



ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE STATE OF HAWAII
DIOCESE OF HONOLULU
WITNESS TO JESUS



August 24, 2017

To: Pastors and Parish Administrators

cc: Bishop Larry Silva
Parish Respect Life Coordinators
Knights of Columbus Executive Board
Ms. Lisa Gomes, Youth and Young Adult Director

From: Deacon Walter Yoshimitsu, Director
Paulette Vernay, Program Coordinator

As we strive daily to live faithfully to the Lord's commands in a world that is voraciously snatching away moral values, enslaving humanity to a culture of death, we are reminded that Christ is the transforming light that heals and restores the human heart back to its creator. He is our hope!

It is with this vision that the diocesan Respect Life Office launches into the 40 Days for Life Fall Campaign - September 27-November 5 - and invites you and your parishioners to be beacons of hope to save mothers and their unborn children from abortion, to be witnesses to your communities and voices in defense of the vulnerable.

40 Days for Life is the most successful faith-based effort in the United States - endorsed by the Vatican, expanded to 44 nations - that puts into action a desire to cooperate with God in carrying out His plan for the end of abortion. It draws attention to the evil of abortion through the use of a 3-point program:

- **Prayer and fasting** - Inviting people of faith to join together for 40 days of fervent prayer and fasting for an end to abortion
- **Peaceful vigil** - Standing for life through a 40-day peaceful, prayerful, public witness outside a Planned Parenthood abortion facility (Honolulu and Kahului)
- **Community outreach** - Starting in our parishes and taking a positive, upbeat pro-life message to every corner of our city through media efforts, church presentations, and public visibility

Because it can be a fearful and intimidating experience for many to pray publicly in front of an abortion site, we have *modified* the program so that *all parishioners* can participate. The objective is to have prayer and fasting in every parish 12 hours a day for the 40 day campaign, imploring our Lord to hear our pleas and transform hearts.

An informational session for Oahu parishes is scheduled for:

Wednesday, September 6
6:00-8:00 p.m.
St. Stephen Diocesan Center
Komomai Conference Room

For questions and to register, please contact the Respect Life Office: (808)203-6722; respectlife@rcchawaii.org by **Tuesday, September 5**.

Scheduling for Neighbor Islands - Kauai session is August 25 at 10:30 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church. A date will be forthcoming for other islands next week.

To learn more about 40 Days for Life, visit www.40daysforlife.com.