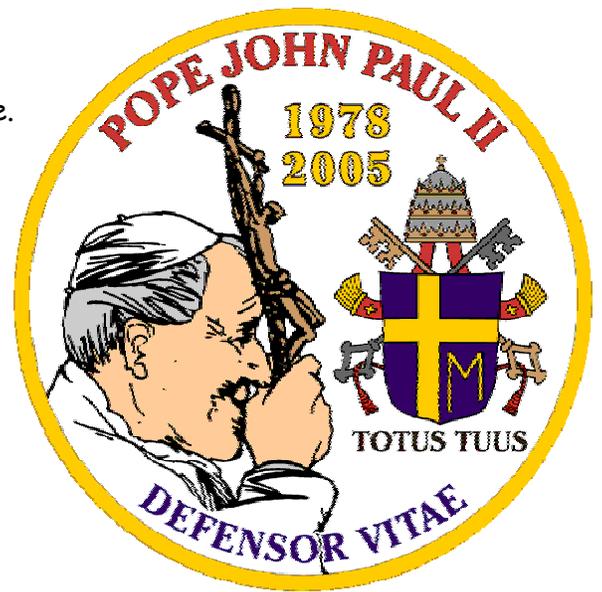


### Requirements for 1st through 5th grade

1. Ask an adult how Pope John Paul II influenced his/her life.
2. When does human life begin?

#### **Answer at least four of the following questions:**

1. Who is the "Word of Life"? (1Jn. 1)
2. In whose image are all people created? (Gn. 1)
3. What does it mean to "respect life"?
4. How does your family celebrate the birth of a baby?
5. How did Jesus treat persons with disabilities? (Jn. 5)
6. What are some ways we might help people with disabilities to let them know that we care about them? (Do these things when you are with persons with disabilities!)
7. Pope John Paul II called on all people to embrace a culture of \_\_\_\_\_ and reject a culture of \_\_\_\_\_.



Fully Embroidered 5 Inch Patch

### Requirements for 6th through 12th grade

1. Spend some time with an elderly person. Share your experience with that person, with an adult or peer group. Discuss what this has to do with Pope John Paul II.
2. Study Pope John Paul II; describe him as a person; explain for what he stood; and why he is so admired.

#### **Answer at least four of the following questions:**

1. How would your life be different if someone important to you had never been born and wasn't present in your life?
2. What did Pope John Paul II say about the importance of young people?
3. What are the Church's teachings on abortion? Why does the Church teach these things?
4. What does it mean to be made "in the image and likeness of God"?
5. Who wrote the encyclical "Evangelium Vitae"? What does "Evangelium Vitae" mean?
6. What are the 10 Commandments meant to do for us?
7. What is the translation of the motto "Totus Tuus" and the title "Defensor Vitae"? How does each apply to Pope John Paul II's life?

### Requirements for Adults

1. Read the encyclical "Evangelium Vitae"
2. Study Pope John Paul II; describe him as a person; explain for what he stood; and why he is so admired.

#### **Answer at least six of the following questions:**

1. When did God call the prophets Jeremiah and Isaiah? (Jr. 1, Is. 49)
2. What challenges does the Gospel of Life present to our modern culture?
3. What does "Evangelium Vitae" say about the death penalty?
4. How can you promote the Gospel of Life in your parish? Your family?
5. How did Pope John Paul II (then Cardinal Wojtyla) influence the development of "Humanae Vitae"?
6. What did Pope John Paul II teach about interfaith relations? How did he apply this teaching in his own life?
7. Compare and contrast the death of Pope John Paul II with someone in your own country who died by an action contrary to the Gospel of Life.
8. How did Pope John Paul II influence the fall of communist regimes in Europe?

# Program Guide

The purpose of this program is to encourage people of all ages to search deeper into the roots of Pope John Paul II and to learn about him and his views, especially on life. Most of the questions are discussional. The answers are NOT black and white, so it is recommended that participants research and formulate their answers with their own opinions and words, not just copying words from another source. Participants are encouraged to really learn about Pope John Paul II and to create their own image of him. This program should be light, yet serious, and it wants to be user friendly for any family, Troop, Crew or other group in its endeavor to build camaraderie and a better understanding of the life of Pope John Paul II.

## Parents

Parents are strongly encouraged to use this program to enrich the spiritual formation of their children, especially with the 1st through 5th grade requirements. A family may sit down together, in one or two sessions, and discuss the requirements, plus some additional time for activities done outside the discussions.

## Scout and Youth Group Leaders

A Scout Unit, or youth group, may easily set aside some time in a few of its meetings, over the course of two or three weeks, to discuss the requirements. Another idea might be to use this program as a campout activity. Very lively discussions might be enjoyed around a campfire!

It is important for parents to participate in this program with their children. They should engage their children in conversations on the requirement topics, outside of unit meetings. A parent's involvement is essential for this program to reach its maximum level of spiritual enrichment.

## Reading References:

All participants, who are at least in the sixth grade, are required to read a few scriptures and the encyclical "Evangelium Vitae". For participants who are not yet in the sixth grade, a parent or leader, after reading it, may summarize the encyclical "Evangelium Vitae".

See the following pages for addition resources and references.

# Pope John Paul II Program References

## References for Reading and Discussions

The list below is a sampling of books about Pope John Paul II's life and teachings. There are many more books available - online and traditional bookstores or your local parish/library may be useful in finding additional books of interest on Pope John Paul II.

- *In My Own Words* compiled by Anthony F. Chiffolo
- *Witness to Hope: The Biography of Pope John Paul II* by George Weigel
- *The Way to Christ : Spiritual Exercises* by Pope John Paul II
- *Memory and Identity : Conversations at the Dawn of a Millennium* by Pope John Paul II
- *John Paul II's Book of Mary* by Pope John Paul II
- *Rise, Let Us Be On Our Way* by Pope John Paul II
- *Crossing the Threshold of Hope* by Pope John Paul II
- *The Poetry of Pope John Paul II* by Pope John Paul II
- *An Invitation to Prayer (Private Prayers of Pope John Paul II)*
- *For the Children: Words of Love and Inspiration from His Holiness Pope John II*
- *My Dear Young Friends: Pope John Paul II Speaks to Teens on Life, Love, and Courage*
- The Vatican web site has *extensive* information on Pope John Paul II and can be found at [http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/john\\_paul\\_ii/index.htm](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/index.htm)
- "Evangelium Vitae" encyclical can be found at the Vatican web site under [http://www.vatican.va/edocs/ENG0141/\\_INDEX.HTM](http://www.vatican.va/edocs/ENG0141/_INDEX.HTM) Click on the "Read this document as a whole page" link to view the entire document at once.
- Interfaith relations references:
  1. Pope John Paul II's 1994 book *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*
  2. PBS discussion "The Pope and Interfaith Relations"  
<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/week832/discussion2.html>
  3. Enter "**pope john paul ii**" + "**interfaith relations**" in Google. Read some of the articles about JP II and his efforts on interfaith relations with Christianity and Judaism, Muslims, and other faiths.
- Importance of young people:
  1. [http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/john\\_paul\\_ii/messages/youth/index.htm](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/messages/youth/index.htm) Read his speeches at the WYD over the years, especially 1995 and 2000.
  2. See also the books listed above *For the Children* and *My Dear Young Friends*
  3. Papal writings to youth: <http://www.cdeducation.org/oym/connections/papal.htm>
- *Totus Tuis*– Totally Yours or All Yours. There was no doubt that John Paul II was sustained in his resolve to surrender his will completely and totally to God. His life motto, *Totus tuis*, says it all. That sense of surrender brought about an unusual sense of confidence in his own abilities and the strength he needed to address any of the worlds or the church's challenges with courage and faith.
- *Vitae Defensor*– Defender of Life. John Paul II was always consistent and was a great defender of life in all its forms. He was against the death penalty even for those who were great sinners. He talked about protecting the life of the unborn. In many quarters of society, those are not popular messages. (Reflections on the Life of Pope John Paul II, Brother Stan Sobczyk, F.S.C.)
- *Evangelium Vitae*– Gospel of Life. Today's culture is challenging the right to life, not only at the beginning of life but at the end and even in between! When the inviolable rights of the human person are proclaimed and the value of life publicly affirmed, "the right to life, is being denied or trampled upon, especially at the more significant moments of existence: the moment of birth and the moment of death" (Pope John Paul II, *The Gospel of Life [Evangelium Vitae]*, 18) From the Living the Gospel of Life: A Challenge to American Catholics, A Statement by the Catholic Bishops of the United States