

AMELIA MOODY...Age13, Grade 7

The culture has lots of problems. For example, not many people go to church anymore and people take drugs. Some people don't like the way they look so they try to change the way they look by getting tattoos, coloring their hair pink, red and other unnatural colors. Women try to compete with men. And some people commit suicide and abortion. This behavior makes me sad because God created men and women differently, but the culture pushes to make them the same. All these behaviors that tinker with God's beautiful creation ultimately causes confusion and despair especially with regards to the respect for life. But, you and I can help change the culture and give hope to people that life is worth living. We can do that with God's help by praying and evangelizing.

Prayer is very powerful. Some people think that praying is for the weak. But it isn't! It's really for those who are strong and trust in God. Prayer is one of the best ways to help the culture and protect life. When you pray, you're asking God to change the culture and protect life. Prayer strengthens us and gives us hope. We pray to ask God for guidance in what we should do to help the culture and protect life. The rest is up to Him.

Evangelizing means telling others about the Catholic Faith. We can help the culture by telling others about the Catholic Faith. If everybody knew God, fewer of these bad things would be happening and the culture would respect life. We can help evangelize by talking to friends, family and other people who are not Catholic about the Catholic Faith. There are other ways we can evangelize. For example, holding a Bible Study or by handing out information about your local church.

Another way we can help the culture is to help people find hope again in their lives. Helping people get off drugs so that they have a clear mind and heart to listen to God and reminding people that God doesn't care how they look on the outside but instead how you look on the inside can help people regain an appreciation for their life. Additionally, telling people how much God loves them, reminding people of their gender roles, and encouraging people to pray are some ways we can give people hope that life is worth living.

Doing these things isn't going to instantly change the culture. It will take time. No matter what we do, bad things will always happen. The devil will never stop trying to destroy life and our souls. But, if we keep doing our best to obey God and doing good deeds, some of the devil's power will be lost. As more and more people come closer to God, the respect for the biggest gift He has given us, the gift of life, will increase. As a result, the culture will then reflect the belief that all human life is important.