



Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide

10 January 2025
25/001

Dear Priests, Deacons, Religious Sisters and Brothers, Pastoral Associates, Parish Secretaries and Chairs of PPCs,

I wish you all God's blessings for the new year from the Archbishop's Office.

I write to encourage you to promote and attend the upcoming **“Walk for Life”** which will be held on Saturday, 8 February 2025 at Pennington Gardens, opposite St Peter's Cathedral, from 10 am till 12 noon. This year's theme is “Love the Next Generation.”

Please refer to the attached leaflets for all the details. Can you also put up posters in your church porches.

Abortion up to birth in some circumstances is now legal in South Australia. However, it's so important to challenge the popular thinking that abortion is a “health issue” or a “freedom of choice issue” and that legalisation can remove the moral aspect of taking a human life. We are pro-life in terms of the life of mother and child and we love them both. Furthermore, for all who have been involved with abortion we offer, not condemnation, but the healing, compassionate, freeing love and forgiveness of Christ.

For us the wider context is the respect for life at all stages and in all situations. Respect for life is a **“seamless garment”** and covers end of life issues, the aged and disabled, domestic violence, the homeless and poor, acceptance of refugees and other areas of social justice. It's from this perspective that in the Archdiocese, within the office of **“Justice, Healing and Inclusion,”** we have established **“Embrace Life”** as a way to promote, communicate and encourage the positive ways we can stand for life. The Walk for Life is just one of these.

Thanks for your support once again in promoting the **“Walk for Life.”**

In Christ,

Fr Dean Martin
Vicar General

3 Attachments