



The Kids' Catholic Virginian

"Let the little children come to me" – Matthew 19:14

Pro-Life: Every life is a gift from God!

Do you sometimes hear your parents or other adults talk about being pro-life? You might notice this issue of the newspaper has a lot of stories that talk about it, too.

Being pro-life is a very big, but basic, part of being Catholic – it means *we're all for life!* We believe that God, our Creator, gave each of us life. That is an awesome gift that only God can give.

Every moment we're alive is because God loves us, is thinking about us, and created us to live with him forever. We should love the easy and the hard times in our lives. No matter how hard it gets – God's gift is always good – and he is always by our side.

God had a plan for our lives way before we were born! We should follow God's will – from the moment he creates us ... to the moment that he means for us to leave this earth and go to him in heaven.

Right now, there are many people in this world who think it's okay to ignore God – to end a baby's life while the baby is still in his/her mommy's tummy. Babies are alive as soon as God creates them, even if we cannot see them yet! Some people also think it's okay to help the elderly or sick die before God would bring them to him.

Remember – **God does not make mistakes. He never gives a gift of life by accident.** God planned every detail about us.

We should never try to change God's plan for the beginning or end of our life – or anyone else's life – no matter how young or old. Fight for life!



Q. We're curious about your clothes. How do you know what to wear (and when) at Mass? Which is your favorite? What do you wear after Mass? What about shoes?

– Mrs. Robinson & Mrs. DeVane's
2nd graders,
Charlottesville Catholic School

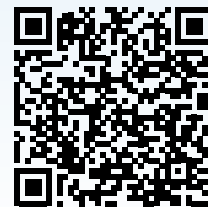
A. The Holy Father gives each bishop a guidebook that describes all the vestments and when you're supposed to wear them.

The vestments we wear at Mass go on top of the black clothes that we wear everyday. Clerical clothes can be a black shirt with a white collar and black pants, or a black cassock – which looks like a long overcoat with a row of buttons from the top to the bottom. We wear black because it shows we live a simple life and try not to draw attention to ourselves.

I don't have a favorite vestment – I just like wearing whatever is appropriate for that occasion. Day to day, I wear a black suit. It's what I wear most.

As for shoes – there are no rules. I can wear sandals, sneakers, or cowboy boots if I want – and some priests do – but I usually wear black dress shoes because they match my suit.

Learn more about the symbols of a bishop from *The Kids' Catholic Virginian* (July 10, 2023).



SAINT SUPERHERO

St. Gianna • The Catholic Pro-Life Saint!

Feast day: April 28 / Say it: jee-AH-nuh

Patroness: mothers, doctors, unborn children

Gianna Beretta Molla is a saint superhero because she was so pro-life that she gave her own life to save her unborn baby girl.

She was a very smart and caring doctor who took especially good care of little kids. More importantly, she was a loving wife to her husband and a working mom to their three kids.

When she was pregnant with her fourth child, she found out she was very sick – and her doctors told her the only way to make her better –

would kill the baby in her tummy. She said no! She would rather die than hurt her baby!

St. Gianna gave her life so her baby girl could have a chance to live. St. Gianna died a few days after her baby was born.

God gave her courage to make this huge sacrifice. We can ask St. Gianna to help our own moms, who do so much and sacrifice so much to take care of us!



St. Gianna with her child Pierluigi in 1957. (Photo/saintgianna.org)

Kids 12 and younger: make sure to check with your parent/guardian, then email Bishop Knestout **YOUR** question.

AskTheBishop@catholicvirginian.org

Include your full name, age, and home parish.