



RUAH WOODS PARISH PRO-LIFE DAY OUTLINE



Pro-Life Theme by Age Group	Ruah Woods Institute's REVEALED K-12 Theology of the Body Curriculum Lesson to Teach by Age Group
K-1 st	Grade K — Lesson 8: Order, Design and Meaning
2 nd -3 rd	Grade 2 — Lesson 7: The Dignity of the Human Person
4 th -5 th	Grade 4 - Lesson 3: The Dignity of the Human Person
6 th -8 th	Grade 6 - Unit 3: The Body Reveals Man
High School CTBM	Course 3 Lesson 5: The Dignity of the Human Person
Suggested Prayer:	<u><i>USCCB Intercessory Prayers: Conception to Natural Death</i></u>
Suggested Parish Project:	Ideas: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Pass out prayer cards to spiritually adopt a pre-born baby.2. Donate to a mothers' support agency/diaper drive.3. Plan a trip to a nursing home to visit the elderly.





RUAH WOODS PARISH PRO-LIFE DAY OUTLINE



Introduction: (10 min)

Welcome all parents and children together for this special Pro-Life focused day.

Distribute the prayer below (or have it displayed on a screen to pray together). Encourage the parents/older children to say the prayer with you.

“Most Holy Trinity, we praise and thank you for loving each one of us into life. We ask for the grace to receive anew the gift of our own lives, that each of us may live deeply our true identity as a beloved son or daughter.

We pray that each person may know themselves as chosen and loved, willed into being from the very beginning of time and held in existence at every moment by your love. Father, we ask you to fill us with your light and renew us with your peace. Holy Spirit, we ask for the courage to speak your word of life; may our actions, words, and thoughts serve to uphold and protect the dignity and worth of every person, and may our lives give radiant witness to the truth of your love. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen” (Sisters of Life).

Read aloud Genesis 1:31

SAY: “God freely created everything out of nothing, as an act of love. When he created man he exclaimed, “It is very good.” God gave the man and woman to each other as gifts. Every life is a gift, and we will consider together today how to treat ourselves and others as gifts from God made in his image and likeness!”

Breakout sessions/activities: (45-60 min)

Grades K-1st:

*DRE/Catechist: Read Kindergarten page 85 in REVEALED Teacher’s Guide to prepare for this day.

Use Kindergarten Lesson 8: Order, Design and Meaning

See objectives/materials needed: page 86

Grades 2nd-3rd:

*DRE/Catechist: Read 2nd Grade page 65 in REVEALED Teacher’s Guide to prepare for this day.

Use 2nd Grade Lesson 7: The Dignity of the Human Person

See objectives/materials needed: pg. 66

Grades 4th-5th:

*DRE/Catechist: Read 4th Grade page 23 in REVEALED Teacher’s Guide to prepare for this day.

Use 4th Grade Lesson 3: The Dignity of the Human Person

See objectives/materials needed pg. 24





RUAH WOODS PARISH PRO-LIFE DAY OUTLINE



Middle School 6th-8th:

6th Grade Unit 3: The Body Reveals Man

High School:

Course 3 Lesson 5: The Dignity of the Human Person – Read the Lesson and pick a few discussion questions to discuss with the group. (“Called to be More” Online Module at <https://app.ruahwoods institute.org>. You may print out the lesson, if you wish.)

Group Four-Parent Session:

Content in Appendix 1

Closing Activity (Together) (20 min)

Recap the theme

Closing activity: Do something as a group to help those in need

Ideas:

1. Pass out prayer cards to spiritually adopt a pre-born baby.
2. Donate to a mothers’ support agency/diaper drive.
3. Plan a trip to a nursing home to visit the elderly.

Remind them to discuss the dinner table question at home - (Provided in the parent content appendix)

Closing prayer: (from the USCCB)

Leader: For a growing love of each human person

from conception to natural death;

We pray to the Lord

All: Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Leader: That the life of every human person,
from conception to natural death,
might be enshrined and protected in our laws;

We pray to the Lord

All: Lord, Hear our Prayer

Leader: For a growing love of God’s little ones,
in the womb, in the nursing home or at death’s door:
That we might love with the love of Jesus;

We pray to the Lord

All: Lord, Hear Our Prayer





RUAH WOODS PARISH PRO-LIFE DAY OUTLINE



Appendix 1

RUAH WOODS INSTITUTE PARISH PRO-LIFE DAY

PARENT BREAK-OUT SESSION

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION (provide an area for large group that is convenient to transition to small group discussion)

Introduction (5-10 minutes)

Leader/Clergy/Catechist: We welcome all of our parents gathered here today. The theme for our families today is to celebrate the mystery and beauty of LIFE. Pope St. John Paul II used urgent and powerful language when he addressed this theme in his encyclical the Gospel of Life. he said “. . . we are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the ‘culture of death’ and the ‘culture of life.’ We find ourselves not only faced with but necessarily in the midst of this conflict: we are all involved, and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life.”

Being Pro-life involves keeping present the immense dignity that each and every person possesses from conception to the end of life. Please take a few moments of silence and meditate on these mysteries of life. [READ THE FOLLOWING SLOWLY AND THOUGHTFULLY]:

God has a particular order, design, and meaning behind all of creation with the human person as the pinnacle. (pause)

Our very existence, as body-soul composites, is a gift; and we are called to share in the life of the Holy Trinity. (pause)

Each person has inestimable value because we are the only creature created in the image and likeness of God. (pause)

The world often places a disordered value in temporal things, such as beauty, athleticism, and intelligence. Though these are good, they do not determine the dignity and worth of every single person, created unique, and irreplaceable in the image and likeness of God. (pause)

Talents and qualities are certainly good gifts from God, but the innate goodness of the human person at every stage of life is far deeper and better than any of those other things alone can manifest. (pause)

Every person's dignity springs forth from the fact that God created him or her on purpose out of an overabundance of love. (pause)

Pope Benedict XVI wrote, “Each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed. Each of us is loved. Each of us is necessary.”





RUAH WOODS PARISH PRO-LIFE DAY OUTLINE



We are going to take some time to share and network with one another on how we can more fully embrace the dignity of the human person. We will discuss ways to become more Pro-Life in our hearts, our families, our homes, and our society.

Let us break into small groups to continue our discussion further.

SMALL GROUP BREAKOUT:

Provide an area for each group of 5-9 to have their own discussion.

Provide a copy of the small group discussion questions below for each parent.

Assign a small group leader to facilitate, using these guidelines and ask them to briefly share Respect and Sacred Confidentiality with their group:

Respect— Listen with attention and concentration and try to understand before being understood. Avoid interrupting others and give everyone a chance to speak.

Flow— The facilitator should not use this time to answer questions or teach, but to allow each participant a short amount of time to share without dominating the conversation.

Small Group Discussion (25-35 minutes) — READ ALOUD IN YOUR SMALL GROUP THE FOLLOWING QUOTES AND DISCUSS THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW:

“Each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed. Each of us is loved. Each of us is necessary.” Pope Benedict XVI

Why is this statement the foundation for all of Pro-Life beliefs, teachings, and movements?

How can we apply this statement to our own lives and become more aware of God working within us?

“A society will be judged on the basis of how it treats its weakest members; and among the most vulnerable are surely the unborn and the dying.” Pope St. John Paul II

What can we do in our families to support mothers and to spread the mentality that children are a true blessing from God, rather than a burden?

In what practical ways can our families show dignity and support to the elderly and the dying?

“Christ needs you to enlighten the world and to show it the “path to life” (Psalm 16:11). The challenge is to make the Church’s “yes” to Life concrete and effective. The struggle will be long, and it needs each one of you. Place your intelligence, your talents, your enthusiasm, your compassion and your fortitude at the service of life!” Pope St. John Paul II

How can you use your talents and gifts to serve in the Pro-Life movement?

How can your family use your gifts and talents as a family unit to serve and promote the Pro-Life movement?

*If time allows you may share the following question within your group and with your family later.





RUAH WOODS PARISH PRO-LIFE DAY OUTLINE



DINNER TABLE QUESTION/DISCUSSION TO SHARE WITH YOUR FAMILY:

Read slowly to your family:

When God created the world and the entire universe, He thought of you. You were created from an overflowing love, and God is inviting you to participate in this love, which is your destiny.

What does this statement mean to you?

What are some things we can do as a family to help us participate in God's love?

God is asking us to stand up for and defend those in our society who are the weakest and most vulnerable—the unborn, the sick, and the elderly.

How can we, as a family, support and defend the unborn?

How can we, as a family, support and defend the sick and the dying?

How can we, as a family, support and defend the elderly?

LARGE GROUP WRAP UP (10-15 minutes)

Leader/Clergy/Catechist: Thank you for your participation and sharing with one another. Are there any highlights that each group would like to share with the large group?

Before we return to our children, I want to remind you that God is asking us to defend the dignity of each and every person. The Lord is calling our families to be a true witness and living example of the Pro-Life movement. Here are three reminders to take with you:

(Share the details of the following):

Dinner Discussion that was given in small group.

One Family Goal to implement in your home (plan of action).

Parish Pro-Life Project.

Let's return to our children where we will conclude with prayer.

