



WORD OF LIFE

April 2005

Intercessions for Life

APRIL 2005

April 3rd

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

For every little child:
that we might cherish and protect them,
ever rejoicing in the infinite gift God gives us in them;
We pray to the Lord:

April 10th

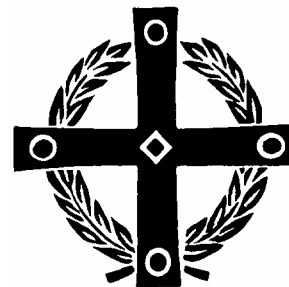
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

For parents who are alone and afraid:
that God might teach us how to love and support them;
We pray to the Lord:

April 17th

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

For those who sit on death rows
awaiting their execution:
that God might teach us how to love them,
and to respect the gift of life;
We pray to the Lord:



April 24th

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

For those who lead us,
for our President, our Judges, and our Congressmen:
that God might plant deep within their hearts
a love for every human being,
from conception to natural death;
We pray to the Lord:

Children are the present and future of the Church. They play an active role *in the evangelization of the world* and, with their prayers, help to save and improve it. As I renew my prayers for the *small victims of the tsunami* in Asia, I cannot forget the children who are victims of hunger and disease, of war and terrorism, nor, in addition, those who are kidnapped, disappear or are exploited by despicable trafficking. May Mary Most Holy, who today presents Christ to the peoples, help us to adore him with a child's heart.

Pope John Paul II, *Angelus*, January 6, 2005

April 2005: Bulletin Briefs

Prepared by the USCCB Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities

Insisting that judicial nominees support abortion throughout pregnancy is wrong. By any measure, support for the Supreme Court's 1973 Roe v. Wade decision is an impoverished standard for assessing judicial ability. For over three decades, Roe has sparked more informed criticism and public resistance than any other court decision of the late 20th century. Even legal scholars who support abortion have criticized Roe for not being grounded in the U.S. Constitution. Further, in 2000, the Supreme Court relied on Roe to rule that the gruesome and inhumane practice of partial-birth abortion must be constitutionally protected. When considering nominees the Senate should not allow itself to be held captive to such an unfair and unreasonable standard.

Cardinal William H. Keeler, Letter to U.S. Senators, January 6, 2005

If it is true that man lives upon the heritage of those who preceded him, and that his future depends definitively on how the cultural values of his own people are transmitted to him, then the wisdom and experience of the elderly can illuminate his path on the way of progress toward an ever more complete form of civilization. How important it is to rediscover this mutual enrichment between different generations!

Message of His Holiness Pope John Paul II for Lent 2005

Thirty-two years ago, seven members of the Supreme Court took the issue of abortion out of the hands of the American people and their duly elected lawmakers. In doing so, they declared that the tiniest human beings have no claim on life and that therefore, their lives can be terminated. They invented a constitutional concept that had never been envisioned. They contravened two of our nation's most precious values: the recognition of a God-given, inalienable right to life, and the promise of equal protection under law.

Cardinal William H. Keeler, Homily, Pro-Life Vigil Mass, January 23, 2005

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To build a culture of life, we must also ensure that scientific advances always serve human dignity, not take advantage of some lives for the benefit of others. We should all be able to agree on some clear standards. I will work with Congress to ensure that human embryos are not created for experimentation or grown for body parts, and that human life is never bought and sold as a commodity.

President George W. Bush, State of the Union Address, 2005

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