

Respect Life Commission Information for CSA 2022

The Respect Life Commission (RLC) serves under Bishop Daniel Mueggenborg. Our purpose is to help educate the faithful of the Diocese on the Church's moral teachings on a range of life issues. The RLC is dedicated to building a culture of life and increasing awareness of the sacredness and dignity of each human life, from conception to natural death.

The primary sources of information for the RLC are the teachings of the Catholic Church and the *Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities*, issued by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). The four major areas of the Pastoral Plan are: Public Information and Education; Pastoral Care; Public Policy; and Prayer and Worship. Through a parish representative network, the RLC provides information and materials obtained from the USCCB Pro-Life Secretariat on various life issues. Information is also shared through a website, assorted literature, speakers, and ministry activities.

The RLC assists and supports Project Rachel, the Catholic Church's post-abortion healing ministry. The ministry is a nonjudgmental and confidential Catholic outreach to women and men of all religions who have experienced the trauma of abortion. Project Rachel is named after the Old Testament figure Rachel, who weeps inconsolably for her children "who are no more" until God came to her, offering hope for her future (Jeremiah 31:15-17). God is all loving, forgiving, and merciful, and in His name the Church reaches out with compassion and hope.

Other ongoing activities of the RLC include:

- cosponsors presentations by pro-life speakers at the annual Diocesan Conference and other venues
- annual Respect Life Mass with Bishop Mueggenborg and related poster contest for Catholic youth
- cosponsors buses for the Walk for Life West Coast
- participation in the peaceful rosary prayer on first Saturdays across the street from the abortion facility in Reno
- Respect Life Mass and Rosary with Bishop Mueggenborg to celebrate Respect Life Month in October
- annual Right to Life Mass in January
- urges parish respect life representatives to promote the USCCB's "Word of Life" liturgy intercessions and bulletin briefs at their parishes
- encourages events at the parish level to promote and defend life
- assists parish respect life representatives with action alerts for parishioners to correspond with state and national lawmakers regarding legislation pertaining to life issues
- conducts meetings with parish respect life representatives to strengthen parish networks, increase participation, share ideas, offer assistance, and distribute information for dissemination and action

Though direct assaults on life are ever-increasing, Catholics are called to reflect on their faith and then act to protect life in all its stages.

For more information contact:

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