

# DAY ONE

January 21, 2017

#### Intercession

For the conversion of all hearts and the end to abortion.

### Prayers

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

#### Reflection

Pope Saint John Paul II described the "culture of life" as "the fruit of the culture of truth and of love" in his encyclical *The Gospel of Life* (no. 77). Do we build up the culture of life by living in truth and in love? Are we the kind of people whom a woman could and would come to if she found out she were pregnant and needed loving support and encouragement? How can we help those who suffer from the pain of abortion to experience God's tender mercy? The brief articles in today's "One Step Further" give suggestions for extending God's merciful love to others.

## Acts of Reparation (choose one)

- Go to an abortion clinic and pray, or set aside an hour today to pray for those who are struggling with a decision of life or death for their unborn child.
- Spend some time reflecting upon no. 77 of *The Gospel of Life*.
- Use the Respect Life social media toolkit (<u>www.goo.gl/i8msnP</u>) to build up a culture of life on social media.

## One Step Further

If a woman who was unexpectedly pregnant came to you for support, would you know what to do? "10 Ways to Support Her When She's Unexpectedly Expecting" (<a href="www.goo.gl/MkBfb9">www.goo.gl/MkBfb9</a>) provides simple, concrete tips for loving, life-affirming support. In "Bridges of Mercy for Post-Abortion Healing," (<a href="www.goo.gl/MpC7RG">www.goo.gl/MpC7RG</a>) learn how you can be a bridge of God's mercy for people suffering after abortion.



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