

OCTOBER IS
PREGNANCY AND
INFANT LOSS
AWARENESS MONTH

*Carried
with
Love*

HOMILY
TALKING
POINTS

*for your
Parish*



Red Bird
MINISTRIES

Here are some talking points to prepare your homily on Respect Life Sunday or in preparing for Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day

PAIN POINTS FOR FAMILIES OF LOSS



Begin in the Garden: Share the narrative of God's creation of the world, the formation of Adam and Eve, and His command for them to be fruitful and multiply. It's essential for families to understand that this was part of God's original design; however, with the introduction of sin into the world, we were confronted with death.



Death was not a part of God's original plan for us:

"God did not create death nor does He rejoice in the destruction of the living." Wisdom 1:13.

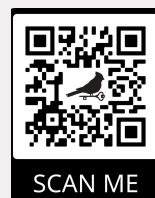
God did not will your baby to die, even though He allowed it. Explain permissive will and actual will. Families often think that God is punishing them.



Families need to know that the Church supports them

in their effort to be open to life, but we aren't immune to death even if we have done everything the Church has asked of us. Jesus weeps with us when death comes upon us.

*Visit our website page
for all these and more
resources*





PAIN POINTS FOR FAMILIES OF LOSS



Hope of Salvation For Infants Who Died Without Baptism: by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. Many families worry about where their baby is when he/she dies. We have to be able to help families believe in the Mercy of God for their baby even though the Church has no definitive conclusion. You can talk about the baptism of desire and the famous quote from St. Bernard, “Your faith spoke for this child. Baptism for this child was only delayed by time. Your faith suffices. The waters of your womb- were they not the waters of life for this child? Look at your tears. Are they not like the waters of baptism? Do not fear this. God’s ability to love is greater than our fears. Surrender everything to God.” You may also want to share how God is not bound by His Sacraments, example St. Dismus.



We were made for Heaven:

Help the family to understand that their primary role and responsibility as a faithful Catholic parent is to get their family to Heaven.



Don't miss the resurrection:

Lastly, “Mary Magdalene was so consumed by grief she almost missed the resurrection.” As humans, we need to be able to weep like Jesus and run to the tomb, but we also need to be present in our search for Jesus in the garden to hear Him when He calls out our name not to miss him. Every tear is gathered and made holy by Jesus, and He holds every drop in His Sacred Heart. In the silence before Him in the Blessed Sacrament, we hear Him whisper His love for us. The pain we are feeling now is not the end of the story. We were not made for this world. Our home is in Heaven. Let us run to the Eucharist like our life depends on it, because it does.