

Respect Life
4/26/2021

1. Opening prayer

Heavenly Father, the beauty and dignity of human life was the crowning of your creation. You further ennobled that life when your Son became one with us in his incarnation. Help us to realize the sacredness of human life and to respect it from the moment of conception until the last moment at death. Give us courage to speak with truth and love and with conviction in defence of life. Help us to extend the gentle hand of mercy and forgiveness to those who do not reverence your gift of life. To all, grant pardon for the times we have failed to be grateful for your precious gift of life or to respect it in others. We ask this in Jesus' Name.

Amen.

2. Blue Mass - Please read and respond

The Parish will be holding a Blue Mass to honor First Responders on May 30, 2021. All current and former first responders and their families will be honored. The Mass will be at 10:30 at the St. Celestine's Worship Site.

I have found what I think would be a nice small gift - a lapel pin with an American flag and a gold cross. I have also looked to see if there might be an inexpensive book of prayers for first responders but have come up empty. If anybody has any other ideas that are similarly inexpensive (say, less than \$1.75 each) we could consider them.

2. Stations of the Cross

Thanks to everyone who helped with the stations. The kids did a great job with the artwork (when Linda, Lynn, and Greg pointed me to the pictures they said "Maureen Detty left something for you." I thought for some reason Maureen had left me a magazine or newspaper, that's how good the picture on top of the stack was.)

Lynne did a great job reading and we had a very good turnout.

3. Important petitions

There is one extremely important petition going on right now for Springfield. The “big one” is here:

<https://archchicago.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=db47d10237179f6b8c22b058f&id=b89e6011c4&e=c78320a4c6>

Yes, legislators in Springfield are again trying to repeal parental notice to minors who are seeking an abortion. It is currently in “committee,” which means that it is not immediately coming up for a vote. Let your legislature know that you oppose it.

4. Rosary for Life/First Friday

Would anybody be interested in holding a Rosary for Life with the group live and the parish invited by Facebook?

Next Friday is first Friday, we will also be saying the Rosary for Respect Life Intentions during devotions, as usual. Please send me any intentions you wish to see included.

5. May Crowning

I have reached out to Father and Laurie for information about May Crowning and whether we can participate. There was an announcement in Church this week but I am not sure whether there will be a way for us to participate.

6. News to make you think:

Florida House Passes Bill Banning Abortions on Babies with Downes Syndrome

<https://trk.cp20.com/click/e0fg-2dzoai-34ec9k-7fu9t5d7/>

More and more states are passing bills restricting abortion in a manner which hopefully will pass Constitutional scrutiny if they reach the Supreme Court.

7. Closing prayer

O gentle Jesus, through whom all life came to be,
hear our prayers for all men and women.
Hear our prayers for the great and powerful.
Hear our prayers for the weak and broken.
Hear our prayers for the littlest and most innocent.
Hear our prayer for tall human cedars
and the very littlest of human flowers.
May all see in each the souls so precious to You,
and through the intercession of Saint Thérèse
may each of them be kept saved and loved.
We ask this though Christ our Lord. Amen.