

To create a culture of life, we must act in sacrificial ways towards others

Thankfully, Jesus shows us how

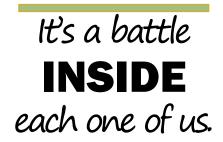
We live in an interesting cultural moment to say the least. Roe is no more. While I am mindful of the incredible work that has been done and I am grateful that Roe was overturned, I find myself pondering a much bigger question. What does it mean to be pro-life and view all of humanity as sacred? As I thought and prayed over these questions, God led me to Psalm 16, "you will show me the path of life . . ."

Jesus is God's path of life, and He has set the bar very high. Jesus lived and instructed His followers to love neighbors. Love and pray for enemies. Feed the physically and spiritually hungry, give a drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit the imprisoned, and comfort the sick. Jesus' path of life was one of humility, mercy, love, service, and sacrifice.

Jesus' path of life led Him to act in costly ways for people because humans are inherently valuable and worthy as image bearers of the Father. With His high view of humanity, Jesus commands us to believe and act as He did. Ouch.

So, I have concluded that the battle for the sanctity of life is not only a battle in our highest court or our legislators. It's a battle inside each one of us.

Our souls war against Jesus' path of life and God's high view of humanity. It is much easier to choose apathy, fear, contempt, cynicism, or our own comfort when faced with people who irritate us, who don't look like us, smell like us, share experiences with us, who don't think like us, or who have wronged us. Yet every person we meet is an image bearer of the Father and has an eternal soul. And because of this, all life is worthy of acts of hospitality, honor, love, sacrifice, protection, and celebration.



While protection of the unborn and shielding women from the tragedy of abortion is part of advocating for life, these actions alone are insufficient. It is the Body of Christ's collective, Holy Spirit-empowered, sacrificial acts of humility, mercy, love, and service for ALL the people God brings across our paths that will make an unbelieving world stand up and take notice and transform our culture of death into a culture of life.

As we celebrate Sanctity of Human Life Sunday and the grand victory for life at the Supreme Court, we also look ahead to the Kingdom work that still needs to be done. Will you join me on Jesus' path of life?

Written by Lisa Schroeder, Assistant Director SCPC

Vol. 18 Issue 1 January 2023

Life is Worth Celebrating!

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

January 22nd, 2023

Join the Shenandoah County Pregnancy Center in celebrating Sanctity of Human Life Sunday and the sacredness of all human life. Partner with us as we seek to create a culture of life in our community where every person at Center is met with hospitality, honor, love, sacrifice, protection, and celebration.

Small Sacrifice, Big Impact

Here are some ways that you can get involved

Gather a group of friends and host a baby shower for a client or host a shower and donate the gifts to the Center.

Deliver a meal to a client who has just had a baby.

Provide childcare at the Center for weekly client Bible studies.

Take the Making Life Disciple's training and mentor a client.

Become a monthly donor to the Center—no amount is too small!

Join the prayer team. Text your name to (540) 346-8060 to receive updates on the Center's prayer needs.

Join a fundraising event team—Spring Celebration Team or Walk for Life Team

Small Change, Big Impact

Host a Baby Bottle Campaign

Your church, workplace, or family can host a baby bottle campaign to support the Center. The Center provides the bottles and you fill them with your spare change. Return the bottles and we will count the change and provide you with a total. Distribute bottles on Sanctity of Human Life Sunday and return them to your church or workplace around Valentine's Day (either February 12th or February 19th).

Order through Amazon Smile instead of Amazon

Support the Center when you shop. Place all orders through Amazon Smile and designate the Center as the recipient of the proceeds. See details here: https://smile.amazon.com

Host Lifemark movie in your home or church

"Lifemark" is a true story that celebrates the beauty of life, adoption and forgiveness. Pureflix is currently streaming the movie and offering a discount for new subscribers. See https://www.pureflix.com/movie/lifemark for more details. (The Shenandoah County Pregnancy Center does not support or endorse Pureflix.)

Save the date! Spring celebration will be on Friday, April 21st at 5:30 at the Yellow Barn at Shenandoah Caverns. Star Parker will be our speaker and we will be celebrating Jean Martin, Executive Director of the ministry for 28 years, upon her retirement.

For help in implementing any of these big impact efforts, please contact Lisa at the Center at 540-984-4673 or lisa@hope4future.org.