

March for Life: Love Saves Lives

Top 10 things parishes can do to prepare for the March for Life

*“The Gospel of Life is something concrete and personal, for it consists in the proclamation of the very person of Jesus Christ.” – Pope St. John Paul II, *Evangelium Vitae* (The Gospel of Life), 29*

We are called as people of faith to work together in our local communities to build a culture of life and love. Every year since the *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion in the United States, hundreds of thousands of people of faith and goodwill gather in Washington, DC to give witness to the value and dignity of each and every human life, most especially the most vulnerable, the unborn, at the National March for Life. As part of preparing ourselves for this annual event, we are focusing our local efforts on the promotion of activities that support mothers and families who may either find themselves in an unexpected pregnancy and contemplating abortion or who have experienced the pain and suffering of abortion and are looking to us to walk with them toward healing. As the local Church in the midst of our community, let us be a bastion of truth, love, and hope by reaching out to those mothers and families in their hour of need and providing them with physical, emotional, and spiritual resources that we have by grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

1. Attend the [Life is Beautiful Mass and Reception](#) at the Basilica on January 14, 2018.
2. Participate in the [9 Days for Life prayer novena](#) starting on January 18th.
3. Add a [special intention](#) in the prayers of the faithful for the end to legalized abortion and/or healing for mothers and families from the wounds from abortion.
4. Hold a parish-wide [Holy Hour for Life](#) during the week leading up to the March. The Holy Hour can focus on prayer for healing for mothers, fathers and families, fatherhood, greater respect for life in the parish and the community, for purity, etc. The parish could also hold a Holy Hour on the day of the March for those who cannot attend the March for the marchers and for healing for those who have experienced abortion.
5. Participate in a [Spiritual Adoption novena](#) (9 months in 9 days). Spiritual Adoption is an opportunity for participants to learn more about life in the womb as well as to pray for mothers and families expecting an unexpected child.
6. Host a movie night and [show a movie with a prolife theme](#).
7. Have a guided meditation on [Evangelium Vitae](#) (The Gospel of Life) by Pope St. John Paul II.
8. Send out the [Letter to a Woman Considering Abortion](#) and/or [A Special Word to Women Who have Had an Abortion](#) in parish mailing.
9. Pray a [Rosary for Life](#) as parish.
10. Add OptionLine and Project Rachel contact information to the parish’s front webpage.

Pregnant? Need Help?

Call: 1-800-712-4357
or Text: “HELPLINE” to 313131
www.optionline.org

Project Rachel Baltimore

Call or text: 410-625-8491
Email: projectrachel@archbalt.org
www.archbalt.org/project-rachel