

Annual Archdiocesan Respect Life Essay Contest 2019-2020 School Year

Loving everyone from conception until natural death, little babies and people who are old or sick, is what Jesus calls us to do.

*“Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me.”
Matthew 10:40*

Grades 1-2

Grades 3-4

Babies are a special gift from God. God brings everyone into the world as a little baby. He even came into the world as a baby in Bethlehem at the first Christmas. Babies are cute and cuddly and fun to play with. But sometimes they can be messy and cry too. It is very important to love all babies and to help mothers who have little babies. Maybe you have a new baby in your family or in your neighborhood. Maybe you know a mother who has several children and would like it very much if you would help her by playing with them.

Question: what can you and your family do to show God that you love His special gift of babies?

Another special gift that God gives us are older people. Those of us who have grandparents and great-grandparents are very lucky. We can learn from them all kinds of things about what they used to do and what the world was like when they were little. Sometimes older people walk slowly and sometimes they don't walk at all. Sometimes they get very sick. What they like best is people to visit them and do things with them, sometimes just telling them stories or eating ice cream.

Question: Do you have any older people in your family or in your neighborhood? What can you and your family do to thank God for His wonderful gift of older people?

Grade 5-6

Grade 7-8

Babies are a special gift from God. God brings everyone into the world as a little baby. It's very important to love all babies and to help mothers who have little babies. Unfortunately, as we know, some people feel that they cannot accept God's gift of a baby. Sometimes a woman will become pregnant and think that she cannot have a baby right now because she is in school or doesn't have enough money for a baby. Sometimes she thinks her only choice is to have an abortion. There are people who can help these women by giving them a place to stay or offering to help them with clothes for their new baby. There are also many families who want to adopt babies because they cannot have any of their own. The best way to help these women is to show them that we love them and their babies. When families show this love they help women to choose to accept God's precious gift of a baby. Maybe you

know a friend or someone in your family who is going to have a baby or has small children. ***Question: What can you and your family do to help them and to show them how much God loves them?***

Another special gift that God gives us are older people. Those of us who have grandparents and great grandparents are very lucky. We can learn from them all kinds of things about what the world was like when they were little. Sometimes older people walk slowly and sometimes they don't walk at all. Sometimes older people get very sick and need to be in the hospital or to take lots of medicine. They need people to take care of them and it can be very expensive. They don't want to be a burden to their families and they do not want to be lonely so sometimes they wish they could die right away. When Doctors help people to die, this is assisted suicide. But God has at time when He wants them to die and come to Heaven. He doesn't want them to die before He calls for them. Older people do not want to be killed if they know that their doctors will take care of them and their families and friends will visit them. Our gift to them is to love them even when it is hard and they are very sick. Maybe you have someone in your family or neighborhood that is old or very sick. ***Question: What can you and your family do to thank God for His wonderful gift of older people?***

Grades 9-12

Babies are a special gift from God. God brings everyone into the world as a little baby. It's very important to love all babies and to help mothers who have little babies. Unfortunately, as we know, some people feel that they cannot accept God's gift of a baby. Sometimes a woman will become pregnant and think that she cannot have a baby right now because she is in school or doesn't have enough money for a baby. Sometimes she thinks her only choice is to have an abortion. There are people who can help these women by giving them a place to stay or offering to help them with clothes for their new baby. There are also many families who want to adopt babies because they cannot have any of their own. The best way to help these women is to show them that we love them and their babies. When families show this love they help women to choose to accept God's precious gift of a baby. Maybe you know a friend or someone in your family who is going to have a baby or has small children. ***Question: What can you and your family do to help them and to show them how much God loves them? Use one of the following mediums: essay, video, poetry, painting***

Another special gift that God gives us are older people. Those of us who have grandparents and great grandparents are very lucky. We can learn from them all kinds of things about what the world was like when they were little. Sometimes older people walk slowly and sometimes they don't walk at all. Sometimes older people get very sick and need to be in the hospital or to take lots of medicine. They need people to take care of them and it can be very expensive. They don't want to be a burden to their families and they do not want to be lonely so sometimes they wish they could die right away. When Doctors help people to die, this is assisted suicide. But God has at time when He wants them to die and come to Heaven. He doesn't

want them to die before He calls for them. Older people do not want to be killed if they know that their doctors will take care of them and their families and friends will visit them. Our gift to them is to love them even when it is hard and they are very sick. Maybe you have someone in your family or neighborhood that is old or very sick. ***Question: What can you and your family do to thank God for His wonderful gift of older people? Use one of the following mediums: essay, video, poetry, painting***