

July 1, 2012

My Dear Friends in Christ,

The late Pope John Paul II called it "the most important work on earth" and described it as the condition for America's survival. Pope Benedict XVI has written that the future of humanity depends upon it.

They were speaking of the defense of human life, the sacred dignity of each and every human person, from conception to natural death.

I invite you to join the effort of the Church in Dallas to defend and protect human life – in our diocese and beyond – through your support of, and participation with, the Catholic Pro-Life Committee, the Respect Life Ministry of the Diocese of Dallas.

Here in Dallas there is a special reason to be involved in the defense of life. It was here where the tragic 1973 Roe v. Wade decision by the U.S. Supreme Court legalizing abortion on demand was set into motion by the filing of an affidavit in a Dallas courthouse in 1970.

It is, therefore, no coincidence that here we have the most organized, vibrant and effective diocesan pro-life ministry in the nation, widely called a "model." The CPLC, founded in 1993 as a small committee of dedicated volunteers, has grown into a thriving organization of nine ministries addressing all aspects of the abortion crisis and its solution – including prayerful, life-saving counseling each day outside each of the city's abortion centers.

Please read the enclosed materials describing the CPLC, which is doing the most important work on earth, right here in Dallas. Please visit the CPLC website, <u>www.prolifedallas.org</u>, to become informed about the urgent life issues. Please join our effort as a financial supporter, volunteer, or advocate. This effort is not just for some, but for all.

Together, let us build a culture of life.

Faithfully in Christ,

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Most Reverend Kevin J. Farrell, D.D. Bishop of Dallas