

## Respect Life Spring 2014 Meeting

**AUGUST MEETING: TUESDAY AUGUST 26, 7:00PM**

- **Opening Prayer: Christ Has No Body**

Christ has no body but yours,  
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,

Yours are the eyes with which he looks  
Compassion on this world,

Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,

Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.

Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,  
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.

Christ has no body now but yours,  
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,

Yours are the eyes with which he looks  
compassion on this world.

Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

-- St. Teresa of Avila (1515–1582)

- **Our Petitions for Prayers and Gratitude**

- **Why We Gather**

- Purpose of Quarterly Meetings: For the Office of LJP and other parish ministries to share strategies for success in order to strengthen *each* parish's Respect Life Ministry
- We respect Sacred Listening
- We work from a place of consensus, not divisiveness

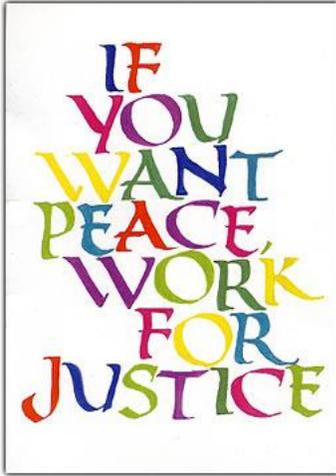
- **News, Issues and Events:**

**NOTE:** Bishop Smith confirmed that "The only publications parishes are permitted to allow for distribution on their property are Faithful Citizenship and our own archdiocesan abridged version of Faithful Citizenship." Archbishop Sample has not approved the Oregon Family Council's Voter Guide, and has not approved its distribution in our parishes.

[National Natural Family Planning Awareness Week](#) is July 20-26, 2014

## Respect Life Spring 2014 Meeting

### FORTNIGHT FOR FREEDOM: FREEDOM TO SERVE: JUNE 21 - JULY 4



Our faith tradition teaches us that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met – to one another, to our families, and to the larger society.

We are Americans. We are grateful for the gift of liberty which is ours as American citizens. To be Catholic and American should mean that our allegiances, while distinct, should be complementary.

The teaching of our Catholic faith obliges us to work together with fellow citizens for the common good of all who live in this land. That is the vision of our founding and our Constitution, which guarantees citizens of all religious faiths the right to contribute to our common life together.

This constitutional guarantee includes the fundamental right to those things required for human decency including the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, and the right to manifest one's religion either individually or in community, in public or in private

As we approach summer and the day of our nation's independence, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) calls for a third annual Fortnight for Freedom, a nationwide prayer effort to support the challenges to religious liberty both at home and abroad.

The theme this year is Fortnight for Freedom: Freedom to Serve. The theme will focus on how religious freedom enables the flourishing of the Church's robust service to the poor and vulnerable in accord with human dignity and the Church's teaching.

Fortnight for Freedom is a political activity; it is not a partisan issue. It is not about defeating Obama or repealing the healthcare law. It is much more than the portion of the HHS Mandate that threatens our religious freedom. Fortnight for Freedom is about all challenges to religious liberty both at home and abroad.

The success of this Fortnight is vital to establishing and maintaining a new movement for religious freedom, in response to the growing range of religious freedom issues in so many areas of law, such as immigration, adoption, and disaster relief, both here and abroad.

Resources are available at [www.Fortnight4Freedom.org](http://www.Fortnight4Freedom.org)

## Respect Life Spring 2014 Meeting

- **Presentations for Respect Life Ministries:**

- **Robin Neal**, Catholic Charities Pregnancy Support and Adoption Services Division Manager:

Inspired by the transformative power of God's love, Catholic Charities, the social service arm of the Catholic Church in western Oregon, partners with the most vulnerable, regardless of faith, to achieve lasting solutions to poverty and injustice.

Catholic Charities envisions a society in which all people: thrive economically, socially and spiritually; cultivate diverse, respectful and just communities; recognize the inherent dignity and sanctity of human life.

[Pregnancy Support and Adoption](#) (PSA) works with women who want to parent their kids, but they just need help!

Mirroring national statistics, 70% of their clients who considered abortion cited financial concerns. There are also the stresses of abuse, dysfunctional or unsupportive families and relationships. Women come to Catholic Charities because they need an ally against a partner or family members who is pushing for an abortion.

PSA offers free counseling during and after your pregnancy by master's level counselors and social workers.

PSA offers

- emergency financial assistance
- case management
- adoption
- mentoring
- parenting services and classes

PSA needs volunteers who

- will be a mentor
- recruit bilingual mentors
- hold a baby
- hold a baby shower
- provide childcare while the mother takes a 90-minute class
- volunteer at a [Rachel's Vineyard Retreat](#)
- sponsor the traveling crib
- encourage their parish to carry a year-round ad for Project Rachel and/or Catholic Charities Pregnancy Support and Adoption Services

-bring in classes for the parish: [Financial Wellness Services](#) and [Between Us: Building Healthy Relationships](#)

**Weave some or all of these ideas into your committees and your ministries.**

## Respect Life Spring 2014 Meeting

- **Jeff Petersen**, Knights of Columbus, St. Cecilia. Many Knights have a Life service component. The more that parish Knights and Respect Life Committees can collaborate, the more inviting and effective we can shape our ministries.

The first principle of Knights of Columbus is Charity - Our Catholic faith teaches us to “Love thy neighbor as thyself.” ... There is no better way to experience love and compassion than by helping those in need, a call we answer every day.

This principle of charity gives the Knights a wide focus, not just on the “traditional pro-life” issues.

The [Knights of Columbus Service Program](#) includes:

1. Church
2. Community
3. Council
4. Family
5. Culture of Life
6. Youth

Regarding Culture of Life: the St. Cecilia Knights help with the annual Holy Innocents Mass at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, or help raise funds for ultrasound machines.

Jeff’s closing advice for Respect Life Ministries was to share your minutes with the Knights, communicate with each other, and find ways where these ministries can collaborate with each other.

## Respect Life Spring 2014 Meeting

- **Resource Pages: Looking for information for your ministry? Here's everything from the USCCB!**



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### Life and the Dignity of the Human Person



**Teaching:**

The Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. This belief is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching.

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

**Life Issues**

**Additional Catholic Teaching:**

- [Catechism of the Catholic Church: Respect for Human Life](#)
- [Faithful Citizenship: Sections 44 and 45](#)

**From the Office**

- [We Are All Children of God](#)
- [Labor and Drones and Consumers, Oh My!](#)
- (With Catholic Charities:) [Catholic Teaching on Life and Dignity of the Human Person](#)

**USCCB**

- [Life Issues Forum: Breaking out of My Pro-Life Bubble NEW!](#)
- [Foro Asuntos de Vida: Saltando de mi burbuja pro vida NEW!](#)
- [June Word of Life NEW!](#)
- [Junio Palabra de Vida NEW!](#)
- [People of Life April Newsletter NEW!](#)
- [STATEMENT FOR 2013 RESPECT LIFE MONTH](#) *Cardinal Seán O'Malley, Chairman, Committee on Pro-Life Activities United States Conference of Catholic Bishops*

**Archbishop John Vlazny**

- [Archbishop Vlazny: Hope Counts](#)

[Life, Justice & Peace Home](#)

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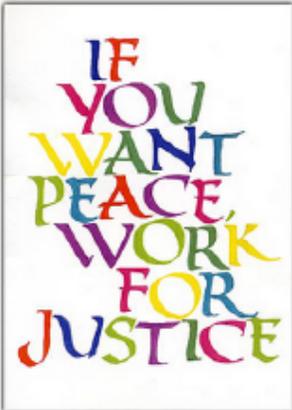
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## Respect Life

Promotes the dignity and sanctity of human life from conception to natural death through prayer, continuing education and providing pastoral assistance on a variety of life issues (contraception, abortion, assisted-suicide, bio-medical ethics, etc.) Acts in accordance with the Pastoral Plan of Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Bishops.

For more information see [Life and the Dignity of the Human Person](#)

**Links:**

**From the Office**

- [Office Brochure on "Beginning of Life"](#)
- [Is There a Choice?](#)
- [Creation: God's Gift to Us](#)
- [Too Many People?](#)
- [We Are All Children of God](#)
- [Labor and Drones and Consumers, Oh My!](#)
- (With Catholic Charities:) [Catholic Teaching on Life and Dignity of the Human Person](#)

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**USCCB**

- [Respect Life: 2013-2014](#)
- [STATEMENT FOR 2013 RESPECT LIFE MONTH](#) *Cardinal Seán O'Malley, Chairman, Committee on Pro-Life Activities United States Conference of Catholic Bishops*
- [USCCB: Word of Life Series: a monthly liturgical resource containing prayer intentions and bulletin quotes](#) English and Spanish versions

**Archbishop John Vlazny**

- [Archbishop John Vlazny on Respect Life](#)
- [Excerpts from Archbishop John Vlazny's Homily at Respect Life Mass](#)
- [Archbishop John Vlazny speaking at Pro-life Rally in Pioneer Square](#)

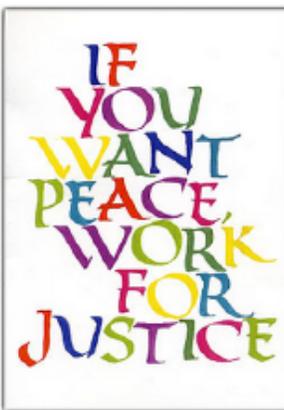
**Other:**

- [Examples from Successful Parish Life Ministries](#)
- [Reverend Timothy Mockaitis on Respect Life](#)

**Quarterly Meeting of Respect Life Parish Leaders: Recaps:**

- [Winter 2014](#)
- [Fall 2013](#)
- [Summer 2013](#)

[Saints Alive](#)  
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### **AUGUST MEETING: TUESDAY AUGUST 26, 7:00PM**

- **Closing Prayer: Prayer for Reverence of Life**

All mighty God, giver of all that is good. We thank you for the precious gift of human life.

For life in womb, coming from your creative power → AMEN

For the life of children, making us glad with their freshness and promise → AMEN

For the life of young people, hoping for a better world → AMEN

For the life of the handicapped and disabled, teaching us humility → AMEN

For the life of the elderly, witnessing the ageless values of patience and wisdom → AMEN

Like Blessed Mary, may we always say yes to your gift. May we defend it and promote it from conception to its natural end and bring us at last oh Father to eternal life, in Jesus Christ our lord. →AMEN