**Suggestions for Observing Respect Life Month**

***October 2018***

**Simple Steps**

*Here are five simple steps for celebrating Respect Life Month, either the weekend of Respect Life Sunday (October 7, 2018) or another weekend in October. Resources will be available online in English and Spanish. Additional details to come.*

1. **Display** the poster where people will be most likely to see it.
2. **Use** the bulletin announcement and bulletin cover or wrapper, and insert the reflection flyer into the bulletin.
3. **Preach** on the Respect Life theme “Every Life: Cherished, Chosen, Sent.” Consider using the reflection flyer and sample homily helps below as inspiration.
4. **Pray** for the protection of human life during the Prayer of the Faithful. Sample intercessions are provided below.
5. **Invite** parishioners to reflect the rest of the week on the theme and what it means to them personally.

**Sample Intercessions**

May we show by our words and actions

that every human life

is cherished and chosen;

*We pray to the Lord*:

May we build a culture of life

by embracing our mission

as messengers of God’s love;

*We pray to the Lord:*

**HOMILY HELPS**

***Respect Life Sunday | October 7, 2018***

***Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time***

*Suggestions for unpacking the 2018-2019 Respect Life theme (“Every Life: Cherished, Chosen, Sent”) using the readings of the day.*

**Our Lady of Guadalupe**

Briefly share the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Juan Diego, summarized in the 2018-2019 *Respect Life Reflection*.

**Created for Relationship**

Every person is made in God’s image and likeness (*First Reading*), and is loved by Him and called to eternal union with Him. We are also created to be in communion with, and depend upon, one another. Jesus consecrates us and calls us his “brothers” (*Second Reading*).

**Love One Another**

We are all called to walk in God’s ways (*Responsorial Psalm*)and treat each other according to the truth of His immense love for every person (*Gospel Acclamation*). Like St. Juan Diego, we are personally entrusted with specific ways to love God and one another. If we have aging parents, do we take the time to consistently show our love through visits, phone calls, and notes? If we know expectant mothers or parents with infants, do we provide support that helps them welcome their children (*Gospel Reading*) andcontinues to serve their needs, even months after the baby is born?

**It’s Who We Are**

We are cherished, chosen, and sent by God to love one another as He loves us. In doing so, we help build a culture that cherishes all human life. Building a culture of life is simply part of *who we are* as Christians, as followers of Christ.