

## Respect Life Quarterly Meeting: Fall 2010 Recap

- **Purpose of These Quarterly Meetings:** For the Office of LJP and other parish ministries to share strategies for success *in order to strengthen each parish's social ministry (specifically respect life)*.
- **To get after issues and help set direction I propose a smaller core group. (Jim Brey and Bianca have already volunteered).**

**To dive deeper into issues (life, advocacy, outreach to all parishes and vicariates) I like Mike Rossetti's suggestion for smaller sub-committees.**

**Here's a brief explanation of the core group:**

The "big group" seems too large to be an advisory board per se. However, it is a crucial setting to gather input from these leaders and then we can distill it into general directions of the Office of LJP.

It would be useful to have a "core team" to help develop the ideas for projects & set agendas. The core team would not be expected to implement all the projects.

I see the functions of the core team as:

1. Determining general directions to pursue
2. Setting agendas for the big group meetings
3. Guiding the implementation of ideas
4. Creating a clear message on the Respect Life focus, message and activities of this Office

I see the functions of the big group as:

1. Networking & Support for the leaders
2. Information sharing of past & upcoming events
3. Providing access to resources & directions from the Archdiocese, i.e., Social Ministry support

The big group can also do some:

4. (Limited) brainstorming
5. (Limited) planning for larger events

- **Round the Table:**

- How did you feel about your area 40 Days for Life event?
  - St Cecilia: Very positive
  - Idea: rather than schedule folks for vigils, have local parishes and congregations be responsible for a day or a week
- What was Respect Life Sunday like in your parishes?
  - Movie Night
  - Prayers after Communion
  - Regular Bulletin Announcements
  - Giving Crib
  - Note: Christ the King started planning in August
  - Great Homily from the Pastor
  - Voter Registration
  - Life Chain, with a lot of Hispanic Participation
- What did you (your Respect Life committee) accomplish in the last 90 days (let us celebrate successes)?
  - St. Cecilia: Symposium with 3 very good speakers
  - Oregon Abortion Wall
- What will your parishes or committees be doing for January 22
  - Holy Hour
  - Spiritual Adoption that lasts for 9 months

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- **Overall Coordination:** What are our Vicariates and Parishes Doing?→  
→Committee Spotlights
  - St. Michael
  - St. Joseph (Salem)
  - Our Lady of the Lake

**Thank you! Here are my take-aways: use visuals such as baby bottles and cribs. Teenagers won't take literature but they will take stuff like rubber bracelets. Posters, Banners.**

**Events such as hospitality after masses, movie nights, booths (presence) at community events such as Oktoberfest. .**

**Baby Bottles and the traveling crib are simple but effective ways to preach the gospel.**

**We need 2 more presenters for next time (St. Francis already volunteered).**

- **Events:**
  - Mass for nascent human life at the Cathedral, Sunday December 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:00. Becky Griffo and Bianca Nerenberg will be the lectors; Randy Stewart and family will bring up the gifts.
  - Roe v Wade rally is Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup> in Salem→ Knights of Columbus offers buses (buspooling). Archbishop Vlazny is not listed (none of the speakers are) on the flyer but he is speaking.
  - Diane Nobel [dnforjesus@gmail.com](mailto:dnforjesus@gmail.com) is coordinating a Walk for Life Youth Group Activity on January 22<sup>nd</sup>
  - **ORTL Conference is April 16<sup>th</sup>.**
- **Legislative priorities to address:** Letter writing campaign about removing abortion funding from the Oregon Health Plan (one-third of all abortions are funded by the OHP). Reallocate budget for Pregnancy Resource Centers.
- **Results of the Survey of Parish Life Ministry Chairs on What "Life" Issues They Focus On**

Abortion	18
Bioethics and Embryonic Stem Cell Research	16
End of Life	12
Euthanasia	12
Adoption Support	10
Post-Abortion Care	6
Poor and Hungry	3
Teen Pregnancy	3
Human Trafficking	3
Death Penalty	2
Disabilities	2
Health Care	2
Immigration	1
Peace	1
Pro-Life Youth	1
Pregnancy Support	1
Contraception	1
Marriage	1
Racism	0

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- I want to make sure everyone saw Archbishop's column: [Archbishop Vlazny: Hope Counts](#)
- I shared screen shots of the Respect Life webpage of the webpage for the Office of LJP and asked people to use the website and offer feedback
- The Mass for All Nascent Human Life was amazing! Thanks to everyone who attended. Of particular significance was, after I called everyone forth for a special blessing from the Archbishop, that we stretched across the front of the Cathedral and curled up along the sides! Catholic Sentinel was there; look for the next issue for a story and photos.
- One more thought: plan for Mother's Day: carnations or brunch or something that highlights the connection between Mother and child. (Might consider this for Father's Day, too).
- Next Meeting: Tuesday February 22<sup>nd</sup>. 7:00-9:00, Resurrection. **Thank you Linda!**