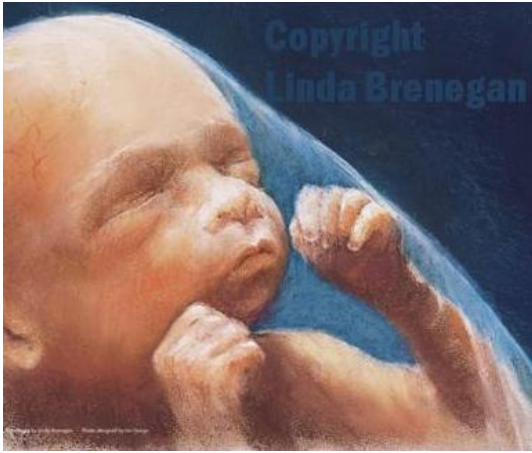


Abortion



Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person - among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life. CCC 2270-2275.

“Therefore, by the authority which Christ conferred upon Peter and his Successors, and in communion with the Bishops of the Catholic Church, I confirm that the direct and voluntary killing of an innocent human being is always gravely immoral.”
Evangelium Vitae n. 57.

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you.”
Jer. 1:5.

"When the sacredness of life before birth is attacked, we will stand up and proclaim that no one ever has the authority to destroy unborn life." - Pope John Paul II

Church Documents:

Evangelium Vitae, Gospel of Life, Pope John Paul II (1995). Available at http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/encyclicals/documents/hf_jp-ii_enc_25031995_evangelium-vitae_en.html.

Catechism of the Catholic Church, Part III, Section 2, Chapter 2, Article 5, n.2270-75. Available at <http://old.usccb.org/catechism/text/pt3sect2chpt2art5.shtml>.

Respect for Unborn Human Life: The Church's Constant Teaching, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (2008). Available at <http://old.usccb.org/prolife/constantchurchteaching.shtml>

Pastoral Plan for Pro-life Activities, US Bishops (2001), <http://old.usccb.org/prolife/pastoralplan.shtml>

Living the Gospel of Life: A Challenge to American Catholics, A Statement by the Catholic Bishops of the United States (1998), <http://old.usccb.org/prolife/gospel.shtml>

Declaration on Procured Abortion, Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (1974). Available at http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_19741118_declaration-abortion_en.html.

Excerpts from *Constitution on the Church in the Modern World*, Second Vatican Council (1965), http://old.usccb.org/prolife/issues/abortion/excerpts_church_modern.shtml

Catholic Websites:

New Advent Catholic Encyclopedia (2009), <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/01046b.htm>

CatholiCity, <http://www.catholicity.com/vote/abortion.html> - good, referenced Catechism

Catholic Answers, <http://www.catholic.com/library/Abortion.asp>

Archdiocese of Chicago, http://www.archdiocese-chgo.org/catholic_values/catholic_teaching/abortion.shtml

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Human Life and Dignity, <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/>

Culture of Life Foundation, <http://www.culture-of-life.org/>

Maryland Catholic Conference, available <http://www.mdccathcon.org/abortion>

Articles:

“Abortion: What the Church Teaches,” Helen Alvare, available at <http://www.americancatholic.org/Newsletters/CU/ac0898.asp>

“Light and Shadows in the Cause of Life,” Susan E. Wills (May 27, 2011), <http://old.usccb.org/prolife/publicat/lifeissues/052711.shtml>

Defending Life 2011, policy and legislation on abortion, available at <http://www.aul.org/dl2011-toc/>

“Overview: Evolution of Roman Catholic positions on abortion,” ReligiousTolerance.org, http://www.religioustolerance.org/abo_hist_c.htm

USCCB Articles (host of dates and issues), <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/abortion/>

Dates to Note:

On January 22, 1973, the US Supreme Court issued its decision in *Roe v. Wade*, addressing the issue of abortion, one of the most controversial and politically significant cases in U.S. Supreme Court history.

April: National Post Abortion Healing Awareness Month

November: National Adoption Month

December 12: Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Unborn

Video

Chris Cannon, “Can I Live”

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QcW738wXoHk>
- 4 minutes

Love Life

- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZlhrzZB_xZ0&feature=player_embedded

Andrea Boccelli “tells a little story about abortion”

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6QfKCGTfn3o>

“It’s Epidemic”

- <http://www.blackprolifecoalition.org/its-epidemic/>
- 1 minute

Alexander Tsiaras: Conception to birth – visualized

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fKyljukBE70&feature=share>
- Image-maker Alexander Tsiaras shares a powerful medical visualization, showing human development from conception to birth and beyond. (Some graphic images.)
- 10 minutes

Pro-life 101, Michael Martelli

- <http://vimeo.com/16447134>
- Michael Martelli presents a short seminar on presenting the Pro-Life argument during the 1st Annual 40 Days for Life Youth Outreach Night at Living Hope church in Hanover, MD.
- 30 minutes

The Case Against Abortion: Prenatal Development

- http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=x-6VLUVglG8
- Science, pictures, video of prenatal development.
- 3 minutes

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