

Lesson 1: The Gift of Life and the Incarnation

Objective: See each person as a gift find the face of Christ in each other.

Target Group: Grades 9-12

Time Allotted: 40 minutes

Materials Required: Holy Family Hospital video, Suggested readings:

2015 Respect for Life Month Statement: <http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/2015/2015-respect-life-month-statement.cfm>

Story of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patron Saint of the Unborn:

<https://www.archbalt.org/family-life/respect-life/spiritual-adoption/upload/gTHE-STORY-OF-OUR-LADY-OF-GUADALUPE.pdf>



Lesson Plan

Background resource for educators: Luke 1:5-25, Luke 10:27, 29-37

Lesson Topic: All life is created by God and, therefore, is sacred. As the body of Christ, we are called to defend and nurture all life, particularly the lives of the most vulnerable among us.

Goals:

- a. Students will understand that all life is a gift from God that should be defended and nurtured.

Lesson

- a. Each one of us is called to take care of the vulnerable. Invite students to share who the vulnerable are in our culture today.
 - a. Examples: the unborn, the elderly, the sick, the intellectually and physically disabled, the impoverished, refugees and immigrants, and those who are lonely
- b. Have students read the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Unborn.
 - a. Recommended discussion questions:
 - b. What evidence of Mary's appearance at Guadalupe do you think is most miraculous?
 - c. What was the significance of Our Lady choosing to appear before Juan Diego?
 - d. Why do you think Our Lady of Guadalupe is considered to be the Patroness of the Unborn?
- c. Explain to students that by participating in *Babies in Bethlehem*, they are caring for the mothers, babies, and families in Bethlehem served by Holy Family Hospital. Play the Holy Family Hospital video and discuss why the Hospital's ministry is so significant to families living in the Holy Land.
- d. Have students read the 2015 Respect for Life Month statement. Invite them to share an excerpt of the reading that stood out to them and why.
 - a. Recommended discussion questions:
 - b. Was there a part of the reading that stood out to you? If so, why?
 - c. Why is human life sacred?
 - d. What do you consider to be a culture of life?
- e. Have students research a saint or someone they know that upholds a culture of life. Have them write about that person's life and what he/she does/did on a daily basis to care for the vulnerable around him/her.