

Dear Life, Justice and Peace Contacts,

WSCC Statement on Gun Control Initiative -- The Catholic Bishops of Washington State released a statement (in English and Spanish) voicing their support of Initiative 594, which would require background checks on the sale or transfer of all firearms. State and federal laws presently require gun dealers to have licenses and, in most cases, conduct background checks on gun buyers. Initiative 594 would require background checks on the sale or transfer of all firearms and adds background checks for online sales and sales at gun shows. "In addition to this initiative measure, we also urge support by public and elected officials for policy initiatives to improve access to mental health care for those who may be prone to violence," the statement said. The bishops said the prevalence of mass shootings "reflect a devaluing of human life in our nation" and that as pastoral leaders they have a particular responsibility to participate in efforts that reduce violence ([link](#)).

Mass for Life -- Please find maps, driving directions, and parking instructions for the Mass for Life on the OCFF Events page ([link](#)).

March for Life -- Also on the same Events page, please find some materials from the Washington State March for Life.

Wishing you much peace this Advent,
Jim

Jim Thomas

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"We must all commit ourselves with clarity and courage so that every human person...[is] always defended and protected."

~ Pope Francis
May 5, 2013

