# WORD OF LIFE

## December 2013

#### **Intercessions for Life**

#### **December 1, 2013** FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT For all the faithful: may the Lord grant them the grace to persevere in promoting a culture of life in vigilant expectation of Christ's return; We pray to the Lord:

#### December 8, 2013 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

For medical professionals who are involved in the destruction of human life: may they repent and open their hearts to God's mercy and love in preparation for the coming of Christ; Let us pray to the Lord:

#### December 15, 2013 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

For those who forget the needs of their brothers and sisters: that the Lord would give them a spirit of generosity; Let us pray to the Lord:

#### December 22, 2013 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

For all those facing an unexpected pregnancy: that they may have the strength and courage to joyfully accept and love their unborn child; Let us pray to the Lord:

### December 25, 2013 THE SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

In thanksgiving for the coming of Christ: as we receive God's love in the Christ child may we recognize that the gift of every human life comes from our Heavenly Father; Let us pray to the Lord:

#### December 29, 2013 THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

For all families: that they may seek to honor and love one another as Christ loves the Church; Let us pray to the Lord:





#### WORD OF LIFE DECEMBER 2013

### **Bulletin Briefs**

"When a child is described as a burden or is looked upon only as a means to satisfy an emotional need, we will stand up and insist that every child is a unique and unrepeatable gift of God, with the right to a loving and united family.

~ Pope John Paul II, Holy Mass on the National Mall, October 7, 1979

"Love your children. In them you can see Baby Jesus. Pray for them a lot and every day put them under Holy Mary's protection."

~Saint Gianna Beretta Molla

"Each according to his or her possibilities, profession and responsibilities, should feel in themselves an obligation to love and serve life, from its beginning to its natural end. It is, in fact, everyone's duty to welcome human life as a gift to be respected, protected and promoted, even more so when it is fragile and in need of attention and care, either before birth or when it is in its final stages."

"The fight for the right to life is not the cause of a special few, but the cause of every man, woman and child who cares not only about his or her own family, but the whole family of man."

~ Dr. Mildred Jefferson, Pro-life Physician

"The right to life is the first among human rights."

~ Pope Francis, Address to Catholic Gynecologists, September 20, 2013

"If I could accomplish one thing it would be: if you ever find yourself in this situation [unplanned pregnancy] or have a sister, or a cousin, or a best friend that's in trouble, there are resources out there."

~ Molly Anne Dutton, Auburn University student who was conceived in rape, placed for adoption, and shared her testimony during her Homecoming Queen acceptance speech, October 12, 2013

"Life is too precious, do not destroy it. Life is life, fight for it."

~ Blessed Mother Teresa

"Abortion, therefore, is not an inevitable choice. The loving support of family, friends and counselors can make a huge difference."

~ Dr. Sandra Makhorn, "Life Matters: Pregnancy from Rape," 2013-14 Respect Life Program article,

www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/2013/life-matters-pregnancyfrom-rape.cfm

Join the Bishops' Call to Prayer and Fasting for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty. Visit <u>www.usccb.org/pray</u> or text "fast" to 99000. Join the Movement!

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<sup>~</sup> Pope Benedict XVI, "Welcome Life, Before Birth and in its Final Stages," Angelus Address, February 3, 2008