



Word of Life

October 2012

Intercessions for Life October 2012

October 7th TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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 14th TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For all missionaries who have given up everything to serve Christ:
that their lives of joyful sacrifice may be a witness
to those who value possessions over human life;
We pray to the Lord:

October 21st TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For all those in public office:
that they will exercise their civil authority in a spirit
of reverence and service to human life.
We pray to the Lord:

October 28th THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For the people of the world;
that this Year of Faith may awaken hearts to the truth and beauty of every human life.
We pray to the Lord:

A common root of pornography use is a need to have control in our lives, yet pornography produces sexual frustration and the desire to act out. So what we seek to achieve from pornography in the form of control ends up controlling and enslaving us. But the gift of sexuality is not meant to frustrate or enslave. It is meant to free us in a life-long relationship of complete giving to another.

The commitment and mutual respect within marriage truly fosters this freedom. It is the only context that provides a safeguard for the expression of our sexuality to be a source of peace and joy in our lives.

~ Daniel Spadaro, LPC, CSAT, *“Life Matters: Pornography and Our Call to Love”*, *Respect Life Program 2012*

For most industries, it’s the bottom line that really matters. Abortions represented over 51% of Planned Parenthood’s clinic income (even though they calculate abortion as a mere 3% of services provided). And we as taxpayers are providing most of the rest of their income, as 46.5 percent of their revenues (\$487 million in 2010) come from government grants and Medicaid, Title X and similar funding.

~ Margaret H. (Peggy) Hartshorn, Ph.D., *“Life Matters: Responding to Unplanned Pregnancy”*, *Respect Life Program 2012*

The contraceptive mentality encourages self-centeredness rather than self-control, commitment and sacrifice for another. The latter qualities are necessary for a successful marriage, which remains the “most basic and universal of human institutions,” and the place where love and lives can flourish. Even today, young adults see getting married as “a top priority.” But the conduct they are encouraged to engage in undermines this goal.

~ Susan E. Wills, JD, *“Life Matters: Contraceptives and Women’s Well-Being”*, *Respect Life Program 2012*

In the American tradition, people have a right to bring their beliefs to bear on every social, economic and political problem facing their community. For Christians, that’s not just a privilege. It’s not just a right. It’s a demand of the Gospel. Believers can’t be silent in public life and be faithful to Jesus Christ at the same time. Actively witnessing to our convictions and advancing what we believe about key moral issues in public life are acts of truth telling. They’re vital to the health of every democracy. And again, they’re also a duty—not only of our religious faith, but also of our citizenship.

~ Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, Archbishop of Philadelphia, *“Life Matters: Religious Liberty and the American Soul”*, *Respect Life Program 2012*

Marriage is not just one choice among many in a person’s life. It is not a mere contract with another person, more or less lasting, for an exchange of love and good times. It is not even merely a “status” that the state assigns to your relationship if you fulfill the legal requirements for entering into marriage.

Catholics hold that marriage is a vocation, a “call.” It is a way of life that offers continual opportunities to be in loving service to the other. Marriage has a way of calling us to make this happen, and of making us want it to happen. It is both a splendid reality and serious business.

~ Helen M. Alvaré, Esq., *“Life Matters: Marriage, the Sanctuary of Life”*, *Respect Life Program 2012*

U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, 2012