



Word of Life

June 2013

Intercessions for Life June 2013

June 2nd THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

That strengthened and nourished by the Eucharist,
all Catholics will pray and work to defend life;
Let us pray:

June 9th TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For those who are ill and for their caregivers:
may they draw strength from the Sacred Heart of Jesus,
who is always with us in our suffering;
Let us pray:

June 16th ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For fathers, especially those facing parenthood unexpectedly:
that they, like Saint Joseph,
will embrace the great privilege that God has entrusted to them;
Let us pray:

June 23th TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For children with disabilities:
that their spirit to overcome any challenge
will be nurtured by family, teachers and peers;
Let us pray:

June 30th THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For all legislators:
that they uphold and enact laws protecting the sanctity of all human life,
traditional marriage and religious liberty;
Let us pray:

The right to life is the first among human rights. To abort a child is to kill someone who cannot defend himself.

~ Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio, former Archbishop of Buenos Aires (now Pope Francis), *Sobre el cielo y la tierra (On heaven and earth)*, 2011

We must never tire of clarifying misunderstanding and shedding light where there is myth and confusion, demonstrating empathy and compassion and a deeper vision. ... Our task is to present the truth with civility, empathy and clarity. Being champions of the Gospel of Life is about building a civilization of love.

~ Cardinal Seán Patrick O'Malley, O.F.M. Cap., Archbishop of Boston, homily at the Opening Mass for the 2013 National Prayer Vigil for Life, January 24, 2013

As for those who work in the medical profession, they ought to neglect no means of making all their skill available to the sick and dying; but they should also remember how much more necessary it is to provide them with the comfort of boundless kindness and heartfelt charity. Such service to people is also service to Christ the Lord, who said: "As you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Mt. 25:40).

~ The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, "Declaration on Euthanasia," May 5, 1980

All men, by their inherent paternal nature, are called to be fathers in a certain sense, if not in the flesh, then in the spirit by a pure and fruitful love that helps in the formation and growth of others as children of God. As with women, men find their dignity not in occupational pursuits, much less in the acquisition and exercise of power, but by virtue of loving relationship with others.

~ Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington, "Saint Joseph and the Vocation of the Pope and All Men to Fatherhood," *Seek First the Kingdom: A Blog by Cardinal Donald Wuerl*, March 19th, 2013

The most fundamental human freedom is that of practicing one's faith openly, which for human beings is their reason for living.

~ Blessed Pope John Paul II, "Address to Diplomatic Corps," January 13, 1996

It is imperative that the entire Catholic community in the United States come to realize the grave threats to the Church's public moral witness. ... The seriousness of these threats needs to be clearly appreciated at every level of ecclesial life. Of particular concern are certain attempts being made to limit that most cherished of American freedoms, the freedom of religion.

~ Pope Benedict XVI, "Address to the Bishops of United States of America on their Ad Limina Visit," January 19, 2012