

# WORD OF LIFE

*December 2014*

## **Intercessions for Life**

**December 7<sup>th</sup>                      Second Sunday of Advent**

For all people:

That we may express compassion, gentleness and patience towards others  
this Advent season and always;

We pray to the Lord:

**December 14<sup>th</sup>                      Third Sunday of Advent**

For new parents:

That they may receive support and help from family and friends  
in caring for their newborns;

We pray to the Lord:

**December 21<sup>st</sup>                      Fourth Sunday of Advent**

For all expectant mothers, especially those facing challenges:

That they may look to Our Lady's example of faith in God's care;

We pray to the Lord:

**December 28<sup>th</sup>                      The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

For all families:

That they may foster a loving environment that welcomes new life;

We pray to the Lord:

## Bulletin Briefs

“When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, ‘Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.’”

— Luke 1: 41-42 (NABRE © 2010 CCD. Used with permission.)

“Although we may feel unsure how best to comfort those who mourn, we must stand with them in their time of suffering. Miscarriage touches the lives of many people, yet all too often this tragedy remains unaddressed. ... As members of a community of faith ourselves, let us comfort those who mourn as we look forward together to a time when all tears are dried and our families are whole once again.”

— “Solace and Strength in the Sorrow of Miscarriage,”  
2014-2015 Respect Life Program, USCCB

“Never tire of firmly speaking out in defense of life from its conception and do not be deterred from the commitment to defend the dignity of every human person with courageous determination. Christ is with you: be not afraid!”

— Address of John Paul II to the Bishops and Apostolic Administrators  
of Albania on their “Ad Limina” Visit, February 3, 2001  
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“Are we moved by the suffering of those without shelter? Do we seek to alleviate the fear, confusion and panic that women facing unexpected pregnancies may be experiencing? Do our hearts ache for elderly patients in nursing homes who feel abandoned and unwanted, having no one to visit them?”

Our mission is to show each person the love of Christ. As uniquely created individuals, we each have unique gifts which we are called to use to share Christ’s love.”

— Cardinal Seán P. O’Malley, O.F.M. Cap., Chairman, USCCB  
Committee on Pro-Life Activities, 2014 Respect Life Month Statement

“[W]e are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the ‘culture of death’ and the ‘culture of life’. We find ourselves not only ‘faced with’ but necessarily ‘in the midst of’ this conflict: we are all involved and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life.”

— Pope John Paul II, *Evangelium Vitae*, 28  
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**Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty.**  
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