



Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse, Office of Family/Respect Life Ministry  
240 E. Onondaga St., Syracuse, NY 13202 • Lisa Hall, Director • (315) 472-6754 Ext. 1 • e-mail: [lhall@syrdio.org](mailto:lhall@syrdio.org)

## Preparing for Respect Life Month

*Respect Life  
Month*

I CAME SO THAT  
THEY MIGHT HAVE  
**LIFE**

### Respect Life Month Efforts

- ◆ Pray for the unborn
- ◆ Display Respect Life materials in parishes
- ◆ Feature Respect Life reflections in parish bulletins
- ◆ Support local pregnancy centers
- ◆ Feature different Respect Life topics in your parish bulletin
- ◆ Subscribe to USCCB Respect Life Prayer and Action Alerts at [respectlife.org](http://respectlife.org)

For Respect Life materials go to: [respectlife.org/respect-life-month](http://respectlife.org/respect-life-month)

## *Life Chains*

Life Chains are a peaceful public witness of silent prayer for our nation and an end to abortion. JOIN US!

### *Sunday, October 6, 2024*

#### **SYRACUSE/WEST**

Holy Family Church  
127 Chapel Dr  
Syracuse, NY 13219  
11:30am - 12:30pm  
Sheila Panek,  
(315) 447-1294

#### **SYRACUSE/NORTH**

St. Rose of Lima Church  
409 S Main St  
Syracuse, NY 13212  
1-2pm  
Rich Dembrowski,  
(315) 415-8455

#### **CORTLAND**

Intersection of Groton  
Ave - Clinton St and  
Main St.  
2-3pm  
Petrina Fadel,  
(315) 898-3978

### *Sunday, October 13, 2024*

#### **VESTAL**

Women's Life Services  
200 Front St #A  
Vestal, NY 13850  
2 - 3:30pm  
Maribeth Cederborg,  
(607) 953-0408

## Praying for Life

**WHEN:**

September 25-November 3

**WHERE:**

The public right-of-way outside  
1120 E. Genesee St.,  
Syracuse, New York



### *Rosary for Life*

Consider praying a rosary for the protection of the unborn on your own time or with your parish.

May Mother Mary intercede and show all mothers the value of their child and the beautiful blessing motherhood is. Find a rosary for life at: [usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/rosaries/pro-life-rosaries](http://usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/rosaries/pro-life-rosaries)



## Learning About Life

# PROJECT COMPASSION:

Ethics and Care at the End of Life

*with Fr. Charles Vavonese*

Thursday, September 19 at  
7:00pm

- A workshop discussing end- of-life moral-medical issues from a Catholic perspective.
- Cost: Free
- Register at: [bit.ly /projectcompassion919](http://bit.ly/projectcompassion919)
- Location: Holy Cross Church 4112 E. Genesee St., Dewitt, NY 13214

*Father Vavonese is the Director of Project Compassion which is funded by the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation.*

# The Truth About **Abortion** & **Women's Health**

**Abortion does not save women's lives.**

**Abortion** is the **direct** and **intentional** killing of a child in the womb.

**Abortion is never medically necessary.** It does not treat or solve any pregnancy-related complication.

**Outlawing abortion will not affect treatment for miscarriage.**

**Treatment for miscarriage and abortion is not the same thing.**

There is a complete moral and legal difference between losing a child through miscarriage and intentionally taking the life of a child.

In the tragic case of miscarriage, surgery may be necessary—and is an ethical treatment—to remove the remains of an unborn child who has already died.

While the same surgery is done to perform an abortion, abortions impose this procedure on a living child with the **intention** of ending his or her life.

**Women can get the lifesaving treatments they need—without abortion.**

In rare cases, and in the absence of better alternatives, life-threatening maternal health conditions may require interventions that **indirectly** and **unintentionally** lead to the death of an unborn child. **Abortion restrictions will not prevent women from receiving these treatments.**

When the lives of mother and child are in immediate danger, the goal is to fight to save both patients. **Effective treatments exist that seek to save the life of the mother and never to intentionally harm her unborn child.**

When a woman's life is at risk in pregnancy, preterm delivery may be used as a lifesaving medical intervention to preserve the life of both mother and child.<sup>1</sup>

**Ectopic pregnancies** result when an embryo implants outside the uterus—often in the fallopian tube. Sadly, such embryos cannot survive and this condition can pose serious risks to the mother. While ectopic pregnancies sometimes resolve naturally, interventions are often necessary.

**When done ethically, treatment for an ectopic pregnancy is not abortion.** Ethical interventions include the removal of the damaged fallopian tube containing the embryo or, if embryo death has already occurred, medication can be used to resolve the ectopic pregnancy.

**Bottom line: Abortion restrictions never prevent women from receiving life-saving treatment.<sup>2</sup>**

*If you or someone you know is struggling after involvement in an abortion, the Church offers confidential, compassionate help through Project Rachel Ministry. Visit [www.hopeafterabortion.org](http://www.hopeafterabortion.org) for more information.*

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<sup>1</sup> Buskmiller, C. 2018. "The ethics of interstitial and cesarean scar ectopic pregnancies: four case studies and a review of the literature". The Linacre Quarterly 85(3): 252-269.  
<sup>2</sup> For further information on these topics, reference: [1] National Catholic Bioethics Center, "Medical Interventions During Pregnancy in Light of Dobbs," <https://www.ncbcenter.org/ncbc-news/bioethics-public-policy-report-august-12-2022-ezgx2>. [2] American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians and Gynecologists, "Myth vs. Fact: Correcting Misinformation on Maternal Medical Care," [https://aaplog.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/AAPLOG-Myth-v-Fact\\_v5.pdf](https://aaplog.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/AAPLOG-Myth-v-Fact_v5.pdf).

# Bishop Moynihan Pro-Vita Scholarship

Awards presented by  
Bishop Lucia  
in January 2025

# Bishop James Moynihan



# Pro-Vita Award



Contest is open to all public or private school Catholic students in the Syracuse Diocese. Submissions may be video, essay, song, music, photos, or art (limit to 2 minutes or 500 words).

Scan the QR code to send submissions by December 13, 2024.



The Pro-Vita  
Awards Two - \$1000  
and  
One - \$500  
scholarships to high  
school seniors.

Funds will be awarded based on submissions answering the following:

Why are you Pro-Life  
& How will You help build a  
culture of life?

## Proposition 1-ERA

### WHY CATHOLICS SHOULD

# VOTE NO TO THE ERA

In November, New Yorkers will vote on the “Equal Rights Amendment,” or “Proposition One.” This is a dangerous state constitutional amendment that would:



#### **1. Enshrine abortion up until birth in the New York State Constitution.**

Abortion limitations to protect women and children would become impossible to pass. Conscience protections of health care professionals and individuals would also be threatened.



#### **2. Allow children to make life-altering medical decisions without parental consent.**

Children experiencing gender confusion would be able to seek gender reassignment therapies and surgeries without parental consent or knowledge.



#### **3. Loosen age-appropriate restrictions.**

Common sense age-restrictions on ‘sexual freedom’ and the potential ‘right to die’ would be endangered.



ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK

Read the statement from the NYS Bishops: *A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing*: [www.nyscatholic.org/posts/proposal-1-wolf-sheeps-clothing](http://www.nyscatholic.org/posts/proposal-1-wolf-sheeps-clothing)

# Healing for the Family

SEPARATED/DIVORCED MINISTRY

# ANNULMENT INFORMATION SESSION

with Syracuse Diocese Marriage Tribunal staff

October 1, 2024 6:30 pm

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton  
Parish Hall -  
Youth Room  
(lower level of Parish Hall)  
3494 NY-31, Baldwinsville,  
NY 13207

Scan here to register:



[bit.ly/annulmentinfo](https://bit.ly/annulmentinfo)

For more info: [sepanddiv@syrdio.org](mailto:sepanddiv@syrdio.org)

315-472-6754 opt. 9



## Hope After Abortion

Day of Hope and Healing for Women  
(based on Entering Canaan)



# September 28, 2024

Register confidentially 855-364-0076 - [hopeandhealing@syrdio.org](mailto:hopeandhealing@syrdio.org)

# DIOCESAN EVENTS

- **PROJECT COMPASSION WORKSHOP: ETHICS AND CARE AT THE END OF LIFE:**

Father Charles Vavonese will facilitate a workshop discussing end-of-life moral-medical issues from a Catholic perspective on Thursday, September 19 at 7:00pm at Holy Cross Church in Dewitt. This event is free and refreshments are provided. Pre-registration is necessary, as space is limited. Register at: [bit.ly/projectcompassion919](https://bit.ly/projectcompassion919). See page 5 for ad.

- **ANNULMENT INFORMATION SESSION:**

Confused or have questions about the Annulment process? Separated/Divorced Ministry and the Syracuse Diocese Tribunal Office will be hosting a session on Tuesday, October 1st, 6:30-8:00pm at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church Youth Room. Staff from the Marriage Tribunal will present an informative overview of the annulment process. All are welcome to attend.

- **DAY OF HOPE AND HEALING FOR WOMEN, September 28, 2024:**

Have you felt sad, ashamed, or not forgiven due to an abortion? Experience God's mercy and peace at a Day of Hope and Healing. For more information, call Project Rachel Ministry at (855) 364-0076 or email: [hopeandhealing@syrdio.org](mailto:hopeandhealing@syrdio.org). All calls and emails are confidential.

- **SYRACUSE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE:**

October 26, 2024

- **THE THIRD OPTION MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT MEETINGS:**

Meetings are held on Sundays from 6:30pm to 8:30pm online or in person at the Parish Center of St. Michael and St. Peter Church at 4780 W. Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse, NY 13215. Come build your marriage in the comfort of your own home. Upcoming dates and topics are: Sept. 8-- Appreciating Personality Differences: Yes, Appreciating; Sept. 22-- Recognizing Childhood Baggage in Marriage; Oct. 6-- Handling Anger Constructively in Marriage; Oct. 20-- Speaking the Truth in Love in Marriage. For more information or to participate, contact Stephanie at [sstewart@syrdio.org](mailto:ssewart@syrdio.org) or 315-472-6754.

- **BRANCH OUT AND GROW, Support Group Meetings for those affected by separation and divorce:**

Online zoom meetings every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, 7:00-8:00pm. Meeting topics: Sept. 4-- Road to Recovery; Sept. 18-- Anger; Oct. 2-- Grief and Depression; Oct. 16-- Loneliness; Nov. 6-- Fears and Anxiety; Nov. 20-- Family and Friends; Dec. 14-- Financial and Legal Issues; Dec 18-- Conflict. If you are interested in joining the meetings, learning more, or talking one-on-one, contact the Family/Respect Life Office at [familyrespectlife@syrdio.org](mailto:familyrespectlife@syrdio.org) or 315-472-6754 ext. 4.

## UPCOMING FAMILY/PRO-LIFE HAPPENINGS

- **Celebrate LIFE! Dinner '24, September 23, 2024**

Women's Life Services will be holding their annual Celebrate LIFE! Dinner on Monday, September 23, 2024 at The Riverdale, 2901 Watson Blvd, Endwell, NY. Check in is from 5-6 PM, and dinner begins at 6:15 PM, and this year's guest speaker is Connie W. Coleman. Get your tickets by calling (607) 444- 3006 and leaving a message.

- **Francis House: No Place Like Home, October 16, 2024:**

Francis House will host its annual fundraising event There's No Place Like Home on Wednesday, October 16 at the New York State Fair Exposition Center. A \$50 ticket includes admission, beer, wine, and offerings from six food stations! The cornerstone of the event is its large auction featuring hundreds of items, trips, and experiences.

- **New Hope's Annual Fall Fundraiser: Light in the Darkness, October 17, 2024:**

New Hope Family Service's Annual Fall Fundraiser will be held on October 17, 2024 at The Gathering Place, 420 S Main St, North Syracuse, NY. The special guest speaker is Mike Spencer: author, pastor and founder of [projectlifevoice.com](https://projectlifevoice.com). The theme is Light in the Darkness based on John 1:5. Register your free tickets at <https://secure.fundeasy.com/ministrysync/event/home.php?e=27674>

- **THE THIRD OPTION MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT MEETINGS:**

The Good News Center, 10475 Cosby Manor Rd. Utica, NY 13502, every other Sunday 6:30-8:30, in- person and virtual: Sept. 22- Building a Climate of Respect; Oct. 6- Ending the Blame Game; Oct. 20- Expectations; Nov. 3- Redefining the Power Struggle; Nov. 17- Coping with Control Issues; Dec. 8- Listening Beyond the Words

## MASSES FOR LIFE

- **MASSES FOR LIFE AT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS:**

- October 1: Bishop Grimes
- October 3: Seton Catholic
- October 7: Notre Dame
- October 10: Bishop Ludden

- **January 18, 2025: Holy Hour and Mass for Life at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception**

- Holy Hour for Life: 9:30am
- Mass for Life: 10:30am
- Bishop Douglas Lucia, President and Homilist

## Office of Family/Respect Life Ministry

240 E. Onondaga Street  
Syracuse, NY 13202

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### Prayer Before an Election

Lord God, as the election approaches,  
we seek to better understand the issues and concerns that confront our  
city/state/country, and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful  
citizens in our community.

We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing the voice of leaders who will bring us  
closer to your Kingdom.

We pray for discernment  
so that we may choose leaders who hear your Word, live your love,  
and keep in the ways of your truth  
as they follow in the steps of Jesus and his Apostles and guide us to your Kingdom of justice  
and peace.

We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

From the USCCB

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[www.syrdio.org](http://www.syrdio.org) • email: [familyrespectlife@syrdio.org](mailto:familyrespectlife@syrdio.org)

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