

WORD OF LIFE

July 2014

Intercessions for Life

July 6th

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For all those suffering from the effects of abortion:
That they may find peace in the love of Jesus Christ;
We pray to the Lord:

July 13th

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For medical professionals:
That their work may be rooted in a deep respect for life from conception to natural death;
We pray to the Lord:

July 20th

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For the vulnerable in our society - the unborn, the elderly, migrants, and the poor:
That they may be treated with respect, dignity and love;
We pray to the Lord:

July 27th

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For all Christians:
That we may bear witness to the inherent dignity of all people as created in the image of
God;
We pray to the Lord:

Bulletin Briefs

After the abortion, I never would have believed things could get better. But, amazingly, since my post-abortion counseling, I have experienced hope and healing and self-forgiveness.

- A mother who lost a child in an abortion
(Visit hopeafterabortion.com if you or someone you know has been affected by an abortion.)

We are confident that we serve a God of life, of hope and mercy. We know that all human life is a gift from God, a gift that God charges us to protect. To be worthy of being called his disciples, Jesus urges us to love others as he has loved us (Jn 13:34-35). Our response then, to a culture in which hostility towards others is commonplace, in which killing is often considered a legitimate solution to social problems, is to both live and proclaim a gospel of life, hope and mercy.

- *Life Matters: A Catholic Response to the Death Penalty*
2013 Respect Life Program

All of us must care for life, cherish life, with tenderness, warmth...to give life is to open (our) heart, and to care for life is to (give oneself) in tenderness and warmth for others, to have concern in my heart for others. Caring for life from the beginning to the end, what a simple thing, what a beautiful thing...So, go forth and don't be discouraged. Care for life. It's worth it.

- Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio (now Pope Francis), homily for the feast of St. Raymond Nonnatus, patron saint of expectant mothers and newborns, August 31, 2005

The irony is that many people think of us Catholics as people of No -- don't do this, don't do that. In reality we are the people of Yes -- yes to God, yes to life, yes to compassion for the poor and suffering, yes to the solidarity and community that make us messengers of joy even in a valley of tears.

- Cardinal Seán O'Malley, homily at Opening Mass of the 2014 National Prayer Vigil for Life

Life Facts:

As of 2012, 141 people incarcerated on death row in 26 states have been exonerated and freed when conclusive evidence of their innocence was later discovered.

An unborn baby's heart begins to beat at 21 or 22 days, and can be detected on ultrasound.

An unborn child can suck his or her thumb beginning at 13 weeks.

During pregnancy, a woman's heart physically grows larger in order to accommodate the growing child within her.

Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty.

Visit www.usccb.org/pray or text "FAST" to 99000. Join the Movement!