



NEWSLETTER



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OCTOBER 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 FESTIVAL HOLY ROSARY	7 OUR LADY OF THE HOLY ROSARY	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 MEETING ROCKDALE 7:00 PM	15	16	17	18	19
20 FALLOUT CALDWELL MASS 10:00	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

NEWS

The Holy Rosary annual homecoming festival will be held on Sunday, October 6. Music by Mark Halata starts at 10:30am, the food line opens at 11:00 am, and the auction starts at 1:30 pm. Come out and have a good time.

Our next meeting will be in Rockdale on October 14. Food will be served at 7:00 pm.

Our fallout will be in Caldwell on October 20. Mass is at 10:00 am, be there at 9:30 am. This is in conjunction with the welcome lunch for Father Bernard.

St Ann's Church will be celebrating their 100 year anniversary on December 21. We have been asked to fall out for their 5:30 pm Mass. We need to have a lot of Knights for this event. Put this on your calendar, please.

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. According to an account by fifteenth-century Dominican, Alan de la Roch, Mary appeared to St. Dominic in 1206 after he had been praying and doing severe penances because of his lack of success in combating the Albigensian heresy. Mary praised him for his valiant fight against the heretics and then gave him the Rosary as a mighty weapon, explained its uses and efficacy, and told him to preach it to others. One good way to pray the Rosary, is to buy one of those little "ring" Rosaries, and keep it in your truck, so that when you get in to go somewhere, it is readily available for you to pick up and pray while you drive. Beats texting or talking on the phone while driving. Might even keep you out of an accident.

Caldwell Council #6366 will dedicate their new kitchen facility on Sunday, October 27. This will be done following the 10:00 am Mass. Lite refreshments will be served.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

As we commemorate the month of October as "Respect Life Month", it is good to look back to see what our support of the Coalition For Life in Bryan has done to end abortion. As you know, the 40 Days for Life campaign was started by the Coalition for Life here in Bryan. 40 Days for Life—the organization, expanded one of the local projects (the 40 Days for Life campaign) to involve more than half a million volunteers in 501 cities across America and worldwide, saving 7536 lives, closing 41 abortion centers, and helping 83 workers to leave the abortion industry. All of this has happened in the last 6 years. We should take great satisfaction from knowing that we , through our organization's donations, and our personal ones, to the Coalition for Life, have helped to make this happen.

2013 RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY STATEMENT

Cardinal Seán O'Malley

Chairman

USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities

OCTOBER 6, 2013

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

As adopted daughters and sons of God, each October we begin the activities of Respect Life Month with the observance of Respect Life Sunday, celebrated on October 6th this year. At Masses that day, thousands of parishes across the country begin a year-long educational and prayer campaign in support of life. As chair of the bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, it is my pleasure to introduce this year's theme, which echoes Pope Francis' call for all people to "Open your hearts to life!"

We live in a society of unbelief, where the unborn, the sick, and the elderly are often unwanted and endangered by acts of violence or neglect. Earlier this year, we marked the 40th anniversary of the tragic U.S. Supreme Court rulings *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*. Without grounding in the Constitution, natural law, or our nation's human rights traditions, these decisions made it legal to end the life of an unborn child in the United States for any reason and at almost any stage of development. Since then, over fifty-five million unborn children's lives have been taken, leaving many millions of mothers, fathers, and family members wounded and grieving their loss. Physician-assisted suicide is now legal in three states, allowing doctors to help end patients' lives rather than provide much-needed comfort in times of pain and distress. These laws pave the way for euthanasia by undermining true respect and care for people with serious illness.

Despite these challenges, Pope Francis reminds us that we always have hope in Christ. The Holy Father speaks not only of physical life, but spiritual life as well -- our life in Christ that has the power to transform us. By opening our hearts to his love and mercy, we let Christ dwell in us and we see more deeply the intricate and unique beauty of each person.

What does it mean to open our hearts to life? It means to search our souls and acknowledge our deepest longing for Christ's love. Though we are capable of sins against human life such as abortion, assisted suicide and euthanasia, we are not beyond Christ's mercy. It is important for us to know and share with others that Christ's forgiveness is offered even to those who have taken another person's life, if they are truly repentant of that act.

We must respond to Pope Francis' call with great urgency. Opening our hearts to life in Christ empowers us for loving, merciful action toward others. We must give witness to the Gospel of Life and evangelize through our lives. We must personally engage others and share the truth about human life. We must continue to show love and mercy, especially with those who have been involved in abortion. All members of the Church can bring healing to the world by upholding the beauty of human life and God's unfailing mercy.

Only a tender, compassionate love that seeks to serve those most in need, whatever the personal cost, is strong enough to overcome a culture of death and to build a civilization of love. Let us open our hearts and reflect on how God might be calling each of us to witness the sacredness of human life and assist in pro-life efforts. We may be called to help parents welcome their unborn child as a miracle of God's creation, to visit the elderly or aid those who are sick and suffering, to pray and fast for life, to advocate to our elected officials, or to assist educational efforts in our parishes.

We entrust all these efforts to the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God, and her husband St. Joseph. They are models of virtue and holiness who gave everything to welcome Jesus into their lives despite the hardships. With their assistance, may each of us have the courage to open our hearts to life.

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