

Respect Life Gathering Small Group Feedback

September 12, 2020

Q1. What has your parish done during the pandemic to support and promote the dignity of human life?

- In Saint Joseph's Vacaville, in past year's we have done the "Walk for Life" to SF. Due to lockdown we are not sure what they are doing.
- St. Mary's goes out to Planned Parenthood, Fairfield, on Wed. Pray and speak with women. Gabriel Project sign and bag with brochures. Forty Days for Life at same location. Ongoing Gabriel Project in parish working with moms, rides to dr. appts., getting things needed for babies.
- Lake Tahoe Gabriel Project - Moe Leonard from St. Teresa's: difficult experience, didn't work out. Women approached organization "for the money," not out of genuine need. Need mentor parish for education and steps of how to get started. Would also like program guides with process to make program successful. Debra from St. Mary's Vacaville offered to consult for now they pray outside abortion clinic in Nevada.
- St. Joseph's Lincoln: Buses for Walk for Life, praying outside
- St Basil's, maintaining prayer support for Planned Parenthood in Vallejo weekday and Fairfield every Wednesdays
- At Holy Trinity and PBVM parishes we have not had any committee meetings and so really haven't done much. Winchesters have been attending Jackie's monthly meetings.
- Praying at abortion clinics, Suicide prevention presentations, being active with Gabriel Project
- St. Mary's of Vacaville is working on trying to open a maternity home that will serve mom's in the Vacaville, Fairfield, and Vallejo area that cannot go to Sacramento to get the service.
- Also, Every Wednesday, Gabriel Project goes in front of Planned Parenthood to pray the rosary.
- Gabriel Project meets 2nd Thursday of every month.
- Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament: We been meeting via zoom during the pandemic. Praying the Rosary every Tuesday, also have been meeting to study the Evangelium Vitae, on Mother's Day we send the dinner to the Maternity Gallegos Home.
- Require catechism Students to attend these meetings, Rosaries on Zoom.
- I pray & continue to encouraged our dedicated prayer warriors to pray for the unborn in their homes. I sent the details of the schedule of virtual prayer for 40daysforlife for Fall vigil to be included in our bulletin & also shared in FB. I invited/encouraged my colleagues to include us in prayers for the fall vigil in US & Philippines.
- Mary Palmero (Good Sheppard)- Elizabeth Ministry, 40 Days for Life before pandemic, 1-2 Bus to Walk for Life. Sara Briseno (Cathedral)- Bus to Walk for Life, Pray outside abortion clinic, Suicide prevention during pandemic through radio, therapists, and more ways. Nataly Zarate (Neighborhood Church is Assumption had baby dresser, donate clothes to needy moms at hospital, bus to walk for life), (Corpus Christi in Tahoe City) during pandemic are doing 40 Days for life fall campaign to support human life.

Q2. What can respect life leaders do to support Bishops vision of a collaborative approach to pro-life activities with faith formation, youth ministry and social concerns?

- Speakers that have experience with the subject to speak to the youth. St Patrick's currently starting on Feast Annunciation "spiritual adoption" for an unborn child.
- Continuation collaborative approach is necessary for youth, young adults and adult faith formation. The significance of education needs to be addressed and those ministries can continue providing that education and request that the religious education department include prolife activities as part of their credits for practicing faith or "parent hours" .Emphasis to make

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leaders them aware of these activities, provide information and opportunities about the events. Approach and markers and hand and hand, but rejuvenating it like the 40 days of life will be great. Inviting speakers into the parishes,

- Contact parish religious ed leader (DRE) to give information about opt out and alternate curriculums. Is this going to be made easily available to us / them? Any resources that will ultimately go to parents of public school middle and high schoolers must be super, super simple, readable and actionable. Priests should be encouraged and equipped in how to be more proactive both in articulating this message (preaching) and in how to connect respect life committee activities with youth groups and religious ed programming (leadership)
- Present and promote parent education events for TOB. Support The Gabriel Project in every parish.
- Theology of the Body is taught in Vacaville in September. Encourage people to attend the training. Encourage people to sign-up for Walk for Life and 40 Days for Life.
- Encourage the TOB. Be public about RFL via wearing Pro-life T-shirts at the store, posting events/information about Bishop Gallegos Home & Sac Life Center. More interfaith events or communications. Promoting each other's events like RFL communicating the Fired Up (catechism) events and vis versa.
- Continue with our spring & fall vigils for 40daysforlife. Prolifers in the Vallejo/Bernicia/American Canyon area in collaboration with Knights of Columbus has plans to convert LAAM to become a pregnancy resource center. Please keep us in prayers. Any ideas/suggestions would be highly appreciated.
- Buses bus different ministries, Respect for Life Gathering Like today virtual and in person options, info booths, regional collaboration meetings where leaders of different ministries gather regularly to connect, educate and collaborate in their efforts to support and promote the dignity of human life youth ministry, 40 Days for Life, Project Gabriel, Casa de Vida, Pregnancy Crisis Center, Project Rachel, prayer ministries, and more. Keeping ourselves educated, up to date and enthusiastic. Provide training opportunities during these collaboration meetings?

NOTES

- Finding ways in getting our parishioners involved in something that promotes our Catholic values and gives them tools to evangelize, in the simplest ways. Give them courage to reach out.
- It is great to hear the speakers from RFL gathering. May God continue to bless our ministry.
- We would really benefit from hybrid meetings like in person and virtual so we can reach a wider audience and meet more people even after the pandemic.