



**RESPECT LIFE, JUSTICE AND PEACE
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS
(Parish-based and outreach opportunities)**

1. **CHRISTMAS IN JULY** - Baskets are placed in the church for non-perishable food donations during the month of July. (electronic flyer available)
 - a. Two weeks before the beginning of the drive, use bulletin and Mass announcements.
 - b. The last weekend in June, distribute bookmark sized "grocery lists" and have flyer published in the bulletin as an insert.
 - c. The four weekends of the drive, have large baskets at all the entrances of the church to collect the food. Have members of the Youth and Young standing near the baskets to thank people and help place the cans in the basket.
 - d. If the food bank has an information flyer, you can have a stack of those adjacent to the baskets and give one to everyone coming into Mass.
2. **Grocery Bags** (For Christmas in July or Anytime) – Another variation is to get paper grocery bags and staple on each one a grocery list of food needed by the parish or local food bank. Place bags in the sanctuary at the beginning of Mass and keep there throughout Mass. At the end of Mass, ask each family to take a bag and fill it with groceries from the list on the bag. Have them return them the following weekend.
3. **Box of Love** (For Christmas in July or Anytime) – Another variation is to have boxes stacked on tables outside of church and inside each box is a grocery list of specific food items that will fit into the box. Ask each family to take a Box of Love and fill it and return it the following week. The boxes will be given to needy families.
4. **BACK TO SCHOOL CLOTHING DRIVE** (August) – A back to school clothing drive in August for the children living in a local shelters or working poor.
 - a. Bulletin announcements encouraged parents not to just donate clothes their children do not need, but to have a dialogue with their children about what clothes they have, what do they really need and from their blessings what can they share. Ask for only "gently used" clothing.
 - b. Ask for donations of new clothing. Ask parents to take the children shopping for the clothing that will be donated. Ask their opinion of what the children would most need or want.
5. **FAIR TRADE COFFEE** (Anytime) (electronic flyer available) – On two Sundays, served fair-trade coffee at coffee and donuts, included flyers on the tables relating fair trade to Catholic Social Teaching and talked with guests about fair trade. Sell fair trade coffee as part of the event.
 - a. Contact Earth Friendly Coffee at 303-641-4283 and speak to Diane Hewes. She will send coffee to be sold on consignment. Any unsold coffee can be returned.
 - b. Approach your pastor regarding having all coffee served in the parish is fair trade.
 - c. For more information, go to www.earthfriendlycoffee.com.
6. **BACK BAY NEWPORT BEACH** (Anytime) – The Back Bay Visitor Center has a variety of involvement opportunities that would focus on "care for creation". Contact their Volunteer Coordinator Rita McCoy at (949) 923-2296 or rita.mccoy@ocparks.com.

7. **BIRTH-CHOICE WALK FOR LIFE** (April) – There is a South County and North County Walk. The volunteers are a HUGE help for this event by blowing up balloons, helping with registration, helping at our refreshment table, baking for the walkers or bringing juice/water, helping at our resource table, face painting for the kids, handing out T-Shirts; guiding the walkers on the route; walking with them and earning pledges and donations. Other anytime Birth-Choice volunteer opportunities is having volunteers come to fold diapers; bake cookies for parenting classes or post Birth-Choice flyers in the community, (e.g. grocery store, park, schools, bathrooms) and many more. Contact Jennifer Irvine at 949-261-2981 or irvine@birthchoiceclinic.org.
8. **40 DAYS FOR LIFE** (Fall / Spring) –The 40 Days for Life Campaign consists of prayer, fasting (i.e. food, TV, internet etc), and a peaceful vigil - outside a Planned Parenthood center or other abortion facility – to end abortion in America. Parish or group commit to a number of hours on a particular day every week of the 40 Days campaign that they will pray in front of a local abortion facility. Campaign is held for 40 Days in the Spring and 40 Days in the Fall. Your group is welcome to do it one or both campaigns. Contact Alejandra Baker for more information and to schedule your group at (949) 690-7315 alejandra.baker@gmail.com.
9. **MOTHER’S DAY ROSES SALES** (May) – Many parishes in the Diocese sell roses to support their local Respect Life clinic, center or shelter. Youth and young adults can assist by picking up the roses at the florist; trimming roses and putting them into vases; helping to transport roses from coolers to the selling spot on church grounds. These events are normally initiated by the Respect Life Rep at the parish. Contact your Respect Life Rep to coordinate.
10. **PETERS CANYON REGIONAL PARK** (Anytime) – Rangers are looking for volunteers to help restore the park’s habitat on very first and third Sundays of the month. Volunteers, along with the park staff and rangers, remove invasive and non-native plants as well as plant native trees and plants; and seeding damaged areas as well as seed collecting for new plant growth; Building and repairing nesting boxes, picnic tables, and other structures and building and repairing trails. Rangers provide the needed tools. All they need are bodies to help them do the work to preserve the wonderful park and its ecosystem. To contact OC Parks Volunteer Services Coordinator, Angeline Santiago, Work (714) 480-2827 Cell (714) 697-0623 Angeline.Santiago@hcs.ocgov.com or email peterscanyon@ocparks.com. Individuals may register at www.OCPARKSForms.com.
11. **BOLSA CHICA WETLANDS HUNTINGTON BEACH** (Anytime) – a variety of habitat restoration projects. Contact them at (714) 846-1114 for more information.
12. **CALIFORNIA CATHOLIC LEGISLATIVE NETWORK** (Anytime) (electronic flyer available) – Have a sign-up night where the young adults join the California Catholic Conference of Catholic Bishops to receive weekly updates on legislation important to our Catholic values. Go to www.cacatholic.org and click on “Click here to Join”.
13. **USCCB JUSTICE, PEACE AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT ACTION ALERTS** (Anytime) – Have a sign-up night where the young adults sign up for United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Action Alerts. <http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/takeaction.shtml>

14. **JUST FAITH** (Anytime) – *Justice-Walking* (J-Walking) program for high school juniors and seniors 16-18 years old and new version for college youth. Both programs encourage involvement with social issues. J-Walking is an unconventional, nine-month journey into “engaged spirituality”. J-Walkers commit to eighteen, bi-weekly, sessions, as well as two retreat days, and a weekend justice-immersion pilgrimage. Each group “adopts” a local social service agency for the duration of the process, and one meeting each month takes place on-site at the agency. Contact Joyce Cottage at Justice Partners 949-306-7324 or www.justicepartnersoc.org. and www.justfaith.org.
15. **REBUILDING TOGETHER** (April) - This national non-profit organization, previously known as Christmas in April, helps low income seniors with house repairs and refurbishing, such as new roofing, new flooring, bathroom improvements, painting, fence construction, etc. to make the house safe and secure. The project usually is carried out as part of the National Work Day, generally in April. In addition to the annual weekend project, from time to time there are special projects that Rebuilding Together carries out. Cy Baumann (949-854-9605) is in charge of Rebuilding Together for Orange County.
16. **HOAG HOSPITAL** (Anytime) – Hoag has many youth (ages 14-18 in high school) and young adult volunteer opportunities. Partial list of opportunities for youth are transportation of patients, special events, service with children, service in patient care areas. Young adults may be assigned to service positions that have patient interaction or many clerical and support jobs too. Commitment is one year of service and at least 9 hours per month. For more information, please contact our Junior Advisor Julie Jacobson at 949/675-6430 between the hours of 9am-8pm.
17. **CATHOLIC LOBBY DAY** (April 27, 2010) (electronic flyer available) – Catholic Lobby Day is a gathering of people of faith raising their voices in “sincere dialogue...and with anxious interest...seeking the common good” by meeting with elected officials in order to speak on behalf of those who are poor, vulnerable or voiceless. The California Catholic Conference hosts Catholics all over California who are interested in exercising their “faithful citizenship” in their state’s Capitol. This is a one-day trip to Sacramento with Bishops and representatives from various diocesan ministries, lay organizations, religious and the seminarians which includes information sessions, a rally at the capitol, visits with legislators and Mass. For information, contact Roxanna Payton at 714-282-3058 or rpayton@rcbo.org.
18. **SPIRITUAL ADOPTION** (January) (electronic flyer available) – The weekend near January 22, (observance of Roe v. Wade decision), host a Spiritual Adoption Program that includes daily prayer for nine months for a baby who is in danger of abortion. At the end of the nine months, host a baby shower for Moms at Casa Teresa (or Precious Life Shelter).
19. **RESPECT LIFE CENTERS OPEN HOUSES** (Jan. 23, 2010) (electronic flyer available) – In observance of Roe v. Wade, our Catholic Respect Life Centers, Clinics and Shelters hosts an open house on their premises. Meet those who work with women in crisis pregnancies and see the great work that they do. (Volunteer opportunities available)