

Pregnant and parenting moms in need are in our parishes and our neighborhoods. As Pope Francis reminds us, our parishes need to be "islands of mercy in the midst of the sea of indifference." Everyone in our parish community should know where to refer a pregnant woman in need.

Beginning March 25, 2020, the Church will celebrate the 25th anniversary year of the prophetic papal encyclical *Evangelium vitae* (*The Gospel of Life*). This document, written by Pope St. John Paul II, reaffirmed the Church's constant teaching on the value and inviolability of every human life.

This anniversary year gives us a wonderful opportunity to assess, expand, and better communicate resources to pregnant moms and families in need at the local level. Our Diocese is joining a nationwide effort from March 25, 2020 to March 25, 2021 entitled: "Walking with Moms in Need: A Year of Service."

We invite all parishioners to join us as we embark on this *Year of Service*. For more information, and to ensure you receive news and updates, please contact:

