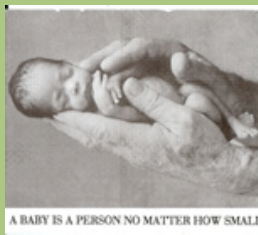


Respect Life at St. Francis



A BABY IS A PERSON NO MATTER HOW SMALL



July 31, 2011

The Respect Life Committee commits to work in the following 4 areas. Please offer your help and support as we seek to glorify God through:

Prayer

As a committee, prayer is our number one priority. Members commit to weekly private prayer. Whether it be through a holy hour, fasting one day per week, or simply lifting up the Respect Life intentions for each day, we are committed as parishioners to lift the Culture of Life up to the Lord daily and beg for His will to be done. We also participate in public prayer vigils, including the annual March for Life in D.C., as well as the regular prayer vigils occurring outside the three abortion facilities in Charlottesville. Please contact a committee member for information on these regular prayer opportunities.

Outreach

Since 2009, our main avenue of outreach has been the St. Francis lay apostolate known as Mary's House. Mary's House is an outreach of the St. Francis parish family to pregnant women in our community who come to us with physical, spiritual and financial needs. We have an office on the ground floor of the parish hall, just below Sacred Page. We offer peer counseling, baby supplies, maternity clothes, temporary housing and material assistance, transportation and a mentoring program with experienced mothers in the parish. If you know of a woman in need, or would like to help, please call 213-HOPE.

Education

The Respect Life committee has conducted Adult Ed and CCD classes in order to inform members of the parish of various Culture of Life issues. We would like to continue this ministry, as well as education in the larger community, including NFP instruction. Please consider how you can help in this area. We are especially in need of someone who

can work on our web page.

Legislation

Working closely with the Virginia Catholic Conference, we seek to inform and involve parishioners in contacting lawmakers on various Life issues that come before Congress or the VA State Legislature.

We Need You:

Please come to our next Respect Life Committee meeting in September -- all are welcome. Look for an announcement in the bulletin for date and time. Agenda items:

- *Mary's House update
- *Election of new officers
- *Volunteers needed for website

Contacts:

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Mary's House: 213-HOPE
Kristi Walsh, Director
Lisa Olshove, CoDirector