

To: Catholic Elementary School Principals, DREs, Home School Associations

From: Lorraine Allaire, Respect Life Coordinator

Date: October 29, 2009

Re: Respect Life Contest – January 1-31, 2010

Greetings! Preparations for the 2010 Contest are now complete. The purpose of the annual Respect Life Contest is to create an opportunity for teachers and children to discuss the theme(s) and the need to respect human life in all forms: the unborn, the disabled, the sick and elderly and those with special needs. This years themes are listed below along with instructions for participation. Lesson guides/suggestions are included.

**Theme 1:** Every Child Brings Us God's Smile

**OR**

**Theme 2:** Freedom of Conscience: Why is this necessary for Health Care providers?

**Level 1** - Poster 8 ½" by 11" - Grade K-1-2

**Level 2** - Poster 8 ½" by 11" or poem - Grade 3-4-5

**Level 3** – Poster 8 ½" x 11", essay (200 word minimum),

PowerPoint, video, small group collage (poster board) - Grade 6-7-8

1. A Submission Form is required **by February 19, 2010**. Submit the form by mail or use the enclosed form as a guide to submit your information via email. The overall winning entry must be included with the Submission Form. If a collage is chosen, take a digital photo of the collage and submit as an email attachment.
2. Only entries that focus on human life should be chosen. **Schools that wish to incorporate this contest into Catholic Schools Week should modify dates so that winner is chosen during the last week in January. Programs are encouraged to think of creative ways to get 100% participation (like dress down day, extended recess, etc.).**
3. The overall winner entry from each participating program will be included in the 2010 Respect Life Contest Booklet. Two copies of the Booklet will be mailed to the contact name on the Submission Form: one for the winner and one for the program.

It's a joy to share the booklet of winning entries with people throughout the diocese. Last year a for the first time a video was chosen as overall winner.

The two young men who entered the video were invited to the Respect Life Coordinators Workshop in June where they showed their entry and explained how it was developed.

4. A certificate signed by the Bishop and a precious feet pin will be provided for each Level Winner. These will be mailed to the contact name on the Submission Form. Please make the presentation of these certificates into a special occasion if possible. Recognizing the children after Sunday Mass could allow the parents to be included.

**Find creative opportunities to display all entries:** the parish center during Sunday coffee hour, a vestibule display, insert a winning essay in the bulletin. This allows the whole church community to see the value of human life as presented through the eyes of their children.

### Something New

A school prize will be given to the programs that involve all classes in the contest. This does not mean that 100% of the students in each class must participate, but that **you must receive entries from all of the classes in your school or program.** If your program meets this criteria, include the Optional Prize Selection when you send in your Submission Form.

The enclosed packet includes a poster and a few samples of entries from previous years in case your program is new to the contest and your teachers are curious to see some entries.

If I can be of assistance in any way, please contact me at 904-308-7474.

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## Respect Life Contest 2010 Submission Form

### Every Child Brings Us God's Smile

Complete this form and submit along with the overall winning entry to Lorraine Allaire.

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Select one and list school or program name:

School \_\_\_\_\_

Religious Education Program \_\_\_\_\_

Home School Association \_\_\_\_\_

Winning entries (certificates will be provided):

Level 1 Grades K – 2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Level 2 Grades 3 – 5 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Level 3 Grades 6 – 8 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Overall Winner (best of level 1, 2 & 3) – Submit ONLY this entry.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_