

20 Catholic Ministries Appeal
22 DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

One Family in Mission - Building a Community of
FAITH **HOPE** **& LOVE**

"God's love calls us to move beyond fear. We ask God for the courage to put on faith, hope and love as we go out into the world and become the Word in body as well as spirit."
- Pope Francis

Happy Independence Day!



"The Declaration of Independence stated that all men and women are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, and that governments exist to protect and defend those rights. Those ringing words continue to inspire us today, even as they have inspired peoples throughout the world to fight for the freedom to live in accordance with their dignity." -Pope Francis

*Quo Vadis, America?*¹

THERE ARE TWO WAYS, ONE OF LIFE AND ONE OF DEATH,
BUT A GREAT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO WAYS.²

A Pastoral Letter from the Most Reverend John O. Barres
To the People of God in the Diocese of Rockville Centre on the occasion
of the United States Supreme Court Decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson*

[CLICK HERE TO READ THE FULL LETTER](#)

**Every Child is
Created in the
Image and**

Likeness of God

“We still don't know why we are deserving of such a blessed gift from God, but we now know what PURE LOVE is this side of Heaven.”

--Bob, father of a son with Down Syndrome



“Your child has Down Syndrome” are the dreaded words only another parent who has heard them can understand fully. Overwhelmed at first with confusion, shock, and fear, parents can feel very unprepared for the challenges that lie ahead. But every child is created in the image and likeness of God. And parents know more than anyone that their children with Down Syndrome imitate God’s love in an extraordinary way and bring a fullness to their families that they could not have imagined.

Still, the unknown road can be daunting, especially in a world that distorts authentic love. Our Office of Human Life, Family and Bioethics can help parents facing this diagnosis find resources, organizations and support networks that can help them greet their newborn child with enthusiasm, hope and the confidence of knowing they are not alone. Like every family, those loving a child with Down Syndrome know the tears of parenting, but they also know the enormous joys of raising a special child in a family entrusted to God’s grace.

“Families who know that a special needs child also bears the image of God will accept and love that child and in doing so will find a joy that conquers hardship.”

-- Denise Crean, mother of Sam who has Down Syndrome

Visit our website new resource page at
<https://drvclife.org/adverse-prenatal-diagnosis> for more information

**YOUR SUPPORT OF THE CATHOLIC
MINISTRIES APPEAL HAS HELPED TO MAKE
THIS POSSIBLE!**

Leaving a Legacy of Faith

A Will is a critical legal document that allows you to be a good steward of your family, parish and other charities that mean something to you.

For a brochure on planned giving please email bkilarjian@drvc.org. Thank you



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