



My Dear Parishioners,

Praised be Jesus Christ! Last week, I highlighted some of the special feasts of this time of year. This week, those feasts continue as does this new month of October which is both Respect Life Month and the Month of the Holy Rosary. A word this week about Respect Life.

On January 22, 1973 when Roe-vs-Wade was decided upon, I found myself in a very beautiful but suddenly vulnerable place, I was in my mother's womb. Thankfully, my mom saw me thru the remaining 4 months I had left in her womb. I have often wondered what those months were like for her. I do know that my birth was traumatic, but I survived and from the beginning my parents loved me. ***There was never 1 time in my childhood when I did not intuitively believe and know that life matters.***

As I grew, respect life meant the red rose lapel sticker and praying in front of abortion clinics with my dad. When my brother's life was in jeopardy in my mother's womb, it meant rosaries with my family for his healing. When a high school girl revealed a teenage pregnancy, it meant we do all we could to save the baby's life. Through all these experiences, my heart's conviction was even more grounded ***human life from the moment of conception matters.***

Today, after 48 years of legalized abortion and 21 years of priesthood, I know that human life still matters. What is needed now is COURAGE. Courage in priests and laity to proclaim, defend and love life. In respect life work, here's where I have found the most courageous people:

Rachel's Vineyard. A place where women and men who have experienced abortion encounter God and experience His great mercy. I whole heartedly recommend to you the work of Rachel's Vineyard. If you're looking to support a healing work that restores life, if you're in need of such a work, do not be afraid...go to and support the vineyard.

40 Days for Life. This ecumenical/interreligious movement has reached and changed the world. Since 2007, 19,322 babies have been saved, 221 abortion workers have converted and 112 abortion centers closed because of the prayer, fasting and public witness that 40 Days engages. I whole-heartedly commend it to you. St. Pat's is just 11 miles from Planned Parenthood where children are killed each Thursday and Friday. Everyday courageous men and women gather to pray, aid and restore life.

Chester County Women Services. This organization located throughout Chester County and here in Kennett Square is solid. From new parent classes to ultra-sounds to providing for young parents and infant's needs, the courage found here is inspiring.

My friends, as we mark this respect life month, let us not cower or fear before the lies of our modern day. Let us be men and women of charity, clarity and courage. Life matters, each and every one. And each and every one of us will have to account for what we did or did not do to respect it.

Peace, Fr. Rogers

2021 Annual CCR Conference at the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa-Saturday, October 16 from 9AM-8PM. Join us in person or via live stream for this uplifting event.

You can purchase tickets for in person or on line watch parties at:

www.PhillySpirit.com

Special pricing for young adults and youth. Children under 10 are free. For more information call 215-315-7008 or visit

www.PhillySpirit.com

VOLUNTEER ENGLISH PROGRAM-Tutors provide weekly, one to one English language instruction for adult immigrants or refugees. Tutors must be available for a one year commitment. Prior teaching experience is not required. Join us at the October 2021 Virtual Tutor Training Workshop on 10/26, 10/28, & 11/3. 6-8PM each evening on zoom virtual platform. Workshop fee: \$35 for materials. Visit website and register online at volunteerenglish.org. References and background checks will be conducted before being matched with a student.

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