

## Respect Life Summer 2014 Meeting

- **Opening Prayer: Prayer to the Holy Spirit**

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.  
And kindle in them the fire of your love.  
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.  
And you will renew the face of the earth.

Lord,  
by the light of the Holy Spirit  
you have taught the hearts of your faithful.  
In the same Spirit  
help us to relish what is right  
and always rejoice in your consolation.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

- **Welcome**

- **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

- **Presentations for Respect Life Ministries:**

- **Maura White**, Executive Director of Mother and Child, will share about her program, including its Catholic roots, followed by a discussion on how Respect Life committees and M&C can work with each other and support each other.

Notes on Maura's talk (which was very energetic & exciting):

M&C offers free pregnancy tests and free counseling. They have workers/volunteers who speak English, Spanish, and Russian.

She spoke about volunteer opportunities, like helping at their monthly open house, or helping repair their house. Some of their volunteers are high school students.

**Their open house is on the 2nd Saturday of the month, 9:45am-1pm.** They serve food, and let people "shop" for free for items they need.

She mentioned that they are NOT trying to get an ultrasound machine, as she said it's not a good fit for them.

She emphasized the baby bottle campaign.

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Other ways people can support them --

- \* Their annual auction (Mother's Day weekend)
- \* Special dinner for \$125 each (not sure when that is happening)

She mentioned that M&C had a joint staff meeting with Catholic Charities.

- **News, Issues and Events:**

- **40 Days for Life: A Peaceful, Prayerful Vigil**  
September 24 – November 2  
<http://vimeo.com/75359760>

Parish packets with pastor letter, flyers, bulletin/pulpit announcements etc.

**Saturday September 27: Portland 40 Days for Life Opening Mass.** 8:00 a.m. at St. Rose of Lima, 2727 NE 54th Ave., Portland 97213

**With Bishop Peter Smith**

The 40 Days for Life campaign is the largest and longest coordinated pro-life mobilization. It is a focused respect-life effort that consists of 40 days of prayer and fasting, and 40 days of peaceful vigils.

**Wednesday September 24 - Saturday November 2: Portland 40 Days for Life Vigils.** 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. at the Public right-of-way outside Planned Parenthood, 3727 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard

**Co-sponsored by the Office of Life, Justice and Peace**

- **Respect Life Month:** Each of us is a masterpiece of God's creation.

Handouts and Brainstorming

The majority of all of the Respect Life Program materials for 2014-2015 are posted *and downloadable* at [www.usccb.org/respectlife](http://www.usccb.org/respectlife).

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- **Deacon Chuck Amsberry: "How are you connected with prayer?"**
  - Randy has the Rosary on the 2nd Sunday at 1:30pm
  - Janice - prays at meetings, Rosary after Daily Mass, She wrote 50 petitions for Mass.
  - Deacon Scott - Teaches 7th grade religion, prays for his students, and for the kids he would someday adopt.
  - Linda VW - Recommends a prayer booklet with the sorrowful mysteries; Prays in chapel on Fridays, 1st Fridays to Lovejoy Clinic
  - Mary Rigert - Prays to people's guardian angels.
  - Jerry - Holy hour per week
  
  - Deacon Chuck - #1 is Holy Mass. We should go as much as we can. It's "Control Headquarters".
    - He also recommended building spiritual training into your daily life - like liturgy of the hours or Magnificat.
    - He also recommended Eucharistic Adoration. The world is too busy. Evaluate your prayer life; Increase it!
    - Pray the Rosary, Chaplet, the Scriptures.
    - He mentioned Confession and fasting, that is denying yourself something in your life.

### **FALL MEETING: TUESDAY NOVEMBER 25, 7:00PM**

**We will use this meeting to review each other's websites for best practices and suggestions. More details to come.**

- **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