



WORD OF LIFE

August 2009

Intercessions for Life

August 2009

August 2nd 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

For all who promote the culture of death:
That through Jesus Christ the law of the spirit of life
May set them free from sin and death;
We pray to the Lord:

August 9th 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

For women in crisis pregnancies:
That they may see the goodness of the Lord
In the support they receive from their loved ones
And from the Church, and so choose life;
We pray to the Lord:

August 16th 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

For all priests and seminarians:
That they may more deeply appreciate the gift of their vocation
And be bold in proclaiming the Gospel of Life
Through their daily partaking of the living bread that comes down from heaven;
We pray to the Lord:

August 23rd 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

For all marriages:
That all married couples may be strengthened in faith and love
And through their reverence for Christ be at the service of life;
We pray to the Lord:

August 30th 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

For all political leaders:
That they may honor God with their hearts by honoring God's law
And protecting the most vulnerable in our society;
We pray to the Lord:

[Abortion is] a defining issue not only personally but socially. Poverty can be addressed incrementally, but the death of a child is quite final.

~ Cardinal Francis George

At every Mass, we should offer special prayers for our nation and her leaders, in order that the culture of death may be overcome and a civilization of love may be steadfastly advanced. All Catholics throughout the nation should take part in Eucharistic adoration and in the praying of the Rosary for the restoration of the respect for human life and for the safeguarding of the integrity of the family. In our prayers, we should seek, above all, the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, under her title of the Immaculate Conception.

~Archbishop Raymond L. Burke

One thing is certain: When the time has come, nothing which is man-made will subsist. One day, all human accomplishments will be reduced to a pile of ashes. But every single child to whom a woman has given birth will live forever, for he has been given an immortal soul made to God's image and likeness.

~ Alice von Hildebrand

The twentieth century often tried to do without that cornerstone, and attempted to build the city of man without reference to Him. It ended by actually building that city *against* man! Christians know that it is not possible to reject or ignore God without *demeaning man*. Allow me, dear young people, to consign this hope of mine to you: *you must be those "builders"!* You are the men and women of tomorrow. The future is in your hearts and in your hands. God is entrusting to you the task, at once difficult and uplifting, of working with him in the building of the *civilization of love*.

~Pope John Paul II

Christians are indistinguishable from other men either by nationality, language or customs....

And yet there is something extraordinary about their lives. They live in their own countries as though they were only passing through. ... Like others, they marry and have children, but they do not expose them [to die]. They share their meals, but not their wives.

They live in the flesh, but they are not governed by the desires of the flesh. They pass their days upon earth, but they are citizens of heaven. Obedient to the laws, they yet live on a level that transcends the law. Christians love all men, but all men persecute them. ... They live in poverty, but enrich many; they are totally destitute, but possess an abundance of everything. They suffer dishonor, but that is their glory. They are defamed, but vindicated. A blessing is their answer to abuse, deference their response to insult. For the good they do they receive the punishment of malefactors, but even then they, rejoice, as though receiving the gift of life.

~Letter to Diognetus #5 (2nd century)