5 November 2018
Feast of All Saints and Blessed of the Society of Jesus

Youth Rally and Mass for Life

In the late 1990s, the Jesuit Conference, working closely with Jesuit and Ignatian partners across the United States, began celebrating a Jesuit Mass for Life for Jesuit school and partner groups who were coming to Washington, D.C., to participate in the annual March for Life.

In large part, this Mass was offered to accommodate the large and growing number of Jesuit-affiliated groups attending the March for Life who could not find space to participate in the Archdiocese of Washington’s Mass for Life, which also took place around this time.

In subsequent years, the Archdiocesan Mass was able accommodate everyone wishing to celebrate the Holy Eucharist together in advance of the March for Life.

For that reason, and in order to join in solidarity with the greater Catholic community gathered to participate in the March for Life, the Jesuit Conference will not be sponsoring a Jesuit Mass for Life in 2019 but would encourage all Jesuit and Ignatian partner groups to participate in the Archdiocese of Washington’s Youth Rally and Mass for Life (http://youthrallyandmassforlife.org), to be held on January 18, 2019, at the Capital One Center at 8:30 a.m.

This event is an excellent opportunity for young people to come together to worship and renew their commitment to standing for the unborn and for the dignity of all human life. As president of the Jesuit Conference, I have been invited to concelebrate the Mass, and I look forward to seeing many Jesuit and Ignatian partners there.

Groups wishing to attend the Youth Rally and Mass for Life will need to request tickets. Please email outreach@jesuits.org with the subject line “Mass for Life” with the number of tickets needed. Please email your request by December 15, 2018. Information on how to receive your tickets will be provided after requests are received.

Additionally, this year the Jesuit Conference is an official sponsor of the Cardinal O’Connor Conference for Life, to be held at Georgetown University on January 19, 2019. The Cardinal O’Connor Conference is the largest annual collegiate pro-life conference in the United States. At this conference, young people have a unique opportunity to engage intellectually with the Church’s commitment to the pro-life movement.

The O’Connor Conference also requires that groups register in order to participate. Groups can register directly at www.oconnorconference.com/attendees.

The provinces of the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States remain committed to the dignity of human life from conception to a natural death. We look forward to praying with others who share in this commitment in January.

Fr. Timothy Kesicki, SJ
President,
Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States