



**MEMORANDUM**

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

**DATE:** September 30, 2020  
**TO:** All Clergy, Religious, Seminarians, Principals, R. E. Directors and Diocesan Staff  
**FROM:** Bishop Oscar A. Solis  
**WHAT:** Bishop's Message

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The fall season is in the air but this year will be very different. We continue to struggle in order to survive the devastating effects of the Coronavirus pandemic – deadly infection, economic downturn, as well as tremendous destruction brought about by natural calamities. The political landscape in our country is also getting uglier as Election Day gets near. However, by the grace of God, hope is not lost and we are surviving.

October offers us great opportunities for our spiritual growth and faith renewal during these challenging times. **Respect Life Sunday** highlights the sanctity and dignity of life from the moment of conception to natural death. It reminds us to protect and nurture God's precious gift of life – of the unborn, the poor, the elderly, the incarcerated, the terminally ill and those marginalized in our society. Kindly take note of the activities and join each other in promoting a culture of life.

The **feast day of St. Francis of Assisi** challenges us to reflect on the turmoil, violence, senseless death, hatred, discrimination and lack of civility in our society and pursue the path of peace and reconciliation. Hence, it is very opportune to pray unceasingly, to lift our hearts, minds and voices especially this **month of the Holy Rosary** honoring and invoking the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Mother, that peace and reconciliation prevail in our polarized society and fragmented world. Let us be peacemakers and treat one another with justice, compassion and love.

The third week of October, our Church celebrates **World Mission Sunday** reminding us of Christ's great commission: *"Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; teach them to observe all that I have commanded you"* (Mt 28:19-20). Our responsibility is not only to support the evangelizing work and sacrifices of many missionaries all over the world with our prayers and financial contributions, but also to carry out our fundamental commitment and solidarity in proclaiming the Good News as missionary disciples of Christ. Let us go out to the peripheries and share the love of God to those who need it most.

Finally, the national election is a couple of days from now. Our country is suffering from deep and painful polarization and division. It is very critical that we elect the right candidates who will lead our nation rightly, justly and responsibly in the pursuit of the common good and wellbeing of everyone. Our responsibility is to encourage our brothers and sisters to exercise their sacred right to vote not based on their political affiliation but according to the dictates of their conscience **informed by the Gospel Values. Please observe the Church election guidelines provided by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.**

Thank you for your cooperation and support. God bless you!

**Knights of Columbus Annual Life Chain**  
**Sunday, November 1 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM**  
**Intersection of South 10600 and State Street, Sandy, UT**

This is a silent prayer vigil to honor the unborn. All religious denominations are welcome. Signs will be available. No graphic or controversial signs or banners are permitted. This is a peaceful, family-friendly event designed to celebrate life in our community. We will stand along the sidewalk, socially distanced, wearing masks, and observing all required health protocols.

**40 Days for Life**

The annual 40 Days for Life anti-abortion campaign began Sept. 23 and will run through Nov. 2. Prayer vigils are planned outside the Planned Parenthood locations in Ogden and Salt Lake City. Those who are interested in participating may contact their parish Respect for Life committee or sign up at [40daysforlife.com/saltlakecity](http://40daysforlife.com/saltlakecity) or [40daysforlife.com/ogden](http://40daysforlife.com/ogden).

**Public Square Rosary Crusade**

The holy rosary will be recited Saturday, Oct. 10, at 1 p.m. on the lawn of St. Ambrose Catholic Church, 2315 East Redondo Ave., SLC, as part of the national America Needs Fatima campaign. For information, contact Tilly Garcia, 801-403-3955.

**CHURCH GUIDELINES DURING ELECTION**

As we near general election season, a few important reminders that Parishes and other IRS-designated section 501(c)(3) church organizations are prohibited from participating in political campaign activity. Thus, certain political activities that are entirely appropriate for individuals may not be undertaken by church organizations or their representatives.

Parishes and schools are often asked by candidates or political groups for permission to speak or distribute literature. The Diocese supports distribution of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' *Faithful Citizenship* materials. We do not support distribution of other voter guides from any other entities, even those that purport to be Catholic.

**Activities That Are Allowed And Encouraged**

***Sharing the Principles of Catholic Social Teaching:*** Parishes and other Catholic organizations are encouraged to share the Church's teaching on the relationships between Christian faith and political life. The Church's teaching on political responsibility, human life, human rights, and justice and peace need to be shared more widely and effectively. The *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship* statement, bulletin insert, and other materials at [www.faithfulcitizenship.org](http://www.faithfulcitizenship.org) are useful for developing educational programs.

***Voter Participation:*** Parishes and other church organizations can encourage members to participate in the electoral process: to register, to vote, to become informed on a broad range of issues, and to become active in the political life of the community. Parishes and other church organizations can also sponsor non-partisan voter registration and "get out the vote" drives. (See the resources, "[Tips for Conducting Candidate Forums](#)" and "[Voter Education and Voter Registration](#).")

***Non-Partisanship:*** The Church does not and will not engage in partisan politics. Pastors may wish to publish the following bulletin announcement in the weeks before the election.

**Bulletin Announcement:** *We strongly urge all parishioners to register, to become informed on key issues, and to vote. The Church does not support or oppose any candidate, but seeks to focus attention on the moral and human dimensions of issues. We do not authorize the distribution of partisan political materials on parish property.*

**Activities to Avoid:** *In order to avoid violating the political campaign activity prohibitions, parishes, other church organizations, and their representatives should remember these guidelines:*

- **Do not endorse or oppose candidates, political parties, or groups of candidates**, or take any action that reasonably could be construed as endorsement or opposition.
- **Do not make available the use of church facilities**, assets, or members for partisan political purposes.
- **Do not authorize distribution of partisan political materials** or biased voter education materials (those that support or oppose—or exhibit bias for or against—any candidate or party) on church property, in church publications, or at church activities.
- **Do not invite or permit only selected candidates to address your members.** Before inviting candidates, make sure such events are consistent with diocesan policy. If so, it is important that all candidates be invited.

Please remember that the IRS rules against political campaign activity also apply to materials posted on parish or other church organization web sites.

### **COUPLES FOR CHRIST – “CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM**

**October 2, 2020.**

**Zoom Meeting: ID 833 7336 8174 PW 917825**

Bishop Solis cordially invites you to join and participate in this Christian Life Program. The Christian Life Program (CLP) is an integrated course intended to lead the program participants into a renewed understanding of God’s call to them as Christian couples or individuals. There are twelve sessions, which consist of a teaching, a group discussion, and a time for fellowship. Each session would normally last for about 2 1/2 hours. The goals of the CLP are:

1. For the individual, it brings a person into a stronger relationship with God by discovering and living more fully the power and gifts he or she received through the Holy Spirit.
2. For the family, it brings married couples to a renewed commitment to Christian family Life and it starts to build up a community of committed Christian families.
3. For the Church, it brings people within a particular parish to a fuller experience of life in the Spirit. Consequently, it strengthens and revitalizes community life in the parish.

For more information, please contact Ricky Coronel via email at [rcor950825@aol.com](mailto:rcor950825@aol.com). Click here to know more about Christian Life Program: <https://couplesforchristusa.org/attend/clp/>

Click here to know more about Couples for Christ: <https://couplesforchristusa.org/learn/>

**CFC Parejas Para Cristo - Programa de Vida Cristiana**

**8 Octubre 2020 a las 7pm (Utah) – 6pm (CA)**

**Reunión en Zoom – Acceso: 872 9109 7362 Contraseña 284735**

El Programa de Vida Cristiana (PVC), es una serie de charlas de crecimiento espiritual diseñadas para dar y recordar a los participantes los elementos esenciales de la fe Cristiana Católica, ayudándoles a redescubrir el sentido de su vocación al matrimonio, la familia y su fidelidad a Dios todos los días y en todo momento de la vida diaria. El Programa (PVC) es un curso integrado destinado a llevar a los participantes a una comprensión renovada y respuesta al llamado de Dios a ellos como hombres y mujeres cristianos. Se divide en tres módulos, cada uno compuesto por cuatro (4) charlas o exposiciones:

1. El módulo presenta los fundamentos absolutos de la vida cristiana, con un énfasis en nuestra percepción de esta con una perspectiva adulta.

2. Presenta el tipo de vida a la que Dios nos llama: Describe en detalle la respuesta personal que involucra recibir a Jesús como Señor y Salvador, y ayuda a las parejas a hacer una reorientación de sus vidas alrededor de Jesús.

3. Ayuda a las parejas a comprometer sus vidas a Jesús de una manera más seria. Les ayuda a apropiarse en sus vidas el poder del Espíritu Santo. Proporciona la base para continuar el crecimiento espiritual.

Quienes completan el PVC son invitados a unirse a PPC. Cuando lo hacen, son parte de un pequeño grupo celular (Household). Este grupo está compuesto entre 5 y 7 parejas -una de ellas líder - y se reúnen semanalmente para orar, así como darse apoyo y estímulo en su vida cristiana. Terminar el PVC es solo el comienzo de un largo proceso de crecimiento y transformación en Cristo. Para lograr esto, PPC ofrece un programa continuo de formación, con enseñanzas, retiros, etc. PPC es reconocida por la Iglesia Católica.



Si hoy escuchas SU voz, no endurezcan sus corazones.  
HEBREOS 3:15

Redescubre  
**Gods  
Love**

**PROGRAMA DE VIDA CRISTIANA Virtual**  
PATROCINADO POR LA REGION CFC/PPC USA SOUTHWEST C

*Lo MEJOR que le ha pasado a su vida empieza el 8 de octubre, 2020  
a las 7 pm, MST, 6 pm PST.*

para **INFORMACION**

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