

Catholics, by nature of their baptism, are duty bound to participate in shaping the moral, social and economic character of the world. Indeed Jesus calls us to be 'salt for the earth. ...light for the nations.' (Mathew 5:13-14). As the Holy father, Pope Francis, reminded us last month: "There is no more important work" than the pro-life movement.

As we reflect on the fiftieth anniversary of the Abortion Act we express gratitude to those who have worked tirelessly to try with God's grace to build a Culture of Life and to counteract the Culture of Death. We especially remember the works of organisations such as the 'Cardinal Winning Initiative', 'SPUC Scotland' and '40 Days for Life'. As with the Church herself, these organisations have lobbied, counselled and prayed to bring about change. Perhaps what is most striking on this anniversary is the fact that so many young people have taken up the cause for life. In this respect, 'Project Truth', a wonderful team of young people who travel across Scotland every summer to educate the public about the humanity and beauty of every unborn child is especially worthy of note.

We as a Catholic People, supported by the Bishops of Scotland, will always speak out on behalf of the sanctity of every human life wherever it is threatened, from conception to natural death, and we urge all people of good will to do likewise.

Pope St. John Paul II once said that every human life is "unique and unrepeatable." On this Day for Life, in this significant anniversary year, each of us can ask of him or herself a simple question: What unique and significant action can I do to help promote and protect the rights of the unborn child?

With every blessing and thanks for your prayerful and material support and work for the protection of life,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen Robson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

Yours devotedly
+ Stephen Robson Bishop of Dunkeld
Bishop Promoter of the Day for Life