

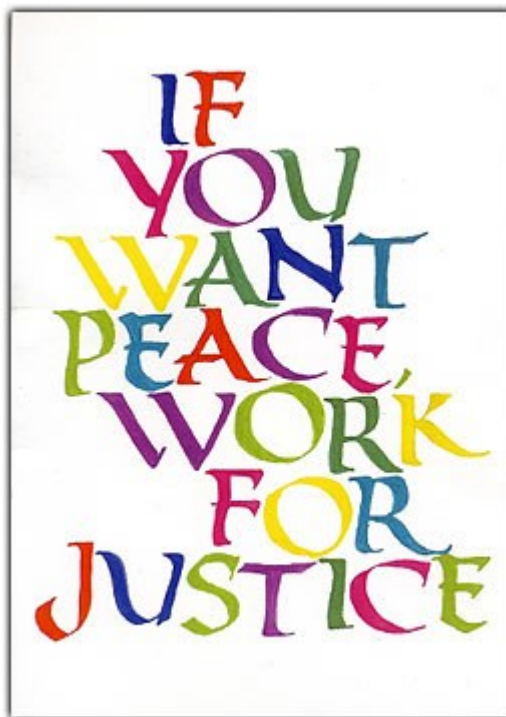
WHAT THE CHURCH TEACHES

Human life is sacred and the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society.

Every person is precious, people are more important than things, and the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person.

Pope Francis: "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 for ever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect."

Pope Francis: "Among the vulnerable for whom the Church wishes to care with particular love and concern are unborn children, the most defenseless and innocent among us. Nowadays efforts are made to deny them their human dignity and to do with them whatever one pleases, taking their lives and passing laws preventing anyone from standing in the way of this. ... **This defense of unborn life is closely linked to the defense of each and every other human right.** It involves the conviction that a human being is always sacred and inviolable, in any situation and at every stage of development. Human beings are ends in themselves and never a means of resolving other problems. "



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ARCHDIOCESE OF PORTLAND

OFFICE OF LIFE, JUSTICE
AND PEACE

BEGINNING OF LIFE



Building a Catholic Culture of Life
Respecting Human Dignity
Caring for God's Creation

Contact: Matt Cato,
Director of the Office of Life, Justice and Peace
Father Tim Mockaitis,
Associate Director for Respect Life Activities

BEGINNING OF LIFE

HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- Participate in a 40 Days for Life Vigil
www.40daysforlife.com/mission/
- Coordinate Respect Life Month (October) in your parish www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/index.cfm
- Promote the Project Rachel and Rachel's Vineyard post-abortion healing and reconciliation process
www.catholiccharitiesoregon.org/services_project.asp
- Donate time or supplies at a local teenage-parent support organization
- Join the Catholic Culture of Life Movement

JOIN YOUR PARISH RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

Don't have one? Collaborate with Parish Respect Life Ministries at our Quarterly Meetings.

Contact the Office of Life, Justice and Peace for more details.

ONLINE RESOURCES

Office of Life, Justice and Peace—Life

http://www.archdpdx.org/jprespect/2_Life.html

Office of Life, Justice and Peace—Respect Life

http://www.archdpdx.org/jprespect/respect_life.html

U.S. Bishops Office of Pro-Life Activities

<http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/>

Catholic Charities Pregnancy / Adoption Services

www.catholiccharitiesoregon.org/services_pregnancy.asp

Life Issues Forum

www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/life-issues-forum/index.cfm



Beginning of Life is a core issue of the Office of Life, Justice and Peace. Specifically, Beginning of Life embraces ending abortion and promoting pregnancy support and adoption services as alternatives to abortion.

OFFICE RESOURCES

These resources are available from the Office of Life, Justice and Peace:

- Respect Life: current issues, program suggestions, liturgy resources, clip art, prayers for daily recitation and parish bulletin briefs. (USCCB)
- Created and Redeemed (Theology of the Body): 4 DVD Set and Study Guide
- Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities: A Campaign in Support of Life (USCCB)
- Living the Gospel of Life: A Challenge to American Catholics (USCCB)
- The Dignity of a Person: Dignitas Personae
- Pope John Paul II: The Gospel of Life: Evangelium Vitae

LEARN MORE ABOUT LIFE AND DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON

Contact the Office of Life, Justice and Peace to arrange a presentation on *Catholic Culture of Life*. Good for RCIA, Youth groups or any ministry.