**Winter Respect Life Sample Bulletin Inserts**

**Respect Life Corner**

1st Sunday of December

**Life Fact:** In God's eyes, Every Human Person is Chosen, Loved, and Necessary.

***“For I know well the plans I have in mind for you, declares the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for woe, so as to give you a future of hope. When you call me, and come and pray to me, I will listen to you”*** *- Jeremiah 29:11-12*

**Action:** If you or a loved one are depressed with thoughts of suicide: know that you are loved, wanted, and not alone. In an emergency, dial 911. If you need to speak to someone about suicide prevention**, call 1-800-273-8255, text HOME to 741741, or go to** [**suicidepreventionlifeline.org**](https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/)  **for free 24/7 confidential help**.

**Respect Life Corner**

2nd Sunday of December

The Catechism of the Catholic Church provides clear guidance on End of Life Issues: [2277] Whatever its motives and means, **direct euthanasia** consists in putting an end to the lives of handicapped, sick, or dying persons. **It is morally unacceptable**.

***“True compassion leads to sharing another’s pain; it does not kill the person whose suffering we cannot bear.”*** *– St. John Paul II, The Gospel of Life*

**Action:** Read the flyer on **“*Making End-of-Life Decisions as a Catholic*.”** This and other resources can be found on the Respect Life Office website: [archny.org/assisted-suicide](https://archny.org/ministries-and-offices/respect-life/learn-more/assisted-suicide/)

**Respect Life Corner**

3rd Sunday of December

**A CHRISTMAS DAY PRAYER**

Praise to You, Lord God! You have become one of us -- You have become a human being, while still retaining all your power and holiness as God! You, O Lord, made the journey of the unborn child. By being an embryo, a fetus, and a newborn, you joined all unborn and newborn children to you! From the beginning of history, O Lord, You were the Creator of every human life. Now, with Christmas, You join Yourself in an unthinkable way with the life You created. Let this Christmas, O God, fill all of us with awe and wonder at how close human life is to You. Cleanse the world of all that tarnishes and rejects this gift. Purify our hearts of all that fears this gift. Let our Christmas joy be the joy of welcoming every human life! Amen!

**Respect Life Corner**

4th Sunday of December

You may be surprised to know that the Catholic Church supports some stem cell research and funds such research through many of its Catholic Universities. The Catholic Church, does however, oppose **embryonic** stem cell research because it involves the destruction of a human being at the embryonic phase.

***“The killing of innocent human creatures, even if carried out to help others, constitutes an absolutely unacceptable act.”*** *-St. John Paul II, Evangelium Vitae*

**Action:** More info can be found at: archny.org/stem-cells-and-cloning

**Respect Life Corner**

1st Sunday of January

***“Saying that there are too many children is like saying there are too many flowers.”* —St. Mother Teresa**

Fact: Since 1973, over 61 million babies have been aborted in the United States.

Action: What can **YOU** do in 2021 to make a difference:

1) Pray for the unborn and the protection of all life

2) Seek the truth about the evils of abortion in order to defend life

3) Support national efforts like the March for Life and 40 Days for Life campaigns

4) Support local organizations like the Sisters of Life, Good Counsel and so many others.

5) Know and support Pro-life politicians.

**Respect Life Corner**

2nd Sunday of January

***“The Catholic community must offer support to those women who may find it difficult to accept a child… Likewise, the community should be open to welcome back all who repent of having participated in the grave sin of abortion, and should guide them with pastoral charity to accept the grace of forgiveness, the need for penance, and the joy of entering once more into the new life of Christ.”* –** *Pope Benedict XVI*

Abortion can leave many women and men suffering from deep guilt, shame, pain, anxiety, depression, fear, and feelings of isolation from God and others, sometimes for many years.

Lumina is a program of [Good Counsel Homes](http://postabortionhelp.org/pah/contact-3/www.goodcounselhomes.org). They provide hope & healing after abortion for women, men and siblings affected by abortion.
Hotline: 1-877-586-4621  [www.postabortionhelp.org](http://www.postabortionhelp.org/) Email: lumina@postabortionhelp.org

**Respect Life Corner**

3rd Sunday of January

 ***“Never tire of firmly speaking out in defense of life from its conception and do not be deterred from the commitment to defend the dignity of every human person with courageous determination. Christ is with you: be not afraid!”*** *– St. John Paul II*

Abortion is the most significant human rights abuse of our time. Will you take a stand?

The March for Life 2021 is Friday, January 29th in Washington D.C. It began as a small demonstration and rapidly grew to be the largest pro-life event in the world. The peaceful demonstration that has followed on the somber anniversary of Roe v. Wade every year since 1973 is a witness to the truth concerning the greatest human rights violation of our time, legalized abortion on demand.

Please consider joining the marchers or praying for the end of abortion in our Nation on this day. Visit the website for more details: marchforlife.org

**Respect Life Corner**

4th Sunday of January

***“Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect*.”** - *Pope Francis*

The end of life is a sacred time, on the threshold of eternity. Learn how you can prepare now for yourself and your loved ones to receive care proper to your dignity as a human person and so enter into this stage of life with peace.

For more clarity, guidance and resources go to [www.catholicendoflife.org](http://www.catholicendoflife.org).

**Respect Life Corner**

1st Sunday of February

**Life Fact**: At the moment of conception a new and unique human being comes into existence. Everything about this little person is already present: color of eyes, blood type, the height he will grow to be, color of hair – everything!

*“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.” - Jeremiah 1:4-5*

**Action:** Prayer is the foundation of all that we do in defense of human life. Meditate or ask God's intercession. Devote some time to pray a Holy Hour, Stations of the Cross, Rosary or Divine Mercy chaplet.

**Respect Life Corner**

2nd Sunday of February

**40 Days for Life** - Help Save Lives right here in New York!

Starting Feb 17 and ending on March 28th

**You** can protect mothers and children by joining this peaceful worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion!

40 Days for Life has inspired over 1,000,000 volunteers! With God’s help, thousands of babies have been saved, hundreds of abortion workers converted and over 100 abortion centers closed!

Learn more by visiting the website: [**www.40daysforlife.com**](http://www.40daysforlife.com)

**Respect Life Corner**

3rd Sunday of February

**Life Fact**: 45 days after conception: Buds of milk teeth appear, and the unborn baby’s facial muscles develop. Eyelids begin to form, protecting the developing eyes. Elbows take shape. Internal organs are present, but immature. 99% of muscles are present, each with its own nerve supply.

*“Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect*.” - ***Pope Francis***

**Action:** Do you or someone you know need help with an unexpected pregnancy or need help healing from an abortion? The Sisters of Life offer free confidential support and a safe space to share. Call **866-575-0075** or visit online **sistersoflife.org/healing-after-abortion**

**Respect Life Corner**

4th Sunday of February

In 1999, St. Pope John Paul II formally declared Our Lady of Guadalupe Patroness of the Americas, the Empress of Latin America, and the ***Patroness of Unborn Children***. Our Lady of Guadalupe is the apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary that occurred in 1531. She appeared to an Aztec peasant, St. Juan Diego, in what is today Mexico City as a young and pregnant Aztec princess. Her appearance to a people that practiced human sacrifice rituals forever changed Mexican history. Millions converted to the Catholic faith, which put an end to their human sacrifice. Because abortion is a modern-day human sacrifice, Our Lady of Guadalupe is the patroness of the Unborn and the Pro-Life movement.

***“Never tire of firmly speaking out in defense of life from its conception and do not be deterred from the commitment to defend the dignity of every human person with courageous determination. Christ is with you: be not afraid!”*** *– St. John Paul II*

**Action:** Pray the Rosary to our Blessed Mother for her powerful intersession for the protection of life and for the end of abortion.