

OFFICE OF PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES

Suggested Intercessions for the Month of January

January 4th **EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

For every Catholic family in our nation, that they may be formed each day in the image of the Holy Family, and consecrated to the Gospel of Life; *We pray to the Lord:*

January 11TH **THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

For every little child, that through their Baptism we may recommit ourselves to defend their life and nurture them in Christ; *We pray to the Lord:*

January 18th **SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

That the day of penance and prayer we will observe this week on the anniversary of the legalization of abortion in the United States might help to end and heal the sins against the Gospel of Life; *We pray to the Lord:*

January 25th **THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

For our President, members of Congress, and the Supreme Court, that they might denounce the law allowing the death of the unborn, and imbue within our laws respect for all life from conception to natural death; *We pray to the Lord:*

Suggested Bulletin Messages for the Month of January

Roe must be reversed to restore integrity to the Court, meaning to the Constitution, political rights to the people and their elected representatives, and most importantly, the right to life to children in the womb.
-“Ten Legal Reasons to Reject *Roe*,” 2003 Respect Life Program.

By wresting the issue of abortion from the people and their elected representatives, the *Roe* Court undermined the principle of self-government and our constitutional framework of separation of powers. *Roe* has deeply divided the country, causing three decades of social unrest and loss of respect for the Court and for the law.

Never has a “private” choice had such a public impact, undermining American culture and institutions and harming millions of individuals. *Roe v. Wade* violates the axiom that the first duty of government is to safeguard human life, especially the lives of those who are vulnerable. It has eroded the fundamental principles on which our nation was founded: the sanctity of life, the equal dignity of all, and impartial justice.

Roe continues to exist, but only in the way a storefront on a western movie set exists: a mere façade to give the illusion of reality... But behind the façade, an entirely new method of analysis, without any roots in constitutional law, is imported to decide the constitutionality of state laws regulating abortion. Neither *stare decisis* nor “legitimacy” are truly served by such an effort.

The matter of human cloning that involves the creation of human embryos is the story of the beginning of human life – a life that is not just a local issue, not a national issue, not a regional issue. It is above all a universal issue, because an embryo is human regardless of its geography.

- Chief Justice Renquist, dissenting opinion of the 1992 *Planned Parenthood vs. Casey* decision (as quoted in “Ten Legal Reasons to Reject *Roe*,” 2003 Respect Life Program).

Suggested Stewardship Bulletin Inserts for January/February

January 4, 2004 (Epiphany)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

The three kings in today's Gospel traveled a great distance at considerable cost to offer their richest gifts to the Infant Jesus. How far will I go and what will I offer to do homage to this newborn King and Savior?

January 18, 2004 (2nd in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today's second reading, St. Paul tells the Corinthians (and us) that all of our gifts are from God and that they are given, not for ourselves alone, but for the common good. But the generosity of God knows no limits – the miracle at Cana reminds us that whenever we faithfully do as God asks, He can change our gifts of water into wine!

February 1, 2004 (4th in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Jeremiah declares that the Lord knew him before he was born and dedicated and appointed him to his role as prophet even before he drew breath. We, too, are known and sent by the Lord. What deeds of love and service are mine to perform?

February 15, 2004 (6th in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

"Happy are they who hope in the Lord." As good stewards, firmly grounded in that hope, may we bear fruit in due season – assisting the poor, feeding the hungry, and consoling the sorrowful whenever we have the chance.

February 29, 2004 (1st Lent)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Today's first reading describes the offering of first fruits the people of Israel were to present to the Lord in thanksgiving for their deliverance from Egypt and the gift of the promised land. Is my offering at today's Mass an appropriate response to the many blessings the Lord has given me?

January 11, 2004 (Baptism of the Lord)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Jesus, whom God called "my beloved Son," is also the "servant" of whom Isaiah speaks in the first reading. We who are baptized in Christ must follow His example and use our time and resources in the service of God and neighbor.

January 25, 2004 (3rd in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Today's reading from I Corinthians: "Because its individual members do collectively make up the Body of Christ, that body's health and well-being are the responsibility of the members - reminds us that we all are stewards of the Church."

February 8, 2004 (5th in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today's readings, both Isaiah and Peter hear the call of God and feel themselves unworthy. But, reassured by the Lord, both answer and follow. Do I hear the Lord asking, "Whom shall I send?" Am I prepared to answer "Here I am. Send me!"?

February 22, 2004 (7th in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Today's Gospel has encouraging words for good stewards – "Give and it shall be given to you. For the measure you measure with will be measured back to you." What encouragement to give generously of the resources entrusted to our care!

Eagle of the Cross Nomination Form

The Eagle of the Cross is a national award given annually in the Diocese of Youngstown to outstanding juniors and seniors in high school, who show particular zeal in the improvement of their own parish ministry programs, high school ministry teams or youth work in general within the Diocese. Nominees must be Catholic and exemplify the qualities of moral integrity, prayer, good works and Christian leadership. This award from the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry is the highest honor a diocese may present to a youth. In the Diocese of Youngstown a maximum of 2 medals per county and 2 medals per catholic high school are awarded each year.

Nominations must be received at the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry by: **Friday, February 27, 2004**
Eagle of the Cross Awards: **Thursday, April 29, 2004**

Send or Fax nominations to:
Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry
144 West Wood Street
Youngstown, OH 44503
Fax: (330) 744-2848

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Nomination Category Catholic High School County

Name of Nominee _____ County _____

Address of Nominee _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number of Nominee _____ Gender Female Male

High School of Nominee _____ Grade Junior Senior

Parish of Nominee _____ Pastor _____

Parish Address _____

Nominated by _____

Address of Nominator _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

INSTRUCTIONS

- Nominations may be submitted by: Pastors, Parish Staff, School Staff, Family Members or Friends.
- Multiple nominations for a young person will be judged together.
- Answers to the essay questions listed on this form is the principle material used for judging.
- Use the back of this form (and additional paper, if necessary) to answer the essay questions about the young person you are nominating.
- Give as much information as possible, in order to assist the judges. If nominating a youth in the Catholic School Category, please note non-mandatory activities/services.
- Please give *Specific Examples*. Please be thorough.
- This award is not geared toward quantitative hours of service, but to the integrity of the individual and how well he or she is perceived as an outstanding Catholic Christian.
- If you have questions, call Faye at (330) 744-8451, X281.

Diocese of Youngstown
Parental Permission and Medical Release Form

(Please print or type all information except signatures. Be sure to complete both sides of this form)

Event or Program _____ Date _____

Location _____ Mode of Transportation _____

Youth Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Home Phone _____ Another Number for Parent/Guardian _____

Youth Agreement

I understand that my participation in this program requires compliance with specific rules and regulations as set for by the parish and the coordinating adults. I agree to abide by all rules and regulations set forth. Any infraction of the rules or regulations, including, but not limited to, the possession of alcohol, drugs, or weapons may cause my dismissal from the program. If I should be dismissed, I understand that my parents will be contacted to arrange for my immediate transportation home.

Youth Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parental Agreement

I, the parent/guardian of _____ who is less than eighteen years of age, grant permission for my daughter/son to participate in the _____ (event) directed by (parish/school) _____. By allowing my child to participate in the said program, I hereby assume all risk or accident or harm arising or growing out of, directly or indirectly, any incident of any kind occurring during the course of such program to my child and do hereby release and discharge the Bishop of the Diocese of Youngstown, and _____ parish/school, and the agents, associates, and employees of the Bishop and parish who have organized or participated in the supervision of such program from all claims, demands, suits, causes or actions, rights, costs, expenses, and any compensations whatsoever which may occur to my family and its members during or resulting from participating in the program mentioned.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

I am aware of the said program, including the times, costs, and adults chaperoning the program, and have clarified any concerns I may have with the coordinating adult in charge. I agree that my son/daughter shall abide by all rules and regulations of the program including regulations regarding alcoholic beverages, drugs, and weapons. I agree that if my son/daughter fails to abide by the regulations set forth, he/she may be dismissed from the program and I will need to arrange for his/her immediate transportation home at my expense.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Permission and Release for Medical Form 2003

Medical Information *(Please check and sign only those in accordance with your wishes.)*

- In the event of an emergency, I hereby grant permission to transport my son/daughter and obtain emergency medical or surgical treatment from a licensed physician, hospital, or medical clinic. I hereby authorize medical personnel to release necessary information about my care to Cindee Case and/or Faye Abbondanza of the Diocesan Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry, as well as my parish group leaders(s) named here _____

I wish to be advised prior to further treatment by the hospital or doctor. In the event I cannot be reached, please contact (name) _____ at (phone) _____.

Relationship to youth _____

Family physician _____ Phone _____

(Please check one of the following)

- My son/daughter is covered by hospitalization and medical insurance under policy # _____ issued by _____.
- My son/daughter does not have medical coverage and I assume responsibility for the cost of hospitalization and medical care for my son/daughter.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

- I hereby warrant that to the best of my knowledge, my son/daughter is in good health. **I do not want any medical treatment to be given to my son/daughter under any circumstances.** I hereby assume all responsibility for the health and well being of my son/daughter and release from responsibility the Bishop of the Diocese of Youngstown, and _____ parish/school, and the agents, associates, and employees of the Bishop and parish who have organized or participated in the supervision of such program.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

- My son/daughter is taking medications at present. He/she will bring all such medications necessary and such medications will be well-labeled. The names of and concise directions for taking such medications, including dosage and frequency of dosage are as follows.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

- No medication of any type whether prescription or nonprescription may be administered to my child unless the situation is life-threatening and emergency treatment is required.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

- I hereby grant permission for general first aid to be administered, including nonprescription medication (such as aspirin, throat lozenges, cough syrup) to be given to my son/daughter, if requested by my son/daughter and deemed advisable by an adult chaperone.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

- I wish to inform you of the following additional medical information and the recommended course of action (allergies, dietary restrictions, special conditions, etc.). _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____