



WORD OF LIFE

March 2008

Intercessions for Life

March 2008

March 2nd Fourth Sunday of Lent

For our governor, our state representatives and senators:
that they may be guided by a dedication
to the right to life of each of the citizens whom they represent;
We pray to the Lord:

March 9th Fifth Sunday of Lent

For researchers dedicated to finding a cure to disease and hardship:
that God might give them the grace
to be open to his will;
We pray to the Lord:

March 16th Palm Sunday

For all new parents:
that they might see in the baby for whom they care
a sign of the love and the care God has for us;
We pray to the Lord:

March 23rd Easter Sunday

For all who are sick,
but especially for those who are dying:
that we might open our hearts to the gift of their
suffering;
We pray to the Lord:

March 30th Second Sunday of Easter

For all teenagers,
that as they learn the wonders of life
they might receive the grace
to live and love the Gospel of Life;
We pray to the Lord:



*You have shown me the paths of life;
you will fill me with joy before your face, O Lord.
from the Roman Missal*

When I saw the embryo [through a microscope at a friend's fertility clinic], I suddenly realized there was such a small difference between it and my daughters. I thought, we can't keep destroying embryos for our research. There must be another way.

Dr. Shinya Yamanaka, pioneer in reprogramming adult cells to behave as embryonic stem cells, quoted in the *NY Times*, Dec. 11, 2007

If human embryonic stem-cell research does not make you at least a little bit uncomfortable, you have not thought about it enough.

Dr. James A. Thomson, the first to isolate stem cells from human embryos in 1998, who also has found a way to reprogram adult cells to behave like embryonic stem cells, quoted in *NY Times*, Nov. 22, 2007

The right to life is the greatest civil rights issue of our time. This is the issue that will determine whether America remains a hospitable society – committed to caring for women in crisis and their unborn children, committed to caring for those with special needs, committed to caring for the elderly and the dying – or whether America betrays our heritage and the truths on which its Founders staked their claim to independence.

Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien, Oct. 1, 2007 Installation Mass, Baltimore, Md.

In addressing these issues of life over the past four decades, the Catholic bishops of the United States have not – repeat, not – made “sectarian arguments.” The bishops have made moral arguments that can be known by anyone willing to think through the first principles of justice. It is worse than a tragedy, it is a scandal, that too many of our fellow-citizens, including our Catholic fellow-citizens, seem not to have grasped these first principles of justice or have turned their backs on them.

Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien, Oct. 1, 2007 Installation Mass, Baltimore, Md.

No one has to have an abortion. To all of those in crisis pregnancies, I pledge our support and our financial help. Come to the Catholic Church. Let us walk with you through your time of trouble. Let us help you affirm life. Let us help you find a new life with your child, or let us help you place that child in a loving home. But please, I beg you: let us help you affirm life.

Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien, Oct. 1, 2007 Installation Mass, Baltimore, Md.