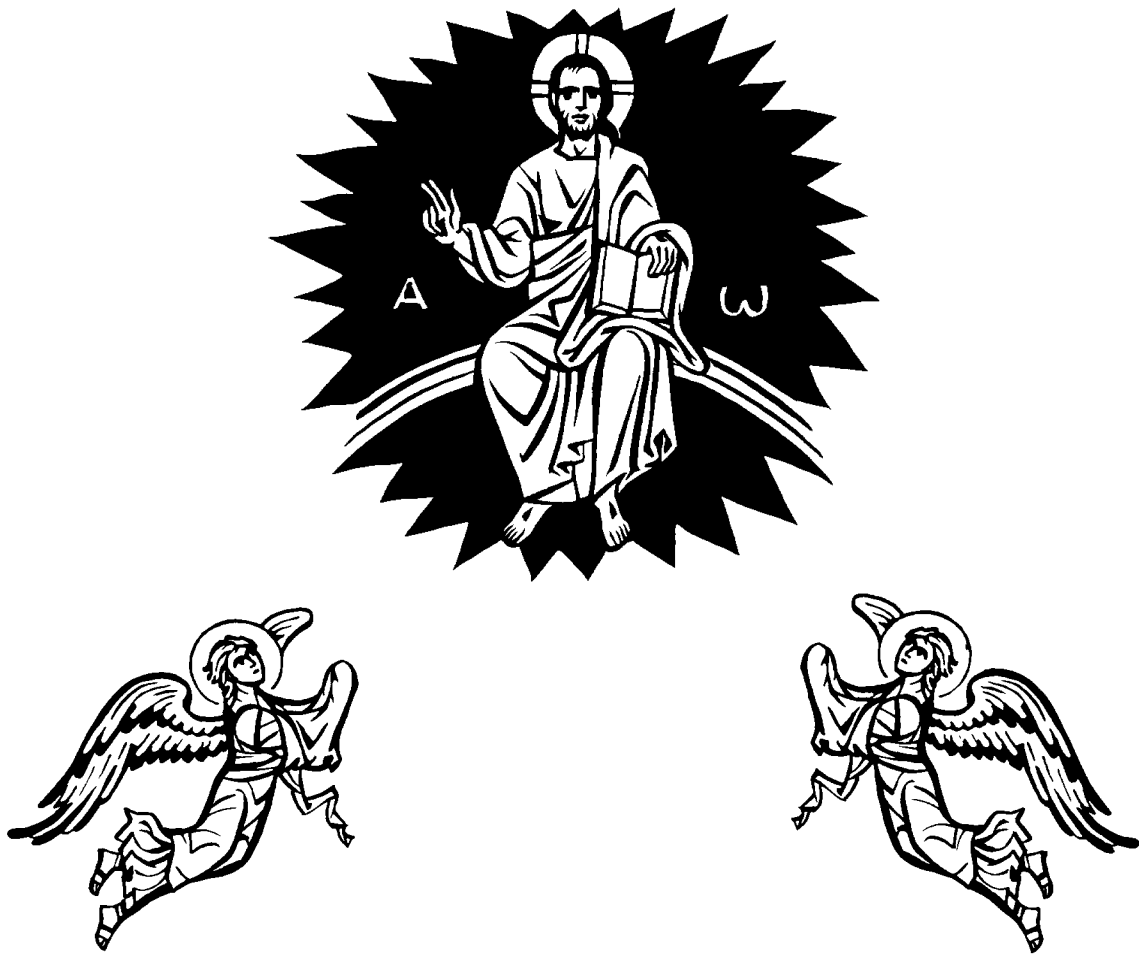




WORD OF LIFE

January 2010

Intercessions for Life

January 2010

January 3rd Epiphany of the Lord

For the leaders of our country:
That they will govern with wisdom
And respect for the dignity of all human beings,
Including the unborn and those nearing the end of life;
We pray to the Lord:

January 10th Baptism of the Lord

For all baptized Christians:
That we live out our baptismal call
To be witnesses to the truth of the Gospel
And God's love for human life;
We pray to the Lord:

January 17th Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

For all mothers experiencing difficult circumstances:
That through the spiritual and practical resources of the Catholic community
They will experience Christ's compassionate love for them;
We pray to the Lord:

January 24th Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

For those suffering with terminal illness and for their families:
That in their time of trial they will know Christ's presence in a special way
And be encouraged by his promise of eternal life;
We pray to the Lord:

January 31st Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For all prisoners on death row:
That our Lord's promise of his Divine Mercy will transform their hearts
and lead them to repentance,
And that, by following the example of Divine Mercy, their lives may be spared;
We pray to the Lord:

“There are international campaigns afoot to reduce birth-rates, sometimes using methods that respect neither the dignity of the woman, nor the right of parents to choose responsibly how many children to have; graver still, these methods often fail to respect even the right to life. The extermination of millions of unborn children, in the name of the fight against poverty, actually constitutes the destruction of the poorest of all human beings.”

~ Pope Benedict XVI, “Message for the Celebration of the World Day of Peace,” Jan. 1, 2009

“When the family is weakened, it is inevitably children who suffer. If the dignity of women and mothers is not protected, it is the children who are affected most.”

~ Pope Benedict XVI, “Message for the Celebration of the World Day of Peace,” Jan. 1, 2009

“Those who are active in the production and dissemination of new media content, therefore, should strive to *respect* the dignity and worth of the human person. If the new technologies are to serve the good of individuals and of society, all users will avoid the sharing of words and images that are degrading of human beings, that promote hatred and intolerance, that debase the goodness and intimacy of human sexuality or that exploit the weak and vulnerable.”

~ Pope Benedict XVI, “Message of the Holy Father for the 43rd World Communications Day, May 24, 2009

Women who have had one abortion have a 36% increased risk of giving birth prematurely in a subsequent pregnancy. Women who have had more than one abortion have a 93% increased risk of premature birth.

~ Prakesh Shah et al., “Induced termination of pregnancy and low birthweight and preterm birth: a systematic review and meta-analyses,” *BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology* 116:11 (2009) 1425 – 1442.

“I thank God for my handicaps for, through them, I have found myself, my work, and my God.”

~ Helen Keller