

Live the Gospel of *Life*

Pro-Life Notes Vol. 5 No. 9

July 17, 2025

Pro-Life Office

-State Fair Booth

By Sandy Danek, July 03, 2025.

Each year, Nebraska Right to Life hosts a double booth to educate Nebraskans from across the state on life issues, [and we need your help!](#) The 2025 Nebraska State Fair is Friday, August 22 – Monday, September 1 and you have the opportunity to spread the pro-life message across our state!

All volunteers receive a free State Fair pass and play an important role in promoting a culture of life in our state. Slots begin at 10 AM the first day of the State Fair and run until closing time at 9 PM, and they are 2 or 3 hour shifts. Bring a friend, family member or spouse along and enjoy speaking with fellow Nebraskans about current pro-life issues. We provide all the necessary materials. Sign up today to ensure you can choose a time that works best for your schedule!

[State Fair Booth Sign-Up](#)

-State Fair Masses

Each year the Diocese celebrates Sunday Mass at the NE State Fair. This years dates and information are as follows:

Sunday, Aug. 24 at 9 a.m. Contemporary music	Celebrant Bishop Emeritus Willam Dendinger
Sunday, Aug. 31 at 9 a.m. Traditional music	Celebrant Most Rev. Bishop Joseph Hanefeldt

The location will be in the Family Fun Zone on the CGI Stage. This area is just off the main entrance to the fair in front (east side) of the NE building. Parking is available on the west side of the NE building. Come celebrate with us in the open air!

-State Fair Collections

Each year we rotate through the list of Parishes in our Diocese who have advised us of having Food pantries. Any donations given during the 2025 State Fair Mass will go to OLPH in Ord.

If your parish hasn't received donations it may be that we don't have your pantry information. Call the Chancery office 308-382-6565 and speak to Cheryl.

Nebraska Catholic Conference

- Nebraska Abortion Rates Rose in 2024: Defending the dignity of every human person is more important than ever. July 12, 2025

All human beings are **created in God's image** and deserve protection at every stage of life, especially the



most defenseless: unborn children. According to [the most recent Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services abortion statistics reports for 2024](#), Nebraska saw a 7.6% increase in abortions, totaling 2,501 abortions.

Most abortions were performed for non-medical reasons, with many citing financial or social pressures. Most abortions took place between 6-8 weeks gestation, and women from 14 different states had abortions in Nebraska.

Our response as Catholics must be, as Pope Benedict XVI said in his encyclical, [Love in Truth](#):

“Love is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace.” - [Pope Benedict XVI](#)

An unexpected or under-supported pregnancy can be overwhelming. A woman facing that situation, **who is already a mother and whose child is already present**, is herself a human person whom Catholics must always approach with love and support.

- We must continue to speak clearly that abortion intentionally and unjustly ends the life of a living human person.
- We must walk with moms in need, ensuring they have support, friendship, and resources.

Do you know someone considering abortion? There is support in Nebraska! [Click here for a list of Nebraska Pregnancy Help Organizations](#).

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

- Word of Life

[The August edition of Word of Life](#) is available in English and Spanish. [Word of Life](#) is a monthly resource for dioceses and parishes that includes monthly special features, intercessions, bulletin quotes, and graphics. Previous editions can be found [in the archives](#).

-Novena to Saints Anne & Joachim - July 17-25

Saints Joachim and Anne are powerful intercessors for married couples, expectant mothers, and married couples who are having difficulty conceiving, as well as people who are aging. Make copies of the [“Faith and Perseverance” novena to Saints Anne and Joachim](#) and pray the novena from July 17-25 in preparation for their memorial on July 26.



-Dobbs Anniversary

In his message for the June 24th anniversary of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, the decision that overturned *Roe v. Wade*, [Bishop Thomas urged the faithful](#) to advocate for greater protections for preborn children. [The full statement is available](#) as Word and PDF files in English and Spanish. It is also available as a [video in English](#).

-Pro-abortion Guidance Rescinded

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) rescinded guidance that had attempted to require abortions in certain circumstances under the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA). Bishop Daniel Thomas, chair of the USCCB's Committee on Pro-Life Activities, [welcomed the news](#).

-New Respect Life Podcast Available

The Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities has launched a podcast, "[The Respect Life Podcast](#)"! In the first episode, Bishop Daniel Thomas joins Kat Talalas for a conversation about the anniversary of *Dobbs*. [Watch](#) on YouTube or [listen](#) on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, iHeartRadio, and most other podcast platforms.

Walking With Moms in Need

-Newsletter

Check out the most recent [newsletter](#) for the latest updates (June 2025).

-New Video for Volunteers

[This new, 3-minute video](#) highlights how those who answer the call to serve moms in need help to build a culture of life and love in our parishes and communities. Please share it in your newsletters and diocesan communications and on social media.

Pro-Life Calendar

Jul 17-25 National NFP Week <https://www.usccb.org/topics/natural-family-planning/national-nfp-awareness-week>

Jul 17-25 Novena to Saints Anne & Joachim. <https://www.usccb.org/resources/Sts-Anne-and-Joachim-Novena.pdf>

Aug 22 -
Sep 1 State Fair Pro-Life Booth. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4AA8A92AABF8C70-57427811-state#/>