



WORD OF LIFE

August 2005

Intercessions for Life

AUGUST 2005

August 7th 19th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For all unemployed fathers
who cannot feed and clothe their children:
that God might hear their prayers;
We pray to the Lord:

August 14th 20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For all single mothers,
and especially those with infant children:
that through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary
they might receive the grace to be strong and faithful;
We pray to the Lord:

August 21st 21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For teenagers everywhere,
that they might learn from our example
the value of every human life;
We pray to the Lord:

August 28th 22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For doctors and nurses,
and especially those who work with young people,
that by all that they say and do
they might practice and teach
the wonder and beauty of every human life;
We pray to the Lord:



The pope "must not proclaim his own ideas, but rather constantly bind himself and the Church to obedience to God's Word, in the face of every attempt to adapt it or water it down, and every form of opportunism.... That's what Pope John Paul II did, when ... in the face of erroneous interpretations of freedom, he unequivocally stressed the inviolability of the human being, and of human life from the moment of conception until natural death..."

May 7, 2005
Pope Benedict XVI
Installation as Bishop of Rome

Far from being passive recipients of the Church's pastoral care, older people are irreplaceable apostles, especially among their own age group, because no one is more familiar than they with the problems and the feelings of this phase of life.

Pontifical Council for the Laity, "Dignity of Older People and their Mission in the Church and in the World", Oct. 1, 1998

Roe raises "the question whether we have a written constitution, with the limitations thereby implied on the creation of new constitutional rights, or whether the Constitution is no more than a grant of discretion to the Supreme Court to mold public policy in accordance with the Justices' own personal and shifting preferences."
U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Richard A. Posner, "The Uncertain Protection of Privacy by the Supreme Court," *Supreme Court Review* (1979): 173-216, at 199 (footnotes omitted)

With this kind of manipulation [making "designer babies"], man makes other men his own artifacts. Man no longer originates in the mystery of love, by means of the process of conception and birth, which remains in the end mysterious, but is produced industrially, like any other product. He is made by other men. He is robbed thereby of his proper status and of his true splendor as a created being.

Pope Benedict XVI, *God and the World*, p. 134

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For modern man, the idea of placing limits on research sounds like blasphemy. However, an intrinsic limit exists, and this is human dignity. Progress obtained at the price of the violation of human dignity is unacceptable. If research attacks man, it is a deviation of science. Even if we protest that this or that research will open possibilities for the future, we must say no when man is at stake. The comparison is a bit strong, but I would like to recall that already once before someone has carried out medical experiments on persons who were held to be inferior. Where will the logic that consists in treating a fetus or an embryo as a thing lead?

Pope Benedict XIV, interview with *Le Figaro* magazine, Dec. 2001

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