WORD OF LIFE

August 2014

Intercessions for Life

August 3rd Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For married couples experiencing difficulty in having children: May God grant healing to their bodies

And bring peace to their souls;

We pray to the Lord:

August 10th Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For prisoners facing execution:

That they would be reconciled to God and to the victims of their crimes;

And may our society choose life over capital punishment;

We pray to the Lord:

August 17th Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For all who are suffering from physical, emotional, or spiritual illness:

That they would not be afraid to cry out to God in faith and express their needs to him; We pray to the Lord:

August 21st Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

For the elderly:

May they experience the joy of full participation in loving communities;

We pray to the Lord:

August 31st Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

For those working to build a culture of life who are discouraged:

May they be renewed by the power of the Holy Spirit

And be given the grace to be pick up their cross and continue their good work.

We pray to the Lord:

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Bulletin Briefs

"Every child who, rather than being born, is condemned unjustly to being aborted, bears the face of Jesus Christ, bears the face of the Lord, who even before he was born, and then just after birth, experienced the world's rejection. And every elderly person...even if he is ill or at the end of his days, bears the face of Christ. They cannot be discarded, as the 'culture of waste' suggests!"

 Pope Francis, Address to Catholic Healthcare Professionals and Gynecologists, Sept. 20, 2013

"A child is not something owed to one, but is a gift. The 'supreme' gift of marriage' is a human person. A child may not be considered a piece of property, an idea to which an alleged 'right to a child' would lead. In this area, only the child possesses genuine rights: the right 'to be the fruit of the specific act of the conjugal love of his parents,' and 'the right to be respected as a person from the moment of his conception."

—Catechism of the Catholic Church, #2378

"Through the vulnerability and dependence of the dying person, we discover a call to reach beyond ourselves to those around us and ultimately to God Himself."

Ruth Ashfield, "The Gift of the Dying Person,"
 Communio, 39, Fall 2012

"Respect for that dignity is owed to every human being because each one carries in an indelible way his own dignity and value. The origin of human life has its authentic context in marriage and in the family, where it is generated through an act which expresses the reciprocal love between a man and a woman."

— Congregation of the Doctrine of Faith, *Dignitas Personae: On Certain Bioethical Questions*, 6

Life Facts

During weeks 28-32 of pregnancy the baby's vision and hearing are well developed. The baby can hear the sound of the mother's heartbeat, blood flow, and food moving through her body. The baby recognizes the mother's voice and enjoys listening to soft music.

"Although numerous studies in the Netherlands and elsewhere report an assisted-suicide failure rate up to 25%, Oregon has yet to report even one complication in over four years. This failure to report complications has led even euthanasia advocates themselves to call the credibility of Oregon reporting on assisted suicide into question."

— Facts About Euthanasia, Terri Schiavo Life and Hope Network, http://www.terrisfight.org/facts-about-euthanasia/

Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty.
Visit www.usccb.org/pray or text "fast" to 99000. Join the Movement!