



# HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH

9531 Liberty Road | Randallstown, Maryland 21133

## RESPECT LIFE MONTH 2023 • PASTOR'S MESSAGE

**The Catholic Church in the USA celebrates Respect Life Month in October. This year's theme is, "Radical Solidarity."** Note well that this has always been a part of our efforts. Bishop Michael F. Burbidge – Bishop of Arlington and the Chairman of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities – writes in his Respect Life Month 2023 Statement:

Being in radical solidarity with women who are pregnant or raising children in difficult circumstances means putting our love for them into action and putting their needs before our own. Pope Francis reminds us that solidarity "refers to something more than a few sporadic acts of generosity. It presumes the creation of a new mindset," a transformation within our own hearts (#188).

**Bishop Burbidge's entire statement is at this link: [www.usccb.org/resources/2023-respect-life-month-statement](http://www.usccb.org/resources/2023-respect-life-month-statement)).**

Our advocacy in the public square begins with defending the rights of unborn children. For every child to have a chance in life, they need to have a chance to live. However, our advocacy does not end at the beginning stages of life. We address issues about caring for the poor and helping them out of poverty, working for racial justice, promoting education, treating immigrants and refugees with dignity, fostering peace with justice at home and abroad, among other things.

### **These are some of the things that Holy Family Parish has been doing:**

- praying for respect for life during Holy Mass daily;
- the Spiritual Adoption Program;
- poor box donations for programs that support those at every stage of life;
- donating to Women's Center West, Catonsville;
- food pantry donations to help people throughout the year,
- food donations which benefit at least 60-70 households for Thanksgiving, Christmas, & Easter;
- supporting Project Rachael, which helps women and men to heal in the aftermath of an abortion;
- among other things.

**Respect for the gift of human life is good news!** From the moment of conception-- and during every stage, condition, and circumstance of life -- we have an inherent dignity. The right to life is the fundamental right upon which other rights can be exercised.

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