



# *WORD OF LIFE*

*November 2004*

# Intercessions for Life

NOVEMBER 2004

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## November 7<sup>rd</sup> THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For all who have been wounded by abortion,  
and especially for women who seek peace and healing:  
that God's grace might restore and strengthen them;  
We pray to the Lord:

## November 14<sup>th</sup> THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For those who have reached the winter of their lives,  
That we might cherish their wisdom,  
And grow in our love for the gift of their presence;  
We pray to the Lord:

## November 21<sup>st</sup> OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING

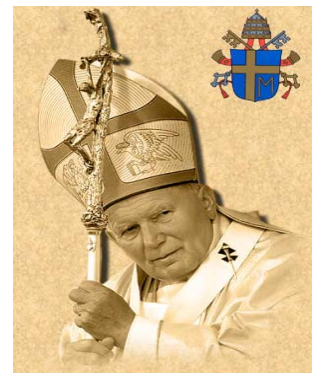
For all newly elected leaders of our government:  
That they might grow in respect of the sovereignty of God,  
And work to protect the rights of even the weakest of our citizens;  
We pray to the Lord:

## November 28<sup>th</sup> FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

That we might be ever thankful for the gift of life,  
And seek to grow in our respect  
For the dignity of every human being  
From conception to natural death;  
We pray to the Lord:

“From this grotto I issue a special call to *women*. Appearing here, Mary entrusted her message to a young girl, as if to emphasize the special mission of women in our own time, tempted as it is by materialism and secularism: to be in today's society a witness of those essential values which are seen only with the eyes of the heart. To you, women, falls the task of being *sentinels of the Invisible!* I appeal urgently to all of you, dear brother and sisters, to do everything in your power to ensure that life, each and every life, will be respected from conception to its natural end. Life is a sacred gift, and no one can presume to be its master.”

Pope John Paul II, Homily at the Lourdes Grotto, August 15, 2004



**“Advent is a short season, yet it covers a long distance. It is the road of a soul from Nazareth to Bethlehem. It seems such a short distance as we are accustomed to thinking of distances. Yet it is a road into infinity, into eternity. It has a beginning, but no end. In truth, Advent is *the road of the spiritual life* which all of us must start if we do not want to miss the way.”**

Catherine Doherty, “The Meaning of Advent,”  
*Donkey Bells*

**“God created man in his own image and likeness: calling him into existence through love, he called him at the same time for love” (Familiaris Consortio, 11). These essential relationships are based on God’s love, and act as a point of reference for all human activity.”**

Ad Limina Address of John Paul II to the Bishops of San Antonio and Oklahoma City, May 22, 2004

**“As a matter of faith, The Catholic church is concerned for the good of every human person and teaches that every person’s dignity is God-given and inalienable. Sadly, I can tell you from personal experience that not every Catholic lives up to our teaching on the dignity of each person. That is one of the great challenges that we Bishops face on a daily basis: when our own people – or even we ourselves – contradict or do not live up to what we profess, thus causing confusion and cynicism about the faith that should be a mark of our character in everything we do.”**

But I can witness that, whatever the failings of individual Catholics, Catholic teaching embodies the highest values to which society must aspire if it is to be fully human.

Bishop Wilton Gregory, President of the USCCB To Congressional Black Caucus. Sept. 10, 2004

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**“Risks to women undergoing IVF procedures can be grouped into several categories: serious actions and side effects of fertility drugs; ectopic pregnancy; higher rates of pregnancy complications from carrying multiple fetuses, e.g., hemorrhage, hypertension, caesarean birth; and emotional and psychological problems due to high failure rates per attempt, high miscarriage rates and “selective reduction” of “excess” fetuses. Additionally, the risk for having a baby with birth defects is higher when children are conceived through assisted reproductive technologies.”**

Drs. Marie Anderson and John Bruchalski, “Assisted Reproductive Technologies Are Anti-Woman,” 2004 Respect Life Program

**“In the last 30 years, we Catholics, along with many in our society of other faiths and of no faith, have felt obliged to raise a prophetic voice reminding our society that the “the least” of our brothers and sisters include those who have been denied the first and most fundamental right of conception, when human life begins, to that of natural death, is a being endowed with unique rights by God himself. As with the poor, the immigrant, the sick or the prisoner, having no voice does not mean that the unborn have no place among us, no right to be defended. We are all obliged to defend those rights.”**

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