



WORD OF LIFE

November 2009

Intercessions for Life

NOVEMBER 2009

November 1st ALL SAINTS

For all those who are nearing death:
that through the gentle and loving care of their family and caregivers
they may never doubt their great dignity and worth;
We pray to the Lord:

November 8th THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For all who serve in government:
that they will be open to the light of the Holy Spirit
and strive in all their actions to defend the lives of every human being,
especially the unborn, the elderly, and the poor;
We pray to the Lord:

November 15th THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For Catholic hospitals and healthcare providers:
That their rights of conscience to minister to the sick and dying,
in a manner in keeping with their Catholic mission, will not be violated;
We pray to the Lord:

November 22nd OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING

For all Catholics:
That we may be united in faith and spirit
In working to uphold the dignity of every human life
Under our one Lord Jesus Christ the King;
We pray to the Lord:

November 29th FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

For all unborn children:
That their families will prepare to welcome them with joy
And awareness of the many gifts children bring into the world;
We pray to the Lord:

You matter. That's why Christ came into your life, cleaned your soul [at baptism], and lit the lamp of faith in your heart. If ever the lamp goes out, he is always there to light it again. And while it shines, it should inspire us to roll back the dark lies of the culture of death and spread the light of Christ's love to everyone we can, because they matter too."

Rev. John Bartunek, LC, "Why You Matter," *Respect Life Program* (2009-2010)

Abortion and euthanasia ... are the places where those committed to a *conditional* and *selective* vision of human rights have planted their flag in our time. They want to draw lines between the important and unimportant members of society, between persons and "nonpersons." In a different time or place the forcing issue might be slavery, racism or anti-Semitism – today abortion and related issues force us to decide whether we mean what we say in speaking of inalienable human rights, inherent in simply being human.

Cardinal Justin Rigali, "Where do we go from here?" *Respect Life Program* (2009-2010)

The teaching of the Catholic Church on human sexuality is profound and uplifting. Married love is meant to mirror the love within the Trinity – to be faithful, selfless, permanent, and life-giving. And isn't that what everyone really wants out of marriage? But rather than encouraging this kind of love, contraceptives have helped many people to engage in sexual relationships that are unfaithful, selfish, short-term, and altered to be sterile, not life giving. Such uncommitted relationships can not only damage our ability to love as we're meant to love, but very often lead to other problems – contributing to the 3 million unintended pregnancies, over one million abortions, and 19 million new cases of sexually-transmitted diseases (STDs) in the United States each year.

Susan Wills, "Contraception: The Fine Print," *Respect Life Program* (2009-2010)

Every little boy and girl is a unique and irreplaceable creature designed by the God of love, his personal gift that comes to us bearing his image and likeness. While biological parents assist in God's creative act, God contributes the child's eternal soul—his or her intellect, consciousness, will, and the capacities to reason and love, to hope and aspire.

Flyer, *Respect Life Program* (2009-2010)

Between 4 and 5 weeks after conception, the child's brain develops at an incredible rate, and the stomach, esophagus, pancreas, intestines, kidneys, and even reproductive organs are all developing. Between 5 and 6 weeks the embryo begins to move spontaneously and reflexively—e.g., in response to touch the embryo will withdraw. By 6 weeks plus 2 days an embryo's brain waves have been recorded by EEG.

Flyer, *Respect Life Program* (2009-2010)