



# *WORD OF LIFE*

*December 2009*

# Intercessions for Life

December 2009

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**Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>      SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

For young women in crisis pregnancies:  
that they may receive loving support and guidance,  
and consolation from our Blessed Mother;  
We pray to the Lord:

**Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>      THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

For all physicians and healers:  
that they may fulfill their obligations to patients  
with a sense of the sacredness and dignity of human life;  
We pray to the Lord:

**Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>      FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

For all children:  
that their beauty, joy and innocence may serve as reminders  
that each child is a precious gift from God;  
We pray to the Lord:

**Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>      THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH**

For those who are lonely or estranged from their families:  
that they may find consolation and healing  
during this Christmas season;  
We pray to the Lord:

*“The medieval theologian William of Saint Thierry once said that God – from the time of Adam – saw that his grandeur provoked resistance in man, that we felt limited in our own being and threatened in our freedom. Therefore God chose a new way. He became a child. He made himself dependent and weak, in need of our love. Now – this God who has become a child says to us – you can no longer fear me, you can only love me.”*

*~ Pope Benedict XVI, Homily at Midnight Mass, December 25, 2008*

“Every child asks for our love. This night, then, let us think especially of those children who are denied the love of their parents. Let us think of those street children who do not have the blessing of a family home, of those children who are brutally exploited as soldiers and made instruments of violence, instead of messengers of reconciliation and peace. Let us think of those children who are victims of the industry of pornography and every other appalling form of abuse, and thus are traumatized in the depths of their soul. The Child of Bethlehem summons us once again to do everything in our power to put an end to the suffering of these children; to do everything possible to make the light of Bethlehem touch the heart of every man and woman.”

~ Pope Benedict XVI, Homily at Midnight Mass, December 25, 2008

“Yet how many children are neither loved, nor welcomed nor respected! How many of them suffer violence and every kind of exploitation by the unscrupulous! May children always be accorded the respect and attention that are due to them: they are the future and the hope of humanity!”

~ Pope Benedict XVI, Greeting at Visit to the “Holy Infant of Prague,” September 26, 2009

“Children, and those who are dependent on us due to disability or age, offer us the opportunity to grow in patience, kindness, and love. They teach us that life is a shared gift, not an encumbrance. At the end of life, we will be judged on love alone.”

~ Cardinal Justin Rigali, Statement for Respect Life Sunday, September 29, 2009

“Abortion – the direct, intentional killing of an unborn girl or boy – is not health care. Abortion robs an innocent child of his or her life, and robs mothers of their peace and happiness. For 25 years, the Project Rachel post-abortion ministry of the Catholic Church has helped women move beyond their grief and remorse after abortion, helping them find peace by accepting God’s forgiveness and by forgiving themselves and others involved in the abortion decision. Abortion funding can only increase the number of dead and grieving.”

~ Cardinal Justin Rigali, Statement for Respect Life Sunday, September 29, 2009