



Word of Life

November 2011

Intercessions for Life

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November 6th Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

For those who have lost a loved one in the past year:
that they may find consolation in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament
and assurance that the Lord is ever close to the brokenhearted;
We pray to the Lord:

November 13th Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

For all members of the Catholic Church—bishops, clergy, religious, and laity:
that in our diverse vocations, and with our particular gifts,
we will work to create a culture in which every human life is valued and defended;
We pray to the Lord:

November 20th Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

For all the suffering “little one’s” of the world:
that we may look to Christ’s example of sacrificial love in aiding them;
We pray to the Lord:

November 27th First Sunday of Advent

For those with mental illnesses or cognitive impairments:
That their families and caregivers will always show them tender compassion;
We pray to the Lord:

To trust in God's timing for our passing into eternity requires courage, humility, and sometimes great spiritual strength. This final stage of life, when we focus our attention on the things that really count, can be a time of deep reflection, of forgiveness and reconciliation within the family, and of finding peace in one's relationship with God.

~ "Life Matters: To the End of Our Days," *Respect Life Program* 2011-2012

Analyzing the risk of mental health problems for women after an abortion, a new meta-analysis of 22 studies—with a total of over 800,000 participants—found that women who aborted a child have an 81% increased risk of subsequent mental health problems compared to women who have not had an abortion. When compared to women with an "unplanned" pregnancy who gave birth, women who had an abortion have a 138% higher risk of mental health problems. (See P.K. Coleman, "Abortion and Mental Health: Quantitative Synthesis and Analysis of Research Published 1995-2009," *The British Journal of Psychiatry* (2011) 199: 180-86.)

**If you are grieving from a past abortion,
contact your diocesan Project Rachel Ministry for confidential help.**

These witnesses [young people with severe disabilities] speak to us, first and foremost, of the dignity of all human life, created in the image of God. No suffering can efface this divine image imprinted in the depths of our humanity. But there is more: because the Son of God wanted freely to embrace suffering and death, we are also capable of seeing God's image in the face of those who suffer. Dear friends, our society, which all too often questions the inestimable value of life, of every life, needs you: in a decisive way you help to build the civilization of love.

~ Pope Benedict XVI - visit to San José Foundation for disabled youth. Madrid, August 20, 2011

Every child conceived by in vitro fertilization is truly deserving of respect and love: Each is a human person, regardless of the manner of conception. The problem is that the way they are brought into the world does not live up to their dignity.

~"Life Matters: Reproductive Technologies," *Respect Life Program* 2011-2012