

October, 2023

Peace and Blessings to you.

As we enter the month of October, I would like to focus this monthly letter on our sacred duty and commitment to affirming life from conception to natural death. October is recognized as Respect for Life Month. It offers us a special opportunity to reflect on the sanctity of life and renew our dedication to protecting and cherishing it at every stage.

Our faith teaches us that every human being is a unique and irreplaceable creation of God, formed in His image and likeness. From the moment of conception until the natural end of life, each person's life is a gift that should be treasured and defended. It is our calling as Catholics, to be witnesses of the Gospel of Life in a world that devaluates the sanctity of life. Throughout this month, I encourage you to engage in various activities and reflections that promote a culture of life within our parish and our wider community. Let us reach out in love and support to those facing difficult decisions or hardships, offering our assistance and understanding in their time of need. Let us encourage our young people to be open to life and join our Creator God to bring forth new life into the world through their union in marriage and conjugal love.

October is also the month of Rosary. Let us pray with Mary the beautiful prayer of the Rosary. It is the summary of our salvation story through Jesus Christ. Teach our children and grandchildren to say at least a decade of Rosary together with you and thank God for the gift of our life. Our parish is organizing a special Rosary procession on October 15th after the 8:30 Mass in Greenfield Park by the lagoon, praying for our parish, and our families, especially our children and young people, that we may always affirm life and promote the culture of life in our community. In the words of Pope Saint John Paul II, "A Society will be judged on the basis of how it treats its weakest members." Let us strive to be a community that upholds the dignity of every human life, from the very beginning to the very end.

I am happy to invite you to a special event to prepare and plan our final journey to our heavenly home. We are organizing at our Parish Center a presentation on **Advanced Life Planning** with speakers addressing practical issues that confront all of us at the end of life. It will be held on October 19th beginning at 9:30 am, with a delicious breakfast. Please call our parish office and confirm your participation. In addition, I would like to remind you of our upcoming **Ministry Fair** on Sunday, October 22 from 9:00am-noon, with information, food, and beverage in the Parish Center. It will highlight the Ministries of Prayer, Liturgy, Care, Service, and Teaching, complete with a take-home booklet listing and describing all these ministries with their contact person(s).

Commending you all under the protection of our Blessed Mother during this Month of Rosary and assuring you all my prayers and Blessings,

In Christ's love and service,

Fr. Matthew Perumpil, MI

Pastor.

P.S. Please be aware that your quarterly online WeShare contributions will **not** be reflected in this month's letter. It will be available in next month's letter. Thank you and sorry for any inconvenience.