

Choose Life 2013



This content is for your parishioners, parish newsletters and websites to assist in promoting the Church's position on the sanctity of unborn human life.

Church Teaching

By virtue of their common humanity, the lives of both a mother and her unborn baby are sacred. The Church does not teach that the life of a child in the womb should be preferred to that of a mother. However, because a baby in the womb is voiceless, some would have us believe that she or he is less human or less deserving of life. Advances in genetics and technology make it easier than ever to see the flaws in such thinking.

Any mother or father who has gazed in wonder at an ultrasound scan of their baby, or heard his or her heart beating for the first time, will know how rapid and beautiful is the development of their baby in the womb. They will know that their baby does not suddenly become a human being at birth. And they will know that the daughter or son now present before them as an infant or teenager is the same human life, the same human child they saw in that first scan (ref: *Choose Life* pastoral letter of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference for 'Day for Life', October 2012).

Abortion Legislation

Legal opinion suggests that the Abortion Bill contains no procedures to give effect to the "duty of care" owed to the unborn; there is no appeal process for the unborn, there are no sedatives to be administered to an unborn baby in advance of the taking of his or her life; there are no risk assessments for early delivery and there is no redress board for a baby who survives an abortion but suffers medical complications as a result of premature termination of pregnancy.

Prayer for the Child in the Womb

A video reflection of the *Choose Life: Prayer for the Child in the Womb* is now available and can be viewed on our website - www.chooselife2013.ie.

Weekly Quotes

"The right to life is the first human right. Abortion is killing someone that cannot defend himself" - Pope Francis, excerpt from *On Heaven and Earth* published in 2010.

"It is always gravely wrong to deliberately end or destroy a human life or to facilitate this through legislation" - Bishop John Buckley, 14 June 2013.

To avail of Cura's crisis pregnancy support service see www.cura.ie or call 1850 622626

Life Website

See chooselife2013.ie which includes news, life videos, weekly quotes archive and Prayers of Intercession.

Smartphones can scan this QR code for: *Prayer for the Child in the Womb.*

