is the new Diocesan Relationship Coordinator for Students for Life of America (SFLA). He is a passionate Catholic who has previously worked for the Knights of Columbus and is excited to get to collaborate with our Diocese.

As part of our shared mission to spread the Gospel of Life, he is in the process of revamping the Called initiative, which is SFLA's Catholic diocesan outreach program. It provides resources (at no cost), which include:

- Pro-life [lesson plans](#) for classrooms and youth ministry
- [Guest speakers on pro-life issues](#), who are trained to teach in a Catholic setting
- Regional pro-life summits, paid for, planned, and put on by SFLA team members
- Diocesan and church grants to attend the National Pro-Life March and National Pro-Life Summit in Washington D.C.
- [Event-In-a-Box kits \(EIBs\)](#), including an EIB dedicated to Respect Life Month.

Contact Info for Jordan: jmoorman@studentsforlife.org O: 540.834.4600. C: 812-212-1766

Nebraska Catholic Conference

-The Capitol Update. Here are two articles from our friends in Lincoln:

"It Depends on the Facts!" By Tom Venzor, September 5, 2025. [It depends on the facts!](#)

"Words Matter. Scholars propose change in terms to highlight human dignity." From Megan Fehr. September 13, 2025.

When discussing policy issues that we work on at the Nebraska Catholic Conference, we pay close attention to the **words we use**. The words we use should correspond to the truth of things. Words form the hearts and minds of those who hear them, as well as those who use them, and influence how they learn and think about issues.

Recently, a group of scholars—including leading Catholic thinkers—at the *Ethics and Public Policy Center* are proposing an important shift in terminology used by the federal government. These scholars are urging the Presidential administration and the Department of Health and Human Services to **reject** "ideological and euphemistic" terms such as "**gender-affirming care**" when talking about the transgender issue. Instead, they are **proposing the term "sex-rejecting procedures"** which more properly conveys what's at stake with gender ideology. Want to learn more about this proposal? [Check it out here.](#)

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

-Why Adoption is Rarely Considered by Expectant Moms

Although Americans tend to view adoption favorably, "when it comes to the decision-making of women who have an unexpected pregnancy, adoption hardly registers compared to alternative options. ...by a ratio of

nearly 50:1, women choose to terminate a pregnancy rather than place that child for adoption." The Institute for Family Studies recently shared [an essay explaining why](#) based on [the full article](#) published in the *Notre Dame Journal of Law, Ethics, and Public Policy*

-Healthcare Even if All Planned Parenthood Facilities Close

A [recent analysis](#) by the Charlotte Lozier Institute shows over 1.1 million abortions took place in the U.S. via licensed providers from July 2023–June 2024. [CLI noted](#), "While this is the best estimation of total abortions taking place in that timeframe, researchers cannot definitively calculate how many abortions [National Catholic Register reported](#), "According to a recently published [report](#), even if all of [Planned Parenthood's] facilities closed, women across the country would continue to have access to affordable health care services." The Charlotte Lozier Institute's research shows "an estimated 15 [community-based health clinics offering women's health care](#) for every [one] Planned Parenthood facility in the United States.occurred because there's no federal abortion reporting requirement and there's no verifiable way to track certain abortions, such as abortion drugs mailed into the U.S. by foreign abortion organizations."

-WV Ban on Mifepristone's Use In Abortion Upheld

[OSV News reported](#) that a federal appeals court recently "upheld a West Virginia law restricting the use of drugs when the intent is to use them for abortion." Judge J. Harvie Wilkinson wrote in the opinion, "For us to once again federalize the issue of abortion without a clear directive from Congress, right on the heels of Dobbs, would leave us one small step short of defiance."

-Word of Life

The [November 2025 edition of Word of Life](#) is available in English and Spanish.

Walking With Moms in Need

-Newsletter

Here is the most recent newsletter: [Walking with Moms Newsletter: August 2025](#).

Pro-Life Calendar

October	Respect Life Month, USCCB Action Guide https://www.respectlife.org/
Oct 05	Respect Life Sunday, Life Chain http://www.lifechain.org
Oct 11	Health Care Ethics Conference, Creighton University, convergingroads.com/omaha .
Oct 12	Respect Life Eucharistic Procession, Cathedral (3:00 PM)
Oct 22-30	Respect Life Novena, https://www.respectlife.org/respect-life-month-novena
Nov 15	White Mass, Catholic Medical Association, Good Samaritan Chapel, Kearney (4:00 PM)
Nov 21-22	Bishops' PL Banquet and Conference, Lincoln
Dec 06	Visitation Banquet, UNK SFL Charity Event, Kearney
Dec 29	Holy Innocents Mass for Healing, Cathedral (5:15 PM) Celebrant: Bishop James Golka Invited)
Jan-Mar	Pro-Life Youth Art and Essay Contests https://gidiocese.org/pro-life
January	Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children, USCCB Action Guide https://www.respectlife.org/