

# WHAT EVERY CATHOLIC SHOULD KNOW... About Life Issues

## The Bottom Line...

- **Every abortion is wrong.** Abortion is an intrinsic evil for which there can be no authentic moral justification or defense.
- **There is help for every woman who is pregnant** and doesn't know where to turn. Crisis centers, maternity homes, and adoption referral agencies are ready and willing to help any woman.
- **Every abortion kills an innocent human life.** Human life starts at conception and is a continuum until natural death.



- **Fetal or embryonic stem cell research and human cloning can never be morally justified.** They involve the killing of innocent human life and manifest disregard for the dignity of the human person.
- **Contraception, birth control and sterilization are intrinsically evil.** Couples must be open to God's plan and embrace both the unitive and the procreative aspects of marriage.
- **Direct euthanasia,** ending the lives of sick, disabled, or dying persons, is morally unacceptable.

## A Pro-Life Prayer

God of all goodness,  
You have entrusted us with the gift of life.  
Help us to appreciate that gift  
from the first moments of conception  
to the last breath of old age.

Send your strength to all those who  
defend the unborn, the weak, and the dying  
against attempts to cut short their lives.  
May your Holy Spirit touch the hearts of those  
who are tempted to choose the way of death  
rather than life. Grant that your people may  
always be a sign of your love in the world.  
Amen.

## On the Bright Side...

Human life is sacred. Each of us was created in the image of God and we are loved with an everlasting love. As Archbishop Fulton Sheen said, **God does not love us because we are valuable. We are valuable because God loves us.**

Jesus taught us how to be pro-life. He said, "Love one another as I have loved you." Jesus loves us even though we are sinners and He died for us so that we could be with Him for all eternity. Jesus did this before any of us were born. Each new human life is precious and infinitely valuable in God's eyes. Let us welcome the littlest strangers in the world with great joy!



## The Bible Says...

There are many scripture references that indicate the value of human life and that we are created by God in His image and likeness. These are just a few samples:

*"Truly you have formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb. I give you thanks that I am fearfully, wonderfully made; wonderful are your works. My soul also you knew full well; nor was my frame unknown to you when I was made in secret, when I was fashioned in the depths of the earth. Your eyes have seen my actions; in your book they are all written; my days were limited before one of them existed."*

-Ps 139: 13-16

*"And the angel said to her in reply, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God.'"*

- Lk 1: 35-37

*"The word of the Lord came to me thus" Before I formed you in the womb I knew you. Before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you." - Jer. 1 4-5*

## Pregnancy Services Information

Throughout the Salina Diocese,  
call one of the **Catholic Charities** offices for a listing of all  
crisis centers, maternity homes, adoption referral agencies and  
post abortion help.

**Salina Office** - (785) 825-0208

**Hays Office** - (785) 625-2644

**Manhattan Office** - (785) 323-0644

**Colby Office** - (785) 462-3426

**Concordia Office** - (785) 243-4167

**24 hour national hotline:** 1-800-848-LOVE