



# *WORD OF LIFE*

*March 2005*

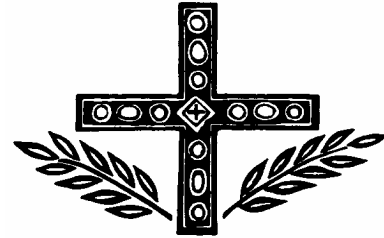
# Intercessions for Life

MARCH 2005

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**March 6<sup>th</sup>      FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

For all expectant mothers:  
that the babies in their wombs  
might bring us to a greater love  
of the precious gift of life;  
We pray to the Lord:



**March 13<sup>th</sup>      FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

For those who have grown old and weak:  
that we might cherish them for their wisdom  
and rejoice in the gifts God gives us in them;  
We pray to the Lord:

**March 20<sup>th</sup>      PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION**

For all who suffer,  
but especially for those in chronic pain:  
that they might join their sufferings  
to the cross of Christ;  
We pray to the Lord:

**March 27<sup>th</sup>      EASTER SUNDAY: THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**

For the newly baptized:  
that the new life they have received in Christ  
might make them courageous proclaimers  
of the Gospel of Life;  
We pray to the Lord:

*Mystery of life!* What greater aspiration is there in life? Yet *threatening shadows* are hanging over this universal human hope: the shadow of a culture that denies respect for life in all its stages; the shadow of an indifference that relegates countless people to a destiny of hunger and underdevelopment; the shadow of scientific research that is sometimes used to serve the selfishness of the strongest. Dear brothers and sisters, the needs of our many brothers and sisters call us into question. We cannot close our hearts to their pleas for help. Nor can we forget that "one does not live by bread alone" (cf. Mt 4: 4). We are in need of the "living bread which came down from heaven" (Jn 6: 51). Jesus is this bread. Nourishing ourselves on him means welcoming God's life itself (cf. Jn 10: 10) and opening ourselves to the logic of love and sharing.

Pope John Paul II, Homily Opening the Year of the Eucharist, 17 October, 2004

**Life is the first gift which God has given us. It is the first resource which man can enjoy. The Church is called to proclaim “the Gospel of Life.” And the State has as its primary task precisely the safeguarding and promotion of human life.**

Pope John Paul II, Address to the Diplomatic Corps, January 10, 2005

Thirty-two years later, the evil of Roe v. Wade persists, the blood of innocents continues to stain our Constitution, and the loss of more than 40 million unborn children should haunt our national consciousness. . . .

The evil must end! It must end soon! And we are here to affirm that, with God’s grace, we must be instruments of its ending!

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

**My Administration remains committed to the steadfast belief in the dignity of every human being and the promise of every life. Across our country, we must continue to encourage our citizens to make ours a more just and welcoming society in which every child is born into a loving family and protected by law. We will work with decency and respect to change hearts and minds, one person at a time. In doing so, we will build a lasting culture of life and a more compassionate society.**

President George Bush, National Sanctity of Human Life Day, 2005

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