



A message to the faithful of the archdiocese from Archbishop Michael Jackels

29 January 2021, 11:00 AM

Pray and Advocate for Pro-Life Concerns

The March for Life was held 28-29 January 2021, praying and advocating for the life and dignity of all, from womb to tomb.

Catholics are known for praying and advocating for pro-life concerns, for example:

Opposition to things like abortion, physician-assisted suicide, death penalty, IVF, and embryonic stem cell research.

As well as advocacy for the poor, especially single parents, for those things needed to live in dignity, and care for the earth, our common home – where else will we live?

We are a both/and people, not either/or – we are concerned about all of the above.

Our pro-life concerns don't correspond entirely to any political party. And while it's not entirely irrelevant, whoever is President hasn't seemed to make a lasting difference.

It is a shame that our President (a Catholic!) has once again flopped the flip: taxpayer monies are untied to abortion under Republican presidencies, but retied by Democrats.

What does make a difference? What will *one day* make the difference?

Certainly prayer, but not only. As the saying goes: pray as if everything depends on God, and act as if everything depends on you.

What action? Voting, and voting conscientiously.

Not practicing pre-marital sex. Not shrugging parental shoulders, saying it's better that children be safe, providing them with contraceptives and privacy.

Care about the dignity of all persons, regardless of gender, race, color, creed, or if they are imprisoned, or with questionable immigration status, or... whatever.

Care for all persons, helping them to obtain those things needed to live in dignity, and welcoming them as immigrants if they can't find those things in their homeland.

As the saying goes: you be the change you want to see in the world. If we do all that, then eventually the scale will be tipped.

Michael Jackels
Archbishop of Dubuque
