



Word of Life

July 2011

Intercessions for Life

July 2011

July 3rd **FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

For the leaders of our nation:
that they may remember that the rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness
apply to all people, from conception to natural death;
We pray to the Lord:

July 10th **FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

For the leaders of the Church:
that the Gospel of Life will continue to grow and flourish in their hearts;
We pray to the Lord:

July 17th **SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

For all families:
that the love of God may fruitfully grow in them;
We pray to the Lord:

July 24th **SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

For all parents:
that they may accept the lives of their children as precious gifts from God;
We pray to the Lord:

July 31st **EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

For the hungry:
that they may receive the sustenance they need;
We pray to the Lord:

One notes with sadness, that homes are coming under increasingly adverse conditions caused by rapid cultural changes ... by educational programs that trivialize sexuality and by false ideologies. We cannot remain indifferent to these challenges. ... Christ with his grace urges us to work with diligence and enthusiasm ... to ensure that each family, founded on the indissoluble union between a man and a woman, accomplishes its mission of being ... a privileged environment in which human life is welcomed and protected, joyfully and responsibly, from its beginning until its natural end.

~Pope Benedict XVI, Message to the Meeting of Bishops who Head Episcopal Commissions for the Family and Life in Latin America and the Caribbean, March 28, 2011

The topic of post-abortion syndrome—that is, the grave psychological distress experienced by women who have had recourse to voluntary abortion—reveals the irrepressible voice of the moral conscience and the most serious wound it suffers every time that human action betrays the innate vocation to the good of the human being, to which it bears witness.

~Pope Benedict XVI, Address to Participants in the General Assembly of the Pontifical Academy for Life, February 26, 2011

Doctors in particular cannot fail in the grave duty to defend from deception the conscience of many women who believe abortion is the solution to family, financial and social problems or those that relate to their baby's health. Especially in the latter situation the woman is all too often convinced, at times by doctors themselves, that abortion is not only a morally licit choice, but is even a "therapeutic" action that is only right, in order to prevent the child and his family from suffering and from being an "unjust" burden on society.

~Pope Benedict XVI, Address to Participants in the General Assembly of the Pontifical Academy for Life, February 26, 2011

Against a cultural background characterized by the eclipse of the sense of life ... special fortitude is demanded of doctors so that they may continue to assert that abortion resolves nothing but kills the child, destroys the woman and blinds the conscience of the child's father, all too often ruining family life. This duty, however, does not only concern the medical profession and health-care workers. The whole of society must defend the right to life of the child conceived and the true good of the woman.

~Pope Benedict XVI, Address to Participants in the General Assembly of the Pontifical Academy for Life, February 26, 2011

The virtue of chastity ... is not a "no" to pleasure and to the joy of life, but a great "yes" to love as a profound communication between persons, as love that is capable of generating life and of generously welcoming a new life which is born.

~Pope Benedict XVI, Address to Participants in the Meeting Promoted by the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family, May 13, 2011