

October

2019

## Action Activities

- ✓ Refer to the “Action Guide” for ideas to incorporate into your parish for Respect Life Sunday
- ✓ Consider resources for Catholic teaching on Stem Cell Research from USCCB:  
<http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/stem-cell-research/index.cfm>
- ✓ Schedule a Victims & Survivors of Violence Mass
- ✓ Schedule a Mass for those incarcerated and on death row
- ✓ Get your youth registered for the March for Life Pilgrimages to Washington, D.C. and or Topeka in January
- ✓ Report your own creative activities to Respect Life Office
- ✓ Life Intercessions
- ✓ Life Prayer for Month

# Respect Life/Social Justice

## Respect Life Month/Stem Cell Awareness

Each October the Church in the United States celebrates *Respect Life Month*, and the first Sunday of October is observed as *Respect Life Sunday*. As Catholics, we are called to cherish, defend and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its end, and at every point in between. During the month of October, the Church asks us to reflect more deeply on the dignity of every human life.

### Intercessions For The Month

For all Catholics: That on this Respect Life Sunday  
We may recommit ourselves  
To upholding the dignity of every human life;  
*We pray to the Lord.*

That during this Respect Life Month  
Our hope in Christ’s resurrection  
will strengthen us in protecting  
the gift of 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.*

For women and men suffering after abortion;  
May they receive care that respects their dignity  
And protects their lives as they place their hope  
in the promise of eternal life;  
*We pray to the Lord;*

For those nearing the end of life;  
May they receive care that respects their dignity  
And protects their lives as they place their hope  
In the promise of eternal life;  
*We pray to the Lord;*

May God grant us the wisdom and courage  
To lovingly protect His gift of human life  
At every stage, in sickness and in health;  
*We pray to the Lord.*

## Contact Us

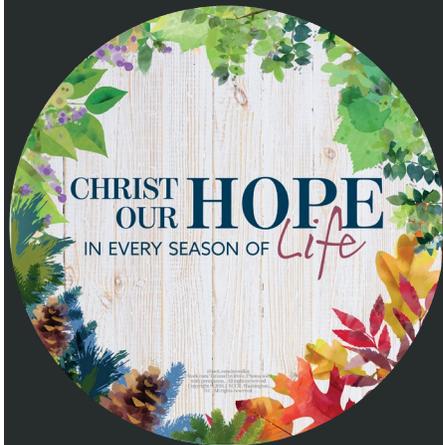
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Respect Life/Social Justice

Gayla Kirmer (620)227-1525

[gkirmer@dcdiocese.org](mailto:gkirmer@dcdiocese.org)

[www.dcdiocese.org](http://www.dcdiocese.org)



“See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father. Matthew 18:10

## Corporal Work of Mercy

### Visit the Imprisoned

Visiting the imprisoned can be difficult to participate in without special clearance or permission. Try getting involved in a ministry that writes letters to the imprisoned or start a group in your own parish. Those incarcerated and their families can always use prayers.

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### Life Prayer For Month

Heavenly Father, the beauty and dignity of human life was the crowning of your creation. You further ennobled that life when your Son became one with us in his incarnation. Help us to realize the sacredness of human life and to respect it from the moment of conception until the last moment at death. Give us courage to speak with truth and love and with conviction in defense of life. Help us to extend the gentle hand of mercy and forgiveness to those who do not reverence your gift of life. To all, grant pardon for the times we have failed to be grateful for your precious gift of life or to respect it in others.

We ask this in Jesus' Name.

Amen.

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## ARTICLES

The 2019-2020 Respect Life Program highlights ten articles published in previous years, covering a broad range of topics. Please feel free to use these throughout the year as they best meet your needs.

1. [Children as Commodities?](#)
2. [An Adoption Love Story](#)
3. [Healing within Marriage from an Abortion](#)
4. [Advance Medical Directives: Planning for Your Future](#)
5. [10 Ways to Support Her When She's Unexpectedly Expecting](#)
6. [Seven Considerations While Navigating Infertility](#)
7. [Catholic Considerations for Our Earthly Passing](#)
8. [Top Reasons to Oppose Assisted Suicide](#)
9. [What to Do When a Friend is Considering Abortion](#)
10. [How to Build a Culture of Life](#)