



## Christian Voices for Life

### Weekly Pro-Life

Education

Prayer

Action

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## This week's Topic: Why does the Catholic Church say artificial birth control is immoral?\*

\*Christian Voices for Life is an interdenominational Christian organization. We do not endorse any one Christian faith over another. We do encourage dialog to improve mutual understanding and pray for unity in the body of Christ.

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### ***Education:***

Briefly, the Catholic Church teaches that sexual intercourse has two meanings: to unite the married couple in their love for each other, and to cooperate with God in the creation of new life. The two meanings are united in that the mutual gift of fertility is an integral part of the bonding power of sexual intimacy. Suppressing fertility denies the procreative meaning as well as harming the couple's unity, since to give or accept from the other everything ... except fertility is not true unity.

While other medical interventions are intended to restore function, birth control seeks to prevent the healthy body from operating as it was intended by God. Natural Family Planning, on the other hand, works with the God-given rhythms of the woman's body to prevent pregnancy by abstaining from intercourse during the woman's fertile period. See [www.nfpandmore.org](http://www.nfpandmore.org).

For a more complete explanation in Q & A format, please see "Married Love and the Gift of Life", published by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, available at [www.usccb.org/prolife/issues/nfp/cathteach.shtml](http://www.usccb.org/prolife/issues/nfp/cathteach.shtml).



### ***Prayer:***

Please pray that all Christians will understand God's beautiful plan for sexuality, and seek His will for every aspect of their lives.

Dear Lord, the world today presents and promotes a view of sexuality that is very different from Your plan. Please help us all, especially the young, to know and accept Your will for our lives. While different Christian leaders present different interpretations of Your will regarding birth control, help us to prayerfully seek the truth and be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.



### ***Action:***

Learn the reasoning and scriptural base for differing points of view on birth control. If you are using birth control, talk to your spouse, your pastor, a respected friend, about the morality of birth control. Prayerfully seek counsel from the Holy Spirit. If you have loved ones who are using birth control, encourage them to do the same.