



DAY TWO

January 17, 2016

Intercession

May those near the end of their lives receive medical care that respects their dignity and protects their lives.

Prayers

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

Reflection

When Maggie's active father suffered an accident that eventually led to his passing, Maggie's conversations with him turned to life's more serious topics, and his final days became a time that was cherished by the whole family. During this time, Maggie's dad taught her that "dignity can't be diminished by pain or loss of personal control," that "Jesus was walking along with him," and that "our suffering is not meaningless when we unite it with Christ's own suffering."

As a 50-year-old wife and mother of three, Maggie needed this message in a dramatically new way when she was diagnosed with a terminal illness. Instead of giving up hope, she embraced the legacy her father had left her, cherishing the life she still had left: "[M]y life is, always has been, and always will be, worth living." Read more about her experience in "Maggie's Story: Living like Dad" (www.goo.gl/QuLz1P).*

Acts of Reparation (choose one)

- Take time to write a handwritten note to someone who is lonely or needing encouragement.
- Read about the life of a modern (19th or 20th century) saint. You might be surprised by how much you have in common with them.
- Go to bed a little early tonight, and spend some time talking and listening to God.

One Step Further

Meet Maggie in the brief, 3-minute video (available at www.goo.gl/4HM8Ib)* that inspired the article, "Maggie's Story: Living like Dad" (www.goo.gl/QuLz1P).*

"I saw with my own two eyes what joy can be found in just valuing every moment. ... [My dad] left us a legacy of that time that he gave us. He could have checked out right away and said, 'I'm done with this.' But he didn't. He stuck around, and he said, 'I'm here for you.'"

– "Maggie's Story" (video)



*Full URL for article: <http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/2015/maggies-story-living-like-dad.cfm>

*Full URL for video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XJwWKDGBS5o>

Image: A mosaic of Our Lady of Guadalupe decorates a side altar in the Church of Santa Maria della Famiglia at the Vatican. Dec. 15. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)
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4 WAYS TO JOIN

