**Important: Preparing for the Dobbs Decision**

As you know, we are expecting the U.S. Supreme Court 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 to 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 instead.

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/ Into Life Video Series**

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.

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/>

**Update on Physician-Assisted Suicide in NY State**

According to the New York Alliance Against Assisted Suicide (NYAAAS), it appears that the proposed physician-assisted suicide legislation (Bill S.6471-Savino/A.4321-Paulin) in NY State lacks the votes to advance in the Assembly or the Senate. Based on current predictions, it is not expected to move forward during the 2022 Legislative session. However, euthanasia and assisted-suicide proponents continue to advocate on behalf of this dangerous legislation and it is important to continue to speak out against it. Please encourage your parishioners to contact their legislators [here](https://www.nyscatholic.org/nys-catholic-conference-action-center/?vvsrc=%2fcampaigns%2f49374%2frespond) or [here](https://nosuicideny.org/take-action/contact-your-legislator/).