

Hello Priests, Deacons, Parish Life Coordinators, Business Managers, Principals & Parish Staff!

The Archdiocese of St. Louis Gun Violence Prevention Task Force (GVPTF) is pleased to present materials to you to honor **Gun Violence Awareness Month in June 2026**.

June is National Gun Violence Awareness Month. Every day, more than 300 people are directly impacted by gun violence in the United States. Gun Violence Awareness Month was created to draw attention to this tragic reality and demand life-saving change. The St. Louis Archdiocese honors this month with a number of different initiatives.

You can find all of the materials referred to below via the GVPTF webpage on the archstl.org site at bit.ly/gvptfstl. They are also **available in this [Google Drive Folder](#)**. We realize many offices will soon be sending their bulletins for June out to print, so please **make sure to review this material in time to meet your deadlines**. Please take a moment to look through the details below:

Bulletin Articles & Petitions For the Month of June

You will find documents and graphics for bulletin articles and suggested petitions for the four Sundays in June.

For the Prayers of the Faithful, you will find **four suggested petitions** - one to use each week, or if you wish, any combination of them for Wear Orange weekend (June 5-7).

For the **bulletin articles**, we are providing **two text versions** - a longer one and an abridged one. There are also banner images and logos available for use if you need them. We are providing the articles in **graphic format as well**, if you just wish to insert those into your bulletin. Again, there is a longer version and a shorter "bulletin ad" version, depending on your preference and sizing requirements.

Social Media Posts

Inside the toolkit, you will also find graphics suitable for **posting on social media**. You can either use the "bulletin ad" styles referenced above or the typical square-sized social media post. These can complement the bulletin articles and prayers of the faithful (since they are short and statistical), or can be used on their own.

Gun Safety Locks To Every Parish

The GVPTF has provided **gun locks**, which are available for **free to anyone who wants one at all 134 parishes**, as well as the three Vicariate offices, and the Cardinal Rigali Center. In the toolkit, you will find a **bulletin announcement** and **graphics** for both bulletins and social media. Gun locks were distributed to every parish last Summer. **Parishes should make these gun locks available to parishioners who request them**. The locks have been packaged with instructions. There are postcards available to hand out with the locks and additional copies to print and put out in your Churches. Additional locks may be requested - please contact GVPTF@archstl.org, and we can supply more to your parish or school.

Thank you in advance for your help and cooperation in disseminating this important information. Please reach out to the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force if you have any questions, comments, or issues at GVPTF@archstl.org.

Sincerely,

The GVPTF Team