

# Bulletin Articles (Abridged) - Gun Violence Awareness Month 2026

## **June 2026 (use if only one post for the month)**

### **June is Gun Violence Awareness Month**

Archbishop Rozanski has noted, “Gun violence is a human life -- a quality of life -- issue. Those who are threatened by gun violence are not living the fullest potential of their lives.”

More than 43,000 Americans are killed with guns, and 76,000 more are shot and wounded each year.

### **June 6-7**

#### **June 5-7 Is Wear Orange Weekend**

Wear Orange is a movement to honor victims and survivors of gun violence and to raise awareness of the impact of gun violence. Nearly 60 percent of adults, or someone they know or care about, have experienced gun violence in their lifetime.

Locking firearms can reduce gun violence. Free gun locks are available - ask your parish office.

### **June 13-14**

#### **Gun Violence and Children**

Guns are the leading cause of death for American children. We can reduce unintentional shootings involving children and child and teen suicides by locking our firearms and storing ammunition separately.

Free gun locks are available - ask your parish office.

### **June 20-21**

#### **The Lesser-Known Side of Gun Violence**

Nearly 60% of all adult gun deaths are suicides by gun. Using gun locks or securing firearms in a gun safe can reduce the risk of suicide by gun in an emotional, impulsive response to a stressful situation.

Free gun locks are available - ask your parish office.

*If you are concerned that someone you know – or you yourself – may be considering suicide, the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline offers 24/7 support from trained counselors.*

### **June 27-28**

#### **Gun Violence and Women**

Every 16 hours, a woman is shot dead by her current or former partner, an average of 70 women every month. Access to a gun makes it 5 times more likely that an abuser will kill his female victim.

In the St. Louis Archdiocese, St. Martha's, one of the ministries of Catholic Charities, provides shelter, resources, and compassionate care for women and children experiencing domestic violence.