



Father James Martin. *Consistent.*

"Whenever I say that I am pro-life, it always surprises some people—which always surprises me....because, as our faith teaches, as I have learned, and as I believe, every life is sacred."

Father James Martin, SJ, is a Catholic priest and a member of the Society of Jesus (commonly known as the Jesuits). He is a writer and commentator, and serves as editor-at-large for *America*, a monthly Catholic magazine. He has written articles and offered commentary for numerous other national, international, secular, and Catholic publications and media outlets.

In the early 1990s, he worked with the Jesuit Refugee Service in Kenya with refugees from across East Africa who had settled in the slums of Nairobi. His responsibility was to help refugees start small businesses, and he learned much about their lives and challenges in the process.

Father Martin is a strong proponent of the Consistent Life Ethic, basing his support on Catholic social teaching. Inspired by his work in Africa, he has called attention to the plight of refugees and migrants, many of whom are fleeing war and extreme poverty. Father Martin also has worked with refugees in Jamaica, Chicago, New York, and Cambridge, Massachusetts. He has served in housing projects, hospital settings, and community centers.

He has written and spoken about abortion, the death penalty, and racism. After 49 people were shot and killed in a gay night club in Orlando, he has worked to oppose anti-LGBT violence.



Writing in *America* magazine, Father Martin stated:

"[M]y respect for life extends to all people, but most especially those whose lives are at risk: the unborn child, to be sure, but also the refugee whose life is threatened by war, the L.G.B.T. young person tempted to commit suicide, the homeless person whose life is endangered by malnutrition, the uninsured sick person with no health care, the elderly person in danger of being euthanized, the inmate on death row. I have come to value all life, from conception to natural death, and believe that our laws should reflect this important principle.

...[O]ur witness for social justice and in defense of all life is strengthened when we base it clearly and consistently on the recognition of the dignity of every human life at every stage."

Will you join Father Martin in valuing all life and standing up for the dignity of every human being?

We are committed to the protection of life, which is threatened in today's world by war, abortion, poverty, racism, the death penalty, and euthanasia. We believe that these issues are linked under a 'consistent ethic of life.' We challenge those working on all or some of these issues to maintain a cooperative spirit of peace, reconciliation, and respect in protecting the unprotected.



www.consistentlifefnetwork.org