Culture of Life (CL) Track

The purpose of this three-part series of workshops is to help those working in diocesan pro-life or family life offices, as well as parish coordinators, health care workers, and employees or volunteers serving pro-life apostolates (i.e. crisis pregnancy centers, legal advocacy groups, and post-abortion healing ministries).

The demanding skill set needed for effective pro-life ministry draws from fields as diverse as health care, politics, formal theology, bioethics, counseling, sociology, catechetics, law, life sciences, and policy history. This track address all these and more, delving into related aspects of fostering a culture of life: the nature of human liberty in Catholic social teaching, the feminine genius, the masculine genius, evolution, environmental stewardship, service to the poor, outreach to those addicted, depressed, or those discarded by society, and the critical importance of prayer and spiritual combat to oppose the pervasive culture of death.

Forming those who form others.
# Culture of Life (CL) Track

**Foundational Culture of Life Certification**  
*(12 hrs)*

**KNOWING THE TRUTH**
1. Introduction to Pro-Life Studies  
2. The Reality of a Culture of Death  
3. A Vision for Life: Catholic Teaching  
4. The Spiritual Armory of Pro-Life Work  

**UNDERSTANDING THE LANDSCAPE**
5. Science: The Biology of the Gift of Life  
6. History: Roots of a Culture of Death I  
7. Policy: Abortion Politics  
8. Strategy: Parish Pro-Life Work  

**EVANGELIZING WITH HOPE AND JOY**
9. Catechetics: Persuasion & Clarity  
10. Outreach: Pro-Life Work Worldwide  
11. Communication: Digital Age Realities  
12. Leadership: Entrepreneurs for Life

**Advanced Culture of Life Certification – Part I (10 hrs + 2 electives)**

**KNOWING THE TRUTH**
1. The Human Person: God’s Masterpiece  
2. The Human Person in God’s Loving Plan  

**UNDERSTANDING THE LANDSCAPE**
3. Science: Beginning of Life  
4. History: Key Documents on Life Issues  
5. Policy: Initiatives Opposed to Life  
6. Strategy: Diocesan Pro-Life Work  

**EVANGELIZING WITH HOPE AND JOY**
7. Catechetics: God’s Plan & God’s Way  
8. Outreach: Abortion Counseling I  
9. Communication: Staying Personal  
10. Leadership: Analysis of Failures

**Advanced Culture of Life Certification – Part II (10 hrs + 2 electives)**

**KNOWING THE TRUTH**
1. Bioethics & Semantics  
2. Ethical Bioethics  

**UNDERSTANDING THE LANDSCAPE**
3. Science: End of Life  
4. History: Relevant Social Movements  
5. Policy: Local & State Successes  
6. Strategy: Other Forms of Effective Action  

**EVANGELIZING WITH HOPE AND JOY**
7. Catechetics: Parish Formation  
8. Outreach: Abortion Counseling II  
9. Communication: Clergy / Laity Unity  
10. Leadership: Rethinking Approaches

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**ELECTIVES: BIOETHICS**
1. Artificial Conception  
2. Contraceptive Methods I  
3. Contraceptive Methods II  
4. Abortion I  
5. Abortion II  
6. Sexually Transmitted Diseases  
7. Euthanasia  
8. Stem-Cell Research  
9. Cloning & Chimeras  
10. Eugenics  
11. Vaccinations & Related Mandated Public Health Issues  
12. Ordinary & Extraordinary Care & Life Extension

**ELECTIVES: PRO-LIFE WORK**
1. Pro-Life Work: St. Mary’s Patronage  
2. Pro-Life Work: St. Joseph’s Patronage  
3. Roots of a Culture of Death II-VI  
4. Preaching Pro-Life I  
5. Preaching Pro-Life II  
6. Giving an Anti-Abortion Witness  
7. NFP Methodologies  
8. Marriage in the Pro-Life Outreach  
9. Theology of the Family  
10. The Catholic Faith & Family Size  
11. Adoption Ministries  
12. Pro-Life Work with Disabled People  
13. Crisis Pregnancy Centers  
14. Maternity Ministries  
15. Birth & Midwifery  
16. End-of-Life Mercies  
17. Relevant Pro-Life Legal Cases  
18. Human Trafficking  
19. Pro-Life Work in Other Cultures I  
20. Pro-Life Work in Other Cultures II  
21. Population Control  
22. Post-Abortion Syndrome  
23. Depression  
24. Miscarriage  
25. Relational Abuse  
26. Homosexuality  
27. Transgender Issues  
28. Theology of the Body I  
29. Theology of the Body II  
30. Theology of the Body: Teaching Catholic Sexuality to Teens  
31. Abortion Law  
32. Abortion in Minority Communities  
33. Catechesis for Persons with Physical or Developmental Disabilities  
34. Catechesis & Inculturation for Diverse Communities  
35. Preferential Option for the Poor  
36. Poverty & Human Rights  
37. Liberty & the Common Good  
38. Liberty & Government  
39. Liberty & Conscience  
40. Liberty & Education

**ELECTIVES: SCIENCE & FAITH**
1. Science & Faith Overview  
2. Evolution & the Catholic Church  
3. Cosmology & Humanity  
4. Sentience & Humanity  
5. The Environment & Humanity

**ELECTIVES: HEALTH CARE**
1. Spiritual Dimensions of Health Care  
2. Patient Rights in Health Care  
3. Maternal Care  
4. Geriatric & Palliative Care  
5. Substance Abuser Care

**ELECTIVES: FEMININE GENIUS**
1. St. John Paul II: *Mulieris Dignitatem*  
2. The Universal Vocation to Mother  
3. Feminine Spiritual Models  
4. Counterfeit Forms of Femininity  
5. Formation Work With Women  
6. Formation Work With Teenage Girls

**ELECTIVES: MASCULINE GENIUS**
1. St. John Paul II: *Redemptoris Custos*  
2. The Universal Vocation to Father  
3. Masculine Spiritual Models  
4. Counterfeit Forms of Masculinity  
5. Formation Work With Men  
6. Formation Work With Teenage Boys

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Individuals taking this three-level certification are required to take a total of four electives from the lists below but would be allowed to take as many as they wish at no additional cost. All the workshops listed on this page will be available to take as enrichment by individuals in any other course or track.