

**PREGNANT STUDENTS**

Acknowledging that human life at all stages is a sacred gift from God, including the human fetus, and that abortion is never a Catholic alternative at any stage of pregnancy, students who become pregnant deserve and need the full support of the administration, teachers, and other students. This is not to condone unwed pregnancy but rather to protect the sacred gift of life of the unborn child and to extend love and compassion to those involved.

It is recommended that pregnant students be allowed to remain in school. The health of the pregnant student, however, is the primary consideration for continuation of attendance. If attendance in the classroom is judged not to be in the best interests of the student, the school community and the unborn child, then arrangements for home study will be made. The school should continue to assist the student through graduation. Ongoing counseling should be offered to pregnant students and their parent(s)/guardian(s).