



Church Documents

Joliet Diocese Life Office – Resource Center

Education for *Life*

Catholic documents are made up of two categories: 1) those issued by the Vatican, i.e., popes, ecumenical councils and the Roman Curia; and 2) those issued by the bishops, either as a group, such as the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, or as individuals who are leaders of dioceses. For ease of use, our list of church documents appear in alphabetical order. These documents are for reference purposes, however, we have a limited supply of some of these documents for sale. Sale items are indicated with an asterisk after the title.

Title	Author	Type	Date
A Culture of Life and the Penalty of Death*	US Bishops Conference	USCCB/Statement	2005
Ad Tuendam Fidem (To Protect the Faith)	John Paul II	Apostolic Letter	1998
Address of JP II To a Group of American Bishops	US Bishops Conference	Address	1983
Atheistic Communism	Pius XI	Encyclical	1937
Behold Your Mother, Women of Faith	US Bishops Conference	Pastoral Letter	1973
Blessings of Age	US Bishops Conference	USCCB/Statement	1999
Catechism of the Catholic Church	John Paul II	Catechism	1994
Catechism on The Gospel of Life	Hardon, Fr. John	Catechism	1996
Charter for Health Care Workers*	Pontifical Council for Pastoral Assistance	Charter	1989
Charter of the Rights of the Family	John Paul II	Charter	1983
Code of Canon Law	Canon Law Society of America	Reference	1983
Commentary on Reply of Sacred Congregation on Sterilization	National Conference of Catholic Bishops	Commentary	1977
Declaration on Abortion	Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith	Declaration	1974
Declaration on Euthanasia*	Sacred Congregation for Doctrine of the Faith	Declaration	1980
Declaration on Procured Abortion*	Sacred Congregation for Doctrine of the Faith	Declaration	1974
Declaration on the Right to Life and Abortion	US Bishops Conference	Declaration	1974
Declaration on Therapeutic Use of	Pontifical Academy for Life	Declaration	2000

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Stem Cells			
Decree on the Media of Social Communication	Paul VI	Papal Decree	1963
Deus Caritas Est (God is Love)*	Benedict XVI	Encyclical	2005
Dignitas Personae (The Dignity of a Person)*	Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith	Instruction	2009
Donum Vitae –The Gift of Life (Instruction on Respect for Human life in Its Origin and on the Dignity of Procreation)*	Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith	Instruction	1987
Educational Guidance in Human Love	Sacred Congregation for Doctrine of the Faith	Outline	1983
Ethical and Religious Directives for Health Care Services*	US Bishops Conference	Directive	2009
Evangelium Vitae (The Gospel of Life)*	John Paul II	Encyclical	1995
Everything I Have Is Yours- Understanding God’s Plan for Marriage and the Gift of Life*	Bishop J. Peter Sartain	Pastoral Message	2007
Facing the End of Life: A Pastoral Letter from the Bishops of Illinois	Illinois Bishops	Pastoral Letter	2001
Faithful Citizenship-Civic Responsibility for a New Millenium	US Bishops Conference	USCCB/Statement	1999
Faithful for Life A Moral Reflection*	US Bishops Conference	USCCB/Statement	1995
Faithful to the Lord of Life	Bishop Joseph Gerry	Pastoral Letter	2000
Familiaris Consortio (On the Family)*	US Bishops Conference	Apostolic Exhortation	1981
Fides Et Ratio (On the Relationship between Faith and Reason)	John Paul II	Encyclical	1998
Follow the Way of Love	US Bishops Conference	Pastoral Message	1993
Formation in Chastity of Children and School Pupils	Most Rev. Bernard Stewart	Pastoral Statement	1978
Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*	US Bishops Conference	USCCB/Statement	2007
Human Life in Our Day	United States Bishops	Pastoral Letter	1968
Humanae Vitae - Of Human Life (On the Regulation of Birth)*	Paul VI	Encyclical	1968
Humani Generis (On the Human Race)	Pius XII	Encyclical	1950
If You Want Peace, Defend Life	Paul VI	Papal Message	1977
Instruction on Bioethics	Sacred Congregation for Doctrine of the Faith	Instruction	1987
Letter to Families*	John Paul II	Papal Letter	1994
Life-Giving Love in an Age of Technology*	US Bishops Conference	USCCB/Statement	2009

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Living the Gospel of Life: A Challenge to American Catholics*	US Bishops Conference	USCCB/Statement	2008
Marriage-Love and Life in the Divine Plan*	US Bishops Conference	USCCB/Letter	2009
Mater et Magistra (Christianity and Social Progress)	John XXIII	Encyclical	1961
Mysterium Ecclesiae (Mystery of the Church)	Sacred Congregation for Doctrine of the Faith	Declaration	1974
Mysterium Fidei (Mystery of Faith)	Paul VI	Encyclical	1965
Negotiation-Solution to Threat of War	John Paul II	Papal Letter	1982
Nutrition and Hydration: Moral and Pastoral Reflections	Committee for Pro-Life Activities	Pastoral Reflection	1992
Of Human Life	Archbishop Charles Chaput	Pastoral Letter	1998
On Handicapped People	National Conference of Catholic Bishops	Pastoral Statement	1978
On Homosexuality	Most Rev. John R. Quinn	Pastoral Letter	1980
On Religious Life	John Paul II	Papal Letter	1983
On the Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons*	Sacred Congregation for Doctrine of the Faith	Papal Letter	1986
On the Question of Admission of Women to the Priesthood	Sacred Congregation for Doctrine of the Faith	Declaration	1976
On Uniform Rights of the Terminally Ill Act	US Bishops Conference	USCCB/Statement	1986
Ordinatio Sacerdotalis –Reserving Priestly Ordination to Men	John Paul II	Apostolic Letter	1994
Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities-A Campaign in Support of Life*	US Bishops Conference	Statement	2001
Reconciliatio et Paenitentia (On Reconciliation and Penance)*	John Paul II	Apostolic Exhortation	1984
Redemptor Hominis (The Redeemer of Humanity)	John Paul II	Encyclical	1979
Rerum Novarum, On the Hundred Anniversary of	John Paul II	Encyclical	1991
Sacrum Liturgiam (Sacred Liturgy)	Paul VI	Apostolic Letter	1964
Statement on Capital Punishment	US Bishops Conference	USCCB/Statement	1981
Statement on Population	National Conference of Catholic Bishops	USCCB/Statement	1973
Statement on School-Based Clinics	National Conference of Catholic Bishops	USCCB/Statement	1988
The Hispanic Presence Challenge and Commitment	US Bishops Conference	Pastoral Letter	1983
The Truth and Meaning of Human Sexuality*	Pontifical Council for the Family	Council Guidelines	1995
To All Who Work For the Disabled	Sacred Congregation for Doctrine of	Pastoral Statement	1981

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	the Faith		
To Live in Christ Jesus*	US Bishops Conference	Pastoral Letter	1976
Veritatis Splendor (The Splendor of Truth)*	John Paul II	Encyclical	1993