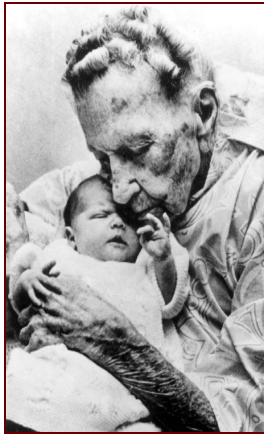


Protecting life at all stages Addressing a wide spectrum of issues

Abortion
(Procedures, Risks, Consequences)
Abortifacient contraceptives
Abortion/breast cancer link
Advance Directives for Healthcare
Assisted Suicide
Bioethics
Chastity Education
Contraception
Death Penalty
Disabilities
End-of-Life Issues
Euthanasia
Fetal Development
HIV/AIDS
Human Cloning
Infertility/NaPro Technology
Perinatal Hospice
Post Abortion Healing/Project Rachel
Pregnancy Assistance
Reproductive Technologies
Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD's)
Stem Cell Research



Mission:

- **Education:** To deepen respect for human life and heighten public opposition to abortion and euthanasia and other threats against human life both in the Catholic Community and among the general public.
- **Outreach/Pastoral Care:** Help to promote public awareness of outreach programs such as pregnancy help, chastity education, adoption, post-abortion healing, care for the elderly and dying.
- **Public Policy:** Using a parish network, coordinate and encourage advocacy on national, state and local levels to promote laws that defend and protect all human life.
- **Prayer and Worship:** Promote programs of prayer among communities and individuals, that the culture of death will be replaced with a culture of life.

*modeled after the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities

The Office of Respect for Life



The Diocese of Metuchen

The Office of Respect for Life

Jennifer A. Ruggiero
Director

Angela Marshall
Program Coordinator

The Office of Respect for Life— Programs and Activities*

Public Information and Education:

- Maintain a Speakers Bureau - Pro-life presentations in schools and parishes.
- Respect Life Poster/Essay/Arts Contest to promote pro-life message among students.
- Prepare and distribute Respect Life Calendar.
- Hold educational conferences/workshops addressing a variety of life issues including, cloning, stem cell research, the death penalty, euthanasia and abortion.
- Maintain Resource Library with literature and videos.
- Launch Media Campaigns such as those initiated by the USCCB.
- Expand The Ministry for Persons with Disabilities.
- Provide technical support for bioethics concerns/questions.
- Encourage high school involvement through Student Ambassador program.

Outreach/Pastoral Care:

- Promote awareness and support of pregnancy centers and maternity homes.
- Promote awareness and participate in the Post Abortion Healing Ministries.
- Provide youth with chastity education programs Teen Outreach Events.
- Work to expand outreach to the Hispanic Community.
- Communicate through parish network.

Public Policy/Legislation:

- Hold legislative advocacy workshops for effective lobbying.
- Encourage Parish Voter registration drives.
- Activate phone, e-mail chains for legislative Action Alerts.
- Initiate letter -writing campaigns as initiated by the National Committee for Human Life Amendment and NJ Catholic Conference.
- Participate in state-wide or diocesan “Legislative Dialogue events.”

Prayer and Worship

- Diocesan Respect Life Mass/Pro-Vita Awards.
- Life Chain—interfaith prayer.
- Organize participation in March for Life, Washington, D.C. and Trenton Rally for Life.
- Promote programs of private prayer such as Rachel Rosary, Spiritual Adoption of Unborn Children.
- Provide clergy with pro-life liturgy guides, including intercessions for life.

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Guided by:

The Diocesan Commission for Pro-Life Action

Msgr. Richard Behl, Chairman