

# WORD OF LIFE: MARCH 2023

Recommended dates are provided, but you are welcome to use these materials at any time!

## FEATURED THIS MONTH...

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(Additional products are continuing to be added.)

### St. Joseph Adoption Novena: March 11–19, 2023



Leading up to the Solemnity of St. Joseph on March 20,\* join us in praying the [St. Joseph Adoption Novena](#). Invoking the intercession of St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus, we will pray the Lord blesses all who travel upon the path of adoption. Additional [resources](#) are available.

\*Normally March 19th, the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is transferred to Monday, March 20th in 2023 because March 19th falls on a Sunday.

### Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord: March 25, 2023



In March, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. This feast day helps us to recognize the gift of new life from its very beginning. Our [March Action Guide](#) features a sample timeline, homily helps, announcements, an activity, and more to assist in celebrating this solemnity within your parish community.

### Anniversary of *Evangelium vitae*: March 25, 2023

March 25<sup>th</sup> also marks the anniversary of the papal encyclical [Evangelium vitae](#) (*The Gospel of Life*). Several resources are available to help you observe this anniversary in your parish, including [The Gospel of Life: Compendium](#) and [Study Guide](#). Additional resources including bulletin inserts and graphics are available at [respectlife.org/gospel-of-life](http://respectlife.org/gospel-of-life).



Get more Respect Life resources at [www.respectlife.org](http://www.respectlife.org).

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## WORD OF LIFE – March 2023

### Intercessions for Life

#### March 5<sup>th</sup>

For each expectant mother considering abortion:

May the Lord provide for her needs

and give her the grace and resolve

to choose life for her child;

*We pray to the Lord:*

#### Second Sunday of Lent

#### March 12<sup>th</sup>

For those nearing the end of life:

May they be given the grace to persevere in faith

and place their trust in God

as they prepare in hope for eternity with Christ;

*We pray to the Lord:*

#### Third Sunday of Lent

#### March 19<sup>th</sup>

May all who suffer from the wounds of abortion

be filled with the hope that does not disappoint,

and be healed by Christ;

*We pray to the Lord:*

#### Fourth Sunday of Lent

#### March 25<sup>th</sup>

Inspired by the example of the Blessed Mother,

may we, like Mary, have the courage

to say “yes” to life from conception to natural death;

*We pray to the Lord:*

#### Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

#### March 26<sup>th</sup>

May all mothers facing difficult pregnancies

be lovingly accompanied as they prepare

to encounter Christ anew

through the gift of their children;

*We pray to the Lord:*

#### Fifth Sunday of Lent

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## WORD OF LIFE – March 2023

### Bulletin Quotes

*In honor of the anniversary of Evangelium vitae, the bulletin quotes for this month all come from this historic document. Additional artwork is provided for each bulletin quote this month. Please include the following credit with each quote:*

Pope Saint John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae*. © 1995 Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission.

#### March 5<sup>th</sup>

The Gospel of Life is “meant to be a precise and vigorous reaffirmation of the value of human life and its inviolability, and at the same time a pressing appeal addressed to each and every person, in the name of God: respect, protect, love and serve life, every human life! Only in this direction will you find justice, development, true freedom, peace and happiness!” (*The Gospel of Life* 5)



[English](#) | [Spanish](#)

#### March 12<sup>th</sup>

“We are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the ‘culture of death’ and the ‘culture of life’. We find ourselves not only ‘faced with’ but necessarily ‘in the midst of’ this conflict: we are all involved and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life” (*The Gospel of Life* 28).



[English](#) | [Spanish](#)

#### March 19<sup>th</sup>

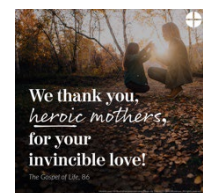
“To celebrate the Gospel of life means to celebrate the God of life, the God who gives life... In every child which is born and in every person who lives or dies we see the image of God’s glory. We celebrate this glory in every human being, a sign of the living God, an icon of Jesus Christ” (*The Gospel of Life* 84).



[English](#) | [Spanish](#)

#### March 26<sup>th</sup>

“There is an everyday heroism, made up of gestures of sharing, big or small, which build up an authentic culture of life... Part of this daily heroism is also the silent but effective and eloquent witness of all those ‘brave mothers who devote themselves to their own family without reserve, who suffer in giving birth to their children and who are ready to make any effort, to face any sacrifice, in order to pass on to them the best of themselves’... We thank you, heroic mothers, for your invincible love! We thank you for your intrepid trust in God and in his love. We thank you for the sacrifice of your life” (*The Gospel of Life* 86).



[English](#) | [Spanish](#)

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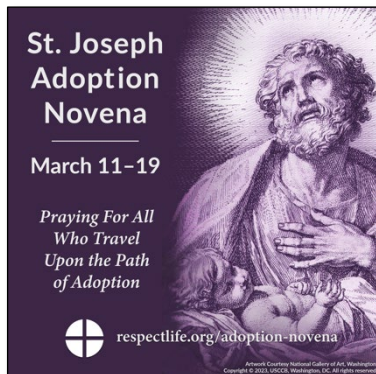
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# WORD OF LIFE – March 2023

## Bulletin Art

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### Sunday, March 5, 2023



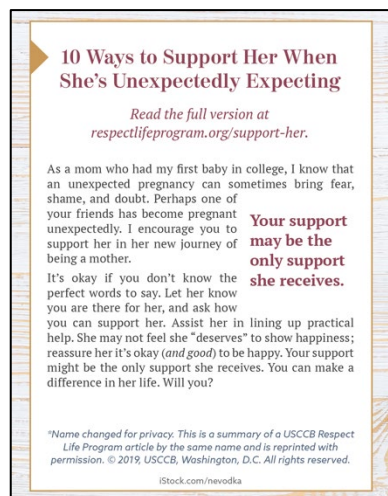
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### Sunday, March 19, 2023



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### Sunday, March 26, 2023



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