**Important: Responding to the Dobbs Decision**

The U.S. Supreme Court is expected to issue its ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* **anytime between now and the end of June**. Given the possibility that the Court could use this case to overturn or significantly roll back *Roe v. Wade*, the need to be prepared for this decision at the national, state, diocesan, and parish levels cannot be overstated. Regardless of what happens, there will be a firestormin the media. We can certainly expect parishioners to be affected in various ways.

The USCCB has provided resources to help you speak of the *Dobbs* decision in a polarized culture. We hope to better communicate the Church’s pastoral response to women and couples who are facing unexpected or difficult pregnancies, as well as those suffering from abortion. Recent communications research tells us that, although this compassionate response has already existed here in the Archdiocese for decades, many Catholics are unaware of the Church's help for those in need. Sadly, they often see the Church as harsh and rigid rather than compassionate and merciful. The parish is a wonderful place to give witness to what is true compassion and mercy.

We thank those of you who participated in the 5-week ***Walking with Moms in Need*** bulletin series, which was part of this effort of communication. In addition, please use these links to access the “[*Dobbs* Parish Leader Kit](https://www.usccb.org/resources/word-life-special-edition)” and “[*Dobbs* Clergy Resources](https://www.usccb.org/resources/dobbs-clergy-resources)” which have been prepared for you by the USCCB.

The [*Dobbs* Parish Leader Kit](https://www.usccb.org/resources/word-life-special-edition) is designed to be shared with your parish leadership team and includes Intercessions/prayers, Bulletin quotes / links to educational tools and Graphics (for bulletins, websites, and newsletters). We encourage you to please put these resources to work now, in your parish bulletin and newsletters, on your website, and through your parish social media and other communications. If you missed our 5-week bulletin series, it’s not too late to include some of these educational materials in your parish bulletin.

For your personal use, the “[*Dobbs* Clergy Resources](https://www.usccb.org/resources/dobbs-clergy-resources)” also contain links to suggested talking points and messaging for homilies and other communications, for your reflection and consideration.

**Walking with Moms in Need**

Walking with Moms in Need is a national initiative to better integrate the Church’s ministry to pregnant and parenting mothers in difficult circumstances with our parish communities. If you are interested in bringing *Walking with Moms in Need* to your parish, please contact Sr. Virginia Joy S.V. (sr.virginia.joy@archny.org) at the Respect Life Office or visit the website bit.ly/walkingwithmoms . A presentation on how to incorporate the initiative into your parish can be arranged for leaders in the parish.

**Step into Hope Posters**

Help get the word out about resources for women who are facing an **unplanned pregnancy** or **adverse prenatal diagnosis**, **suffering after abortion**, or **suffering from infertility.**

**Every parish should have the “Step into Hope”** poster posted on the parish bulletin board which includes resources and contacts in the Archdiocese of New York to assist those who find themselves in these difficult situations. **Access the posters here:** [**English Poster**](https://archny.org/wp-content/uploads/Step-into-Hope-English-2021-No-Crop-Marks.pdf)[**Spanish Poster**](https://archny.org/wp-content/uploads/Step-into-Hope-Spanish-RL-Parish-Flyer-8.5x11-Updated-Spring-2021.pdf)

If your parish does not have a Step into Hope poster, or if you would like additional palm cards with the same information to keep in a public place or to give out to parishioners in meetings or the confessional, please contact the Respect Life Office at 646-476-0931 or [sr.mary.margaret.hope@archny.org](mailto:sr.mary.margaret.hope@archny.org) We would be happy to send materials to your parish.

**Into Life Series**

For those parishes who have been inspired to get more involved, an excellent resource is the brand new video series/12-week study program produced by the Sisters of Life and the McGrath Institute for Church Life called INTO LIFE.

[***INTO LIFE: Love Changes Everything***](https://intolifeseries.com/)

Journey with the Sisters of Life as they explain what it means to walk with a woman who is pregnant and vulnerable. Learn how to listen and understand the heart of another, how to rejoice in the beauty of the individual person in an encounter of hope, and how to truly accompany someone into God’s life and freedom.

The INTO LIFE program consists of 12 videos, personal reflection questions, and group discussion questions, along with both facilitator and participant guides. Although the program is designed to be completed in small in-person groups over the course of 12 weeks, it can be adapted to a wide variety of formats, including personal use at your own pace.

Access these FREE resources at <https://intolifeseries.com/>

**Respect Life Curriculum**

Education on the sanctity of human life is of critical importance. Consider implementing the *Respect Life Week* curriculum in your parish school and/or CCD program. The curriculum is available for free online with lesson plans on a wide-range of life issues including abortion, assisted suicide, immigration, and marriage. The material is presented at an age-appropriate level for all grades (PK-12). You can access the curriculum on the Respect Life Office [website](https://archny.org/ministries-and-offices/respect-life/respect-life-week/).