

## PASTOR'S CORNER

### *Pro-Life Month and Pet Blessing*

*October is Pro-Life Month.* “God created mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.” Genesis 1:27. As Catholics, we believe in the dignity of every human life from conception until natural death because God created us Imago Die, i.e. in God’s own image. That is why we revere the baby in the womb, the person with profound disabilities, the person on life support, and the criminal on death row. Because all life is precious to God, life is precious to us.

October is Pro-Life Month in our Church, a time to celebrate the dignity and beauty of all life. There will be a number of opportunities during the month to pray for life and stand for life, including: (1) 40 Days for Life (a prayer novena for the cause of life from September 26 to November 4); (2) a St. Francis Parish Day of Prayer at the Abortion Clinic on General Pershing Street in New Orleans (October 14); (3) a Parish Picnic celebrating the gift of family life at Pontiff Park (October 21); and (4) a Baby Bottle Campaign to help fund Pregnancy Resource Centers (October 28).

There will be more details about these opportunities in upcoming bulletins, announcements, flyers and signups; in the meantime, mark your calendars. For additional information on pro-life activities, contact our Parish Pro-Life Coordinator, Ron Carter, at [rtcarter@cox.net](mailto:rtcarter@cox.net) or 256-9696. Let Ron know if you would like to help out with any of these outreaches. Let’s stand tall for life.

*Blessing of Pets.* Thursday, October 4, is the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Among other things, St. Francis is known for the special love he had for animals. He saw them as a beautiful part of God’s creation. The Church provides a rite of blessing for pets and animals. We will have a blessing of the pets of the St. Francis schoolchildren at 8:00 A.M. on Thursday, October 4, in the school yard. Parishioners are invited to bring their pets for blessing as well.

Note: We will have our regular 6:30 A.M. and 8:00 A.M. parish Masses on the day we bless pets; we will need the Church parking lot for those who attend Mass; please park off campus if you are coming for the blessing of pets. Thank you.

God bless, Fr. Joe