# 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, postabortion 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 Human Life And Dignity



#### The Diocese of Metuchen

The Office of Human Life & Dignity

Jennifer A. Ruggiero Director

Angela Marshall Program Coordinator

# The Office of Human Life and Dignity – 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 annual participation in the Youth Rally & Mass for Life and the March for Life in Washington, D.C. and the Rally for Life in Trenton.
- 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.

For all Diocese of Metuchen's information and events please visit <a href="https://www.diometuchen.org">www.diometuchen.org</a>

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