THE MEANING OF LIFE "We must all care for life, cherish life, with tenderness, warmth ... caring for life from the beginning to the end." -Pope Francis

THE MEANING OF LIFE: SCRIPT

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"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you." Jeremiah 1:5

God created life. Human life is sacred because it comes from God. It is sacred from the first moment of existence. Human life begins at conception and continues until natural death. Starting with the tiniest embryo to our last moment of life, all life is equal in the eyes of God. This is life, developing, growing, always changing and always loved by God.

You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. Matthew, 22:37-38

We are created to know, love and serve God our heavenly father and to love each human being on a deep level. Do you know God? Do you want to know God better? Seek God in his Living Word – the Bible and ask God for guidance and for the faith to believe in him and trust in him. Also seek God in the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist. Through the Eucharist those who live from the life of Christ are fed and strengthened.

for this is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins." Matthew 26:28"

This covenant is based on God's great love for his people and we are called to love others in the same way. When we open our hearts to God's love, God shows us the way. In fact, God is the Way... the Way, the Truth and the Life.

"Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:5-6

Sin is losing our way because it separates us from God and separates us from the source of life. Sin brings disharmony and disunity into our lives. Jesus Christ reconciles us to our creator. His death and resurrection redeemed us. Whatever we have done in our past and however we might feel that we don't measure up to other people, God loves us as we are. We are all God's children.

You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Matthew, 22: 39

A life in harmony with God is also in harmony with other people. Each of us is unique and unrepeatable in our individuality. Created to have a social nature, the good of each individual is related to the common good. God exists in community – the Holy Trinity, God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We are created by God to be physical and spiritual. The journey of life is a search for harmony and wholeness which leads us to community.

Families are a community, a Domestic Church. The love in a family mirrors the loving relationship of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It's where children learn about God. Those who are single are also called into community by developing friendships for the purpose of helping others and supporting each other in faith. We are also called to be one human family since we all have the same origin in the one creative love of God. Christians are called to love all people and oppose racism, and all forms of bigotry and injustice.

The Church, in Christ, is like a sacrament - a sign and instrument of communion with God and of unity among all men. The Church gathers people from every nation, from all cultures and languages; the Church is the sign and instrument of the full realization of the unity yet to come.