

Bulletin Briefs

“Every child who, rather than being born, is condemned unjustly to being aborted, bears the face of Jesus Christ, bears the face of the Lord, who even before he was born, and then just after birth, experienced the world’s rejection. And every elderly person...even if he is ill or at the end of his days, bears the face of Christ. They cannot be discarded, as the ‘culture of waste’ suggests!”

— Pope Francis, Address to Catholic Healthcare Professionals and Gynecologists, Sept. 20, 2013

“A child is not something owed to one, but is a gift. The ‘supreme’ gift of marriage’ is a human person. A child may not be considered a piece of property, an idea to which an alleged ‘right to a child’ would lead. In this area, only the child possesses genuine rights: the right ‘to be the fruit of the specific act of the conjugal love of his parents,’ and ‘the right to be respected as a person from the moment of his conception.”

—Catechism of the Catholic Church, #2378

“Through the vulnerability and dependence of the dying person, we discover a call to reach beyond ourselves to those around us and ultimately to God Himself.”

— Ruth Ashfield, “The Gift of the Dying Person,” *Communio*, 39, Fall 2012

“Respect for that dignity is owed to every human being because each one carries in an indelible way his own dignity and value. *The origin of human life has its authentic context in marriage and in the family*, where it is generated through an act which expresses the reciprocal love between a man and a woman.”

— Congregation of the Doctrine of Faith, *Dignitas Personae: On Certain Bioethical Questions*, 6

Life Facts

During weeks 28-32 of pregnancy the baby’s vision and hearing are well developed. The baby can hear the sound of the mother’s heartbeat, blood flow, and food moving through her body. The baby recognizes the mother’s voice and enjoys listening to soft music.

“Although numerous studies in the Netherlands and elsewhere report an assisted-suicide failure rate up to 25%, Oregon has yet to report even one complication in over four years. This failure to report complications has led even euthanasia advocates themselves to call the credibility of Oregon reporting on assisted suicide into question.”

— *Facts About Euthanasia*, Terri Schiavo Life and Hope Network,
<http://www.terrifight.org/facts-about-euthanasia/>

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