



ARCHDIOCESE  
OF ST. LOUIS

May 2026

Dear Pastors, High School Principals, Educators, and Campus Ministers, and Parish Youth Ministry Leaders,

The Archdiocesan Respect Life Apostolate, Office of Catholic Education and Formation, and Office of Youth Ministry are blessed to bring the [Equipped for Life \(EFL\) Academy \(Catholic edition\)](#) to the high school youth of the Archdiocese of St. Louis. The pro-life curriculum, a series of online interactive lesson plans from the Equal Rights Institute (ERI), received the [Declaration of Conformity from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops \(USCCB\)](#) (page 4 of the linked PDF).

The lessons from Equipped for Life promote engagement with the most popular pro-choice talking points of our day, giving high school teens the tools to understand today's abortion landscape while responding thoughtfully and compassionately. It also moves these young people through a journey of understanding on the history of abortion, the secular and religious arguments on all sides of the debate, and practical ways to foster a Culture of Life, as defined by Pope John Paul II's Gospel of Life encyclical and wider Catholic social teaching.

As pastors, educators, and youth ministry leaders, please review the enclosed flyer, sign up to receive access to the EFL curriculum, and review the video presentations and accompanying resources. Then, we invite you to share them with the high school-age teens in your schools and parishes as works best.

The curriculum and resources will be available to you free of charge until June 30, 2027, compliments of the Archdiocese. You will also have access to suggested lesson groupings to customize the curriculum to best fit your class or youth group, as well as complimentary online onboarding, training, and support from ERI throughout the year.

We hope these resources educate, empower, and inspire the teens our Good Lord has placed in your spiritual care on the Gospel of Life. Please contact us with questions or for additional information or help.

Sincerely in Christ,

Mary Lovee Varni,  
*Director, Respect Life Apostolate*

Samantha Grone,  
*Director of Religious Education*

Christina Davis,  
*Director, Office of Youth Ministry*



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