

- **RESPECT LIFE**



A Pro-Life Committee is concerned with dignity of life from conception to natural death. It is as much against abortion as it is against the death penalty. It involves formation and information. It involves legislative efforts. And, of course, it involves prayer and guidance.

Respect Life meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 7 P.M. Meetings are in the Parish Hall and begin with prayer.

Respect Life's mission statement is, "Respect life from conception until natural death." (Pope John Paul II) - especially for the most innocent and vulnerable.

Members of the Respect Life ministry are involved in many activities, including collecting baby clothes, maternity clothes, furniture and other items for pregnancy help centers – such as Birth Choice and the Answer - and for anyone who is in need. Respect Life also holds fundraisers - such as the Annual Rose Sale.

Members also pass out LIFE literature at the parish's Welcome Ministry Fairs. Members also inform parishioners of legislative actions concerning life and ask that they get involved by calling or e-mailing their representatives.

Respect Life members participate in the "National 40 Days of Life" by joining others in praying the rosary at home, at church and at the Planned Parenthood Facility in an effort to end abortion. Respect Life supports and promotes the healing ministry of Rachel's Vineyard for those who have been affected by an abortion.

Some goals of Respect Life for future endeavors are:

- Work to foster the respect for life of the born and unborn, by working to change the culture of death that tolerates and advocates capital punishment, genocide, assisted suicide, poverty and acts of violence.
- Foster a greater respect for the stewardship of our planet and all of God creation, through education and environmental action.
- Coordinate efforts with the parish Faith Formation Program in making information available to help educate students and adults on the sanctity of life and the practice of pre-marital as well as marital chastity.

Respect Life is always looking for new members to assist in forming this Respect Life Ministry and its mission of service, witness and education.