

Sunday Q&A

Your Faith in Focus

FIRST, SEE PEOPLE AS PEOPLE

What can we do to defend human life and human dignity? How can we be in solidarity with the March for Life?

Every January, thousands of Catholics from all over the country gather in Washington, DC, to march in support of the implementation of policies that protect the unborn and an end to abortion. This week, Aimee MacIver offers a reflection about what we can do to join this effort all year round.

Do More, Love More, Be More.

Every solution begins with this. If we want to end the tragedy of abortion, we must humanize the unborn. But we also must humanize their mothers, the women who feel that abortion is their only option: befriend them, listen to them, accompany them. We must humanize the men who are connected, the men who struggle to figure out what it means to be a man.

Every solution to poverty, racial injustice, homelessness, violent crime, and capital punishment starts with seeing people as people. We can't walk in their shoes, but we can walk right next to them.

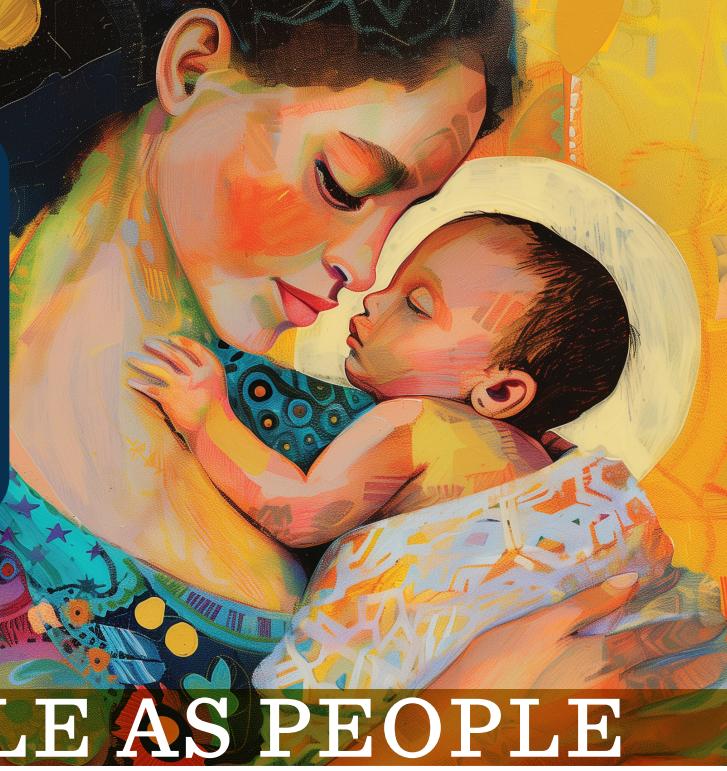
It's not going to be easy, ever. Our world suffers so profoundly from so much deficiency, so much lack of really seeing others.

Being pro-life means you're going to have to do more and love more than the status quo. You're going to have to be more patient, more kind, more intentional. You're going to have to listen patiently when people attack or accuse. You're going to have to respond lovingly when people cast false blame. You're going to have to speak truth even when it comes at a cost. You're going to have to keep going when everyone else is just checking the boxes and checking out. You're going to have to make sacrifices of your time and energy.

Do everything you can. You *know* the cause is worth it.

**You Have the Spark;
Put on Your Boots
and Do Something**

- It's long work to love people, bring justice, solve problems, and build and rebuild what gets torn down.
- But here's the thing: Look around. You are not alone. See the abundance God has already provided. Trust that everything else will be provided, too.
- Pray. Keep talking with and listening to God. Let him show you what he sees in you. Let him light the fire of loving what he loves in you.
- Fire is catching. You already have the spark to change this world. Keep it going. The world desperately needs your light. Stir it up into flames. Put on your boots, even if you're tired. And start marching.



Ponder and Pray

- How are you being called to build a culture of life? What part do you think you play in helping women in crisis, defending the unborn, and addressing situations that leave people feeling desperate?
- What is going on in your community that can help you understand that you are not alone in defending life and human dignity? Who can you connect with?
- How can you effectively communicate a vision of human dignity and life issues with people in your life? What questions do you currently have? How is God calling you into conversations?



Tip of the Week

Pray, sacrifice, and give in solidarity with the March for Life in Washington, DC, on January 24. Write down what you propose to do. And then do it.

Dive Deeper

Scan this code to listen more:

Or go to: <https://media.ascensionpress.com/2024/01/22/reflection-why-we-march/>



“Our world suffers from a lack of really seeing others.”

Aimee MacIver and her husband, Colin, teach theology at St. Scholastica Academy in Covington, Louisiana, where they serve as the service director and the campus minister respectively. Amy also contributes to *Ascension Articles*, from which this reflection was adapted.