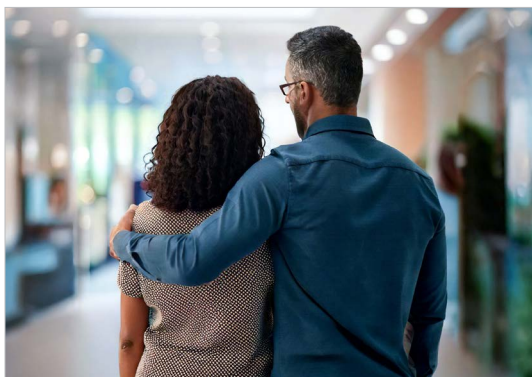


LifeSource

AT THE HEART OF ORGAN DONATION

What Catholics Should Know About the Life-Affirming Gift of Organ Donation



- Saint John Paul II affirmed that a beautiful act expressing the culture of life “is the donation of organs, performed in an ethically acceptable manner, with a view to offering a chance of health and even of life itself to the sick who sometimes have no other hope.”(Evangelium Vitae, No. 86)
- The Catechism of the Catholic Church says “Organ donation after death is a noble and meritorious act and is to be encouraged as an expression of generous solidarity.” (No. 2296)
- Pope Francis told the Transplantation Committee for the Council of Europe that organ donation is a “testimony of love for our neighbor.”

- Every year, organ, eye and tissue donations provide hope to tens of thousands of people suffering from disease, injury and trauma. In Minnesota alone, over 2,100 people are on the waiting list for a lifesaving organ transplant, yet only 50% of people are registered as donors.
- Catholic hospitals and physicians around the world, faithful to Catholic ethics, routinely provide for organ donations. The donation of organs in a morally acceptable manner, at the end of life, offers the gifts of health and life to those who are most vulnerable and who are at times without hope. It is one of the many pro-life positions an individual can choose in order to foster a culture that values life in our world.
- LifeSource partners with communities, families and healthcare professionals to save and heal lives through excellence in organ, eye and tissue donation in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and western Wisconsin.
- LifeSource has a legal and ethical obligation to save and heal lives through organ donation and transplantation through excellence in recovery, and by compassionately respecting the donor and family's wishes throughout the transplantation process.
- Learn more about organ donation and what you can do as a faith community:
www.lifesource.org/latest/donor-sabbath-an-interfaith-initiative

