



WORD OF LIFE

October 2009

Intercessions for Life

October 2009

October 4: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time & Respect Life Sunday

For all married couples:

that they may express ever more fully the generous love of God,
especially by joyfully accepting the great blessing of children;

We pray to the Lord:

October 11: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

For all missionaries who have given up everything to serve Christ:

that their lives of joyful sacrifice may speak truth
in the midst of cultures that value possessions over human life;

We pray to the Lord:

October 18: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

For all those who build a culture of life

by caring for the sick and the suffering:

that they may have hearts like Jesus,
who willingly made himself the servant of all;

We pray to the Lord:

October 25: 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

For those who are blind to the genuine dignity

of each and every human person:

that the Lord may enlighten their minds and hearts
to recognize the inherent worth of every person;

We pray to the Lord:

“Concerns about health care costs and general financial uncertainty, along with serious discussions about limiting health care for the elderly, are currently reaching the boiling point. If assisted suicide is added to the cauldron, the final result can be doubly lethal. Making assisted suicide a medical treatment gives it the status of only one among many options for the treatment of certain conditions. In cost-effectiveness assisted suicide differs in a major way from other treatments. It is extremely affordable and can always be covered by health insurance. The force of economic gravity can lead to increased pressure on patients to request, and doctors to prescribe, assisted suicide.”

– Rita Marker, “Assisted Suicide: Death by ‘Choice’?”, pamphlet from 2009 Respect Life Program.

“The subtle lies of today’s culture of death are a plague of spiritual leprosy, reducing the value of human persons to some arbitrary standard that changes like fashions. ... To the world around us, what matters is what we possess, but to the Lord, *we matter* because we are his beloved children, created in his image, for whom he died, and with whom he wants to live forever in heaven.”

– Rev. John Bartunek, LC, STL, “Why You Matter: A Reflection on Human Dignity,” pamphlet from 2009 Respect Life Program.

“Every child, at every age of development, brings us God’s smile and invites us to recognize that life is his gift, a gift to be welcomed with love and preserved with care always and at every moment.”

- Flyer for 2009 Respect Life Program.

“The bishops’ conference views health care as a basic right belong to all human beings, from conception to natural death...Much-needed reform must not become a vehicle for promoting an ‘abortion rights’ agenda or reversing longstanding current policies against federal abortion mandates and funding. In this sense, we urge you to make this legislation ‘abortion neutral’ by preserving longstanding federal policies that prevent government promotion of abortion and respect conscience rights.”

– Justin Cardinal Rigali, Letter to members of House Energy and Commerce Committee, July 29, 2009. Full letter at <http://www.usccb.org/prolife/CardRigali-AbortionNeutralReform-7-29-09.pdf>.