

Report on Respect Life Sunday

October 7, 1979 marked the active participation of 124 parishes in the Diocesan Respect Life Sunday efforts. The sum of \$22,497.47 was contributed. One half of these funds will support the Human Life Office and their educational, legislative and pastoral programs for use by the parishes. The other half of the funds are being used to create and support a Pastoral Care Network throughout all the counties of the Diocese. Organizations in nine counties have received funds as of today. Livingston, Schuyler and Tompkins counties will receive funds in the near future.

Perhaps the most significant impact, however, was felt in the educational efforts at the parish level. Parishes took advantage of the many materials and suggestions provided by the Commission including:

A pastoral letter from Bishop Clark.

Liturgical suggestions for the month of October.

Bulletin suggestions.

Free prayer leaflets.

An excellent resource book from the U.S. Bishops' Pro-Life Office.

Pulpit presentations by Birthright organizations.

Homily suggestions.

We are grateful for the pro-life statement made by the involvement of so many in the Respect Life Sunday activities. We are here to receive your calls and suggestions every day.

The following are recipients of funds from the Diocesan Human Life Commission:

Monroe County - Birthright of Rochester.

Ontario County - Birthright of Canandaigua, Inc.

Seneca County - Birthright of Seneca County.

Yates County - Birthright of Penn Yan, Inc.

Cayuga County - Birthright.



Birthright is operated by trained volunteers who freely distribute sympathy and support and have access to the services of doctors, nurses, clergymen, social workers and attorneys. Birthright of Rochester was the recipient of the Human Life Commission's grant for Monroe County.

Tioga County - Birthright of Tioga County.

Wayne County - Birthright.

Steuben County - Pro-Life Line.

Chemung County - Pro-Life Line, Inc.

How You and Your Parish Can Become Involved

Following is a statement from the Human Life Commission:

On Jan. 22, 1973 the Supreme Court of our nation decided a woman's right to privacy was greater than her unborn child's right to live. As Catholic Christians, we mourn this decision which opened the door to the destruction of millions of unborn infants. Inconvenience and unwantedness can never be allowed as the criteria for a human's worth.

Please join us in prayerful supplication to witness

that we will not rest until every human's right to life, dignity and respect is again the primary value of our country.

Please join in one or more of the following activities:

(1) Jan. 22, 7 p.m. - Sacred Heart Cathedral, 296 Flower City Park, Rochester. A Eucharistic Celebration of the value of life and unified prayer for a reversal of the Supreme Court's decision. Refreshments immediately following.

(2) March for Life, Jan. 20, 2 p.m., beginning at the Church of the Assumption parish, 20 East Ave., Fairport, to Potter Memorial, Potter Park, Fairport. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Fairport Council #7085.

(3) College Campus and Shopping Malls Educational Booths sponsored by Right To Life, Inc. throughout the month of January.

(4) The Blue Army nationwide is encouraging each parish in the United States to hold a Holy Hour on behalf of the unborn on or around Jan. 22, 1980.

Long Range Parish Effectiveness

The effectiveness of one's parish program can be enhanced by the many special materials made available by the diocesan Human Life Commission. These aids include films, speakers, bulletin inserts, etc. and have proved very successful to the some 50 groups in contact with the commission at the present time. The commission has expressed interest in enlarging the number of contacts and has asked people to check with their parish for more information or contact Anne and Peg Turano of the Diocesan Human Life Commission at the Pastoral Office on Buffalo Road. The phone number is 328-3210.



We are called to witness in message and action to the dignity and right to life of the most marginal, disadvantaged and oppressed people.