

Pregnancy Assistance:

Caring Choices 866-901-9647
 Pregnancy Resource Center Directory
 (Contact Office of HLD) 904-262-3200

Healing After Abortion:

Rachel's Vineyard 904-221-3232
 Support After Abortion 844-289-4673

Special Needs:

Office of HLD 904-262-3200 ext. 159
 Maureen Shilkunis mshilkunas@dosafli.com

End of Life:

Office of HLD 904-262-3200 ext. 159
 Maureen Shilkunis mshilkunas@dosafli.com

Prison Ministry:

John Chick, Director 904-293-3807
 or jchick@dosafli.com

Human Trafficking:

Ruby Peters, Human Trafficking Educator
 CCB/Dosa 904-631-7082 or
rubygeerspeters@gmail.com
 Hotline 888-373-7888

Courage & Encourage:

Fr. Ed Murphy, Director 904-874-8319
 or fr.ed@holyfaithchurch.org

Office of Human Life & Dignity
 Catholic Center
 11625 Old St. Augustine Rd.
 Jacksonville, FL 32258
 (904) 262-3200 ext. 159
<https://life.dosafli.com>

Blessed Hermann of Reichenau was an 11th century monk who was a composer, music theorist, mathematician, astronomer, and historian. He wrote the comprehensive history of the first millennium starting with Jesus Christ. Most notably, he wrote the *Salve Regina* (Hail, Holy Queen).

Blessed Hermann was born with a cleft palate, cerebral palsy, and spinal muscular atrophy. Because of his disabilities, he could barely move and had to be carried everywhere.



God gave you life with great human frailty and through God's grace your limitations became brilliant blessings. May you intercede to bring abortion to an end as well as intercede for all those whose lives are threatened because of their frailty no matter their stage of life. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**Blessed Hermann is the Patron of
 the Office of Human Life & Dignity
 Feast Day September 25th**



"As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. Now the body is not a single part, but many. If one suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share the joy. Now you are Christ's body, and individually parts of it."

- 1 Corinthians 12:12,14,26-27

PARISH INFORMATION

St Joseph Catholic Church
Respect Life Coordinator: Paul Munnell
paulmunnell@gmail.com 941-416-1325
Co-Coordinator: Savannah O'Brien
savannahobrien411@gmail.com 516-302-7112

St Joseph Catholic Church

Respect Life Efforts:

- Holy Hour for Life, 1st Wednesday each month from 7:00-8:00pm
- Prayer Vigils @ Planned Parenthood
 - 1st Saturday Bus Trip following 8:00am mass from Historic Church, departs 8:45, returns by 10:30
 - Daily contact Paul Munnell
- Divine Mercy House Maternity Home
 - Baby Bottle Drives (Oct/Nov)
- Walking with Moms In Need
- Respecting Life Begins with Me
- Pro-Life Workshops

The Respect Life Ministry of ...

Recreated this ministry when the bishop initiated the Office of Human Life and Dignity, encouraging spiritual, educational, advocacy, and direct resource initiatives within each parish. Parish teams promote that every life is sacred, made in the image and likeness of God from conception to natural death. The following areas (Focuses) of Respect Life work covered by this office are included on this brochure.

Unborn/Abortion

Due to the urgency of the threat against unborn life through abortion, our efforts pay special attention to the unborn focus. The national USCCB "Walking with Moms in Need" collects and provides resources for those pregnant and parenting. Educational programs such as spiritual adoption, and our diocesan pro-life educational program "Respecting Life Begins with Me" are available for every parish. Parishes are urged to join prayer vigils at abortion facilities and participate in events such as Adopt a Day and 40 DAYS FOR LIFE.

Healing After Abortion

Since 1973 64 million abortions have occurred in our country. The aftermath of abortion can bring about excruciating emotional and spiritual pain, that many suffer in silence.

- **Project Rachel** – Offers individual counseling and reconciliation with a licensed counselor and trained clergy.
- **Rachel's Vineyard** – Retreat weekends bring healing through licensed counselors, clergy and volunteers who have suffered the same loss.

Special Needs

Pre-natal diagnosis of special needs creates a very abortion vulnerable population. Unfortunately, medical counsel given in these instances often are to refer for abortion. Family support and education through Camp I Am Special, Morning Star School, L'Arche and ARC are encouraged, as well as support through Be Not Afraid Peer Ministry Pastoral Care.

End of Life

The questions surrounding medical care, how to, and who should, care for lives incapacitated through accident or illness are increasingly a concern for individuals and families. How to create or comply with someone's wishes is the focus of a diocesan educational workshop called "A Question of Compassion" available to all parishes.

Death Penalty/Prison Ministry

Following a consistent ethic of life principal, the Church has changed her stance on the death penalty. Due to available incarceration, the need for the death

Death Penalty/Prison Ministry (continued)

penalty no longer exists to protect society. The diocese has an active prison ministry and is involved daily in cell front ministry to death row inmates. Following the international movement to end the death penalty the diocese hosts Cities for Life on November 30th every year. The need for Prison Ministers to assist in prisons is great. Parishes teams write letters and collect books for inmates.

Human Trafficking

Exploitation of another human being for sexual, domestic, or work in agricultural settings is present day human slavery. As a parish we offer speakers and participation in diocesan offered workshops to educate our parish community, as well as networks with other agencies to advocate for victims.

Courage and Encourage

This ministry offers monthly support groups for individuals experiencing same-sex attraction and for their families.

General Information

Parishes are requested to hold a **Holy Hour for Life or Rosary for Life weekly or monthly. Unplanned pregnancy and post-abortion healing assistance should be listed in all parish bulletins.** The Office of Human Life & Dignity has a Speakers Bureau available to speak on all topics listed above.