



## ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

Cardinal Rigali Center  
20 Archbishop May Drive  
Saint Louis, MO 63119-5738

Respect Life Apostolate  
p) 314.792.7555  
[prolife@archstl.org](mailto:prolife@archstl.org)  
[STLRespectLife.org](http://STLRespectLife.org)



### **Archdiocesan Pro-Life Student Resources and Events for January 2024**

Here is a list of pro-life resources and events to help parish and school students prepare spiritually and educationally for January, in which the Church marks the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection for Unborn Children on January 22, the Roe v. Wade Anniversary. Whether organizing a pilgrimage to attend the March for Life in DC or participating locally at your school or parish, the Respect Life Apostolate hopes these resources are a help to your middle school, high school, or college students.

#### **Archdiocesan Respect Life Teen Track**

Inspire the teens and young adults of your parish and school to proclaim the Gospel of Life! The Respect Life Teen Track, a joint effort of the Archdiocesan Office of Youth Ministry and Respect Life Apostolate, includes two dynamic video presentations, discussion questions, and youth night activities. Together we can claim the culture for LIFE!

- These free resources are linked online here: <https://www.archstl.org/respect-life-apostolate/programs/education>
- Please click the link above, and then scroll half-way down the page.
- Please preview the videos linked at the web page above first before showing them to minor students.

#### **Archdiocesan Spiritual Adoption Program**

Initiated in 1991, this simple yet effective program provides an opportunity for children, teens, adults and senior citizens to prayerfully intercede on behalf of pregnant moms and preborn babies threatened by abortion. Participants spiritually adopt a preborn baby, known by God, by pledging to pray daily for 9 days, weeks, or months. The goal of the program is three-fold:

1. Encourage prayers for babies in danger of abortion and for their parents.
2. Educate adults and children about the development of babies in the womb.
3. Provide material assistance to local mothers in need through a "baby shower" or "birthday party" at the conclusion of the program.

Spiritual adoption prayer cards, Milestones fetal development brochure, and leadership pamphlets are available free of charge through the RLA Office. To get these resources, contact [prolife@archstl.org](mailto:prolife@archstl.org) or 314-792-7555.



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### **USCCB 9 Days for Life Novena, January 16-24, 2024**

9 Days for Life is a novena for the protection of human life, organized each year by USCCB Pro-Life (U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops). Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Resources for parishes, schools, and ministries are available below, including novena printables, graphics, sample announcements, and more.

- To sign-up for the novena, via text or email, click here:  
<https://www.respectlife.org/9-days-signup>
- For parish or school resources about the novena, click here:  
<https://www.respectlife.org/leaders-resources>

### **USCCB Pro-Life Blessing of Pilgrims**

In January, many pro-life pilgrims travel to Washington, D.C. for the annual March for Life. You may have a group of pilgrims from your parish or school traveling to this national event. Blessings are available to send off and welcome back those traveling from your parish, school, or faith community. (A priest or deacon will need to offer the blessing. If the celebration of Mass is preferred as the beginning or end of a pilgrimage, it may be concluded with a blessing of the pilgrims taken from the order of blessings listed below.)

<https://www.respectlife.org/blessing-of-pro-life-pilgrims>

### **USCCB Pro-Life Resources for Educators**

This leader toolkit is provided to help Catholic educators build a culture of life in their classrooms throughout the year, whenever Respect Life themes best fit into their curricula. The provided resources, ideas, and activities are only suggestions. We encourage teachers to adapt them as necessary to an age-appropriate level. Feel free to get creative as you build "an authentic civilization of truth and love" (Evangelium vitae, 6) in your classroom!

<https://www.respectlife.org/catholic-education>

### **USCCB Pro-Life Resources for Youth Ministers**

This leader toolkit is provided to help youth ministry leaders build a culture of life throughout the year. The provided resources, ideas, and activities are only suggestions. We encourage you to adapt them as necessary for your specific youth ministry. Feel free to get creative as you build "an authentic civilization of truth and love" (Evangelium vitae, 6) among the youth of your parish.

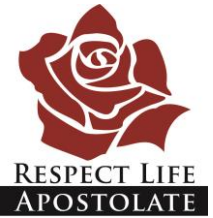
<https://www.respectlife.org/youth-ministry>



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### **Culture of Life Studies Program**

Building a culture of life, one student at a time, the Culture of Life Studies Program provides Catholic pro-life home and classroom materials, resources, and trainings to educators, schools, and dioceses equipping them to build the next pro-life generation. Free and for purchase resources for students, pre-K through high school, are available online here: <https://all.org/clsp/curriculum>

### **Archdiocesan and Parish Pro-Life Events In January**

For details on each of these, click here: <http://stlrespectlife.org/>

- *Archdiocesan Young Adult Pro-Life Holy Hour*, Thursday, January 18, 7 p.m., Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis (college students and older only)
- *Parish Events marking the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection for Unborn Children* (centralized listing of known parish pro-life prayers events held Friday, January 19-Monday, January 22).
- *Archdiocesan Roe v. Wade Memorial Mass*, Saturday, January 20, 8 a.m., Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis

### **Event Options in Washington DC during the March for Life Weekend**

- Marching 101: Pro-Life Advocacy Workshop (March for Life), Thursday, January 18
  - <https://marchforlife.org/marching-101/>
  - High school and college students are very welcome to attend free of charge.
- National Prayer Vigil for Life (Basilica of the Immaculate Conception/USCCB), Thursday, January 18 – Friday, January 19
  - <https://www.usccb.org/prolife/national-prayer-vigil-life-schedule>
- LifeFest Rally (Sisters of Life/Knights of Columbus), Friday, January 19
  - <https://www.lifefestrally.com/>
- Pro-Life Summit (Students for Life of America), Saturday, January 20
  - <https://prolifesummit.com/>

### **How to Encourage Students to Build A Culture of Life Beyond January**

- Volunteer or plan a fundraiser for your local Walking with Moms St. Louis ministry partner: <http://walkingwithmomstl.com/>
- Pray for life every third Saturday morning at the Archdiocesan Pro-Life Mass & Rosary (at the Cathedral Basilica St. Louis and various host parishes):  
<https://www.archstl.org/respect-life-apostolate/programs/spiritual-support>



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### **How to Encourage Students to Build A Culture of Life Beyond January (Continued)**

- Plan a youth pro-life prayer event at your school or parish. Resources can be found here under the “Prayers” tab: <https://www.respectlife.org/>
- Get involved in parish pro-life activities by connecting with your parish coordinator through your parish office or by emailing [prolife@archstl.org](mailto:prolife@archstl.org)
- Get involved or start your own pro-life club at your school or parish.
  - See this recent Archdiocesan article about middle-school pro-life clubs: <https://www.archstl.org/salt-and-light-prolife-club-at-st-gabriel-school-teaches-middle-schoolers-about-the-dignity-of-all-human-life-from-conception-through-end-of-life-9144/fbclid/iwar0fjiu3ev9pdrxv7vonwyhgdfx5nyzezzon6gqwnocuwmo3huqtq87uma>
  - Reach out to your local Students for Life representative for ideas and support: Nicole Hollman, [nhollmann@studentsforlife.org](mailto:nhollmann@studentsforlife.org)
- Participate in Archdiocesan Office of Youth Ministry Events (OYM)
  - *Totus Tuus* (Summer for grade school through high school students): <https://stlyouth.org/youth-events/host-totus-tuus/>
  - *Summit* (November for middle school students): <https://stlyouth.org/youth-events/the-summit/>
  - *Steubenville Catholic Youth Conference* (July, for eighth grade and high school students): <https://steubystl.com/>
- Participate in peaceful, prayerful public witness at Missouri and Illinois pro-life events:
  - *40 Days for Life* (spring and fall campaigns): <https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/vigil-search.aspx>
  - *Midwest March for Life* (May in Jefferson City): <https://midwestmarchforlife.com/>
  - *Life Chain* (October): for a list of participating Archdiocesan parishes/locations, visit here in the early fall: [STLRespectLife.org](http://STLRespectLife.org)



*Supported by the Annual Catholic Appeal*