

October 7, 2007

## Bicentennial Moments

The Archdiocese celebrates the sanctity of life at the **Respect Life Mass** held each year at the Cathedral Basilica on the first Sunday of October. This year's Liturgy will be held on October 7, 2007 and will begin at 11:00 a.m.

Did you know?

1. The Respect Life Office existed as a committee of several other Diocesan departments since the 1960's before becoming its own entity in 1993.
2. The ministry of the Respect Life Office is comprised of four "branches"- Pro-Life, the Deaf Apostolate, Pastoral Care for Persons with Disabilities and the Ministry to AIDS Victims.
3. Since the 1800's, the Deaf Apostolate has ministered to the faithful of the Archdiocese with advocacy services for the hearing impaired.
4. The Archdiocese of Philadelphia has one of the largest representations at the annual March for Life in Washington, DC, every January.

For further information on these or other Respect Life activities, kindly contact our office at 215-587-5661

October 14, 2007

## Bicentennial Moments

Did you Know?

1. The Jesuits were the first to minister to the early Catholic families and celebrate the sacraments for them in the early 1700's.
2. The Augustinians came to Philadelphia in 1796 and established St. Augustine's Church. George Washington was one of the contributors to the church building fund.
3. The Sisters of Charity were the first order of women religious in the Diocese of Philadelphia arriving from Maryland in 1814.
4. During the Civil War, the Sisters of Charity, the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Sisters of Mercy served as nurses both in hospitals and on the battlefield.
5. The success of our parochial school system could not have been possible without the gift and energy of the innumerable Religious Sisters, Brothers and Priests who have labored tirelessly over the history of our Archdiocese.

Please say a prayer for a Religious who had a role in your life and pray for an increase in Religious vocations. For more information about Consecrated Religious Life please call Sr. Kathleen Leary at 215-587-3796.

October 21, 2007

## Bicentennial Moments

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith organizes World Mission Sunday. This year, World Mission Sunday on October 21, 2007 will begin a year long celebration of the Mission work in the Americas.

Did you know?

1. Pauline Jaricot of France in the early 19th century appealed to small groups, mostly workers in her family's silk factory, to share the little they earned with those whose needs were even greater than their own. She asked the workers to offer daily prayers and a weekly sacrifice for ALL the Church's missions universally. Today, nearly 200 years later, Pauline's vision is known as the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.
2. We are blessed in the America's to have had more than 50 individuals who have been declared saints or blessed and who were Missionaries bringing the Lord's gift of faith and His message of hope to our people. We recall with affection some of them with whom we are most familiar: SS. Katherine Drexel, Elizabeth Ann Seton, Peter Claver, John Neuman, Frances Cabrini, and Blesseds: Juan Diego, Junipero Serra and Kateri Tekakwitha.

For more information, contact the Society for the Propagation of the Faith at 215-587-3944 or e-mail [mmeirs@adphila.org](mailto:mmeirs@adphila.org).

October 28, 2007

## Bicentennial Moments

Did you know that the term "Hispanic" is an umbrella term used to distinguish Spanish speaking persons who come from twenty different countries with diverse cultures. Celebrate with us on **Sunday, October 28, 2007** beginning at 2:00 p.m. with Procession, followed by Mass at 2:30 p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of SS Peter & Paul. They come together at this special Mass to celebrate what unites them, their Catholic faith and Spanish language. You are welcome to come and celebrate with us as we celebrate each other and all the patron saints from our countries. For More information please call the Office for Hispanic Catholics at 215-667-2820