

A Note from the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

There are so many things to think about on so many levels that it is difficult to choose a topic to write about this week. I decided on the following.

Many Catholics and other pro-life people are horrified over the recent legislation in New York State. The law passed on January 23, 2019 takes away every right to life of a human child before birth. The law also takes away every penalty for harming a child before birth or causing an unwanted abortion. There is no telling of what the full consequences of this law will be. The consequences cannot be good ones.

Moreover, these things cannot be spoken of directly in church for fear of frightening or scandalizing the young. That does not mean that as a parish and a Church we should not work to protect every human life, born and unborn. We must always protect life!

We must never forget that Jesus began his life on this earth as an unborn baby. By taking on our human nature in the womb of the Blessed Mother, Jesus made it clear that human life is precious from conception until death.

People are asking what we can do as a parish to defend human life. Our Respect Life Committee is helping to think of ways to do just that, but in the meantime we can pray that God will help everyone to respect the sanctity of all human life.

One of the things I will be speaking about in church at the two talks I will be giving on Monday, February 25th at 12:30pm and after the 7:30pm Mass is the Church's response to certain laws such as the one in question. The topic is "What is happening in the Catholic Church?" It is hard to keep up with issues affecting the Church and individual Catholics. From the terrible abuse scandals to new laws and trends in society, our heads can feel like they are spinning at times. I simply want to address some of the most important issues and questions, and provide a forum for discussion and assistance. It will be a small step in seeking to make things better or at least help to explain that which seems to make no sense. No one can solve all the problems in the Church and in the World except God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. However, we, as members of Christ's body the Church, can ask for the grace and strength that we need in order to remain strong in our faith and follow in the ways of Jesus, despite hardship. I hope you can make one of the sessions on Monday, February 25th. Keep praying everyone!

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Monsignor Giandurco". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.