



Resources for Parish Observances of Respect Life Month 2020

Pro-Life Secretariat US Conference of Catholic Bishops
Pro Life Office – Archdiocese of Boston
ProLifeOffice@rcab.org (508) 651-1900
Please contact us with any questions!

Each October the Church in the United States celebrates *Respect Life Month*, and the first Sunday of October is observed as *Respect Life Sunday*. As Catholics, we are called every day to cherish, defend, and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its end, and at every point in between. During the month of October, the Church asks us to reflect more deeply on what it means to respect the dignity of every human life.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops provides free downloadable graphic and text resources (in English and Spanish) to help parishes share the Gospel of life during Respect Life Month and throughout the year which can be found at respectlife.org/respect-life-month.

This year, COVID-19 precautions continue to require adjustments of normal parish life. ***Special thanks to all those parishes which are holding safe and socially distant Baby Showers and Diaper Drives to support our Pregnancy Help Ministry!*** Below are some simple but meaningful ways your parish can continue to observe the spirit of Respect Life Month:

Bulletin notices:

- *Respect Life Sunday (October 4)* - Today is Respect Life Sunday!
Join Catholics nationwide in celebrating Respect Life Month! respectlife.org/celebrate.
- *Respect Life Month (any Sunday of October)* – Use any of the wording from the above introduction with the above link

Reflection for bulletin insert and/or parish website:

<https://www.usccb.org/resources/rlp-20-reflection.pdf>

Homily suggestions for priests and deacons:

<https://www.usccb.org/resources/rlp-20-reflection.pdf>

Sample prayers of the faithful for the month: See next page

Sample Prayers of the Faithful for Respect Life Month
Prepared by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

For all Catholics:

That on this Respect Life Sunday
our resolve may be strengthened
to uphold the dignity
of every human life;
We pray to the Lord:

That during this Respect Life Month
our resolve will be strengthened
to cherish and protect
the gift of every human life;
We pray to the Lord:

That the life of every person,
from conception to natural death,
will be protected in our laws
and cherished in our hearts;
We pray to the Lord:

For women and men suffering after abortion:
May the Church's abortion healing ministry,
Project Rachel, help them find peace and healing
through Christ's endless mercy;
We pray to the Lord:

For those nearing the end of life:
May they receive care that respects their dignity
and protects their lives
as they place their hope
in the promise of eternal life;
We pray to the Lord:

May God grant us the wisdom and courage
to lovingly protect His gift of human life
at every stage, in sickness and in health;
We pray to the Lord: