

PRAYERS FOR THE RESPECT LIFE HOLY HOUR
March 2, 2021

OPENING PRAYER:

ALL:

*My Lord and my God, I firmly believe that You see me; that You hear me.
I adore You.
I beg pardon for my sins.
I beg for Your grace during this time of prayer.
Mary, my mother, Saint Joseph, my father, and my Guardian Angel
Pray for me.*

REFLECTION:

LEADER:

Blow the trumpet in Zion! Proclaim a fast, call an assembly. Gather the people, notify the congregation. Assemble the elders; gather the children and the infants at the breast... Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep and say, "Spare, O Lord, your people." —*Joel 2:15-17*

Reflection: The toll of abortion cannot be measured. We hear estimates of almost 50 million innocent victims, but that's only one aspect of the harm that has unfolded in abortion's wake. There are also the mothers and fathers of these millions, as well as the grandparents, brothers and sisters, aunts, uncles, cousins. Unborn lives destroyed. Lives of the living shattered.

It's overwhelming and depressing, but even in the midst of such unfathomable darkness, the church teaches us to have hope. Yes, it was indeed Calvary that followed Christ's 40 days in the desert, but without Calvary there would have been no Resurrection – His victory over death that opened the gates of heaven to those who believe in and follow Him. The psalmist encourages us to go humbly before God as we seek His will: *A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me... Give me back the joy of your salvation and a willing spirit sustain in me... O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise (Psalm 51:12-17)*. We are called to be God's messengers; or as the Apostle Paul wrote: *We are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God (2 Corinthians 5:20)*. That is the true message to all we encounter at the abortion centers and in our communities who have been deceived by the Culture of Death. We don't bring condemnation; we bring God's good news.

Prayer: Lord, we ask for the strength, courage, wisdom, determination and stamina to carry out this mission according to Your will. Guide us, we pray, as we go forth and proclaim Your truth, always doing so with a spirit of love and compassion, as was demonstrated to us through the work of Your Son, Jesus Christ. In His name we pray, amen.

NOTES:

THE ANGELUS

LEADER: The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary:

ALL: *And she conceived of the Holy Spirit*

LEADER: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

ALL: *Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

LEADER: Behold the handmaid of the Lord:

ALL: *Be it done unto me according to Thy word.*

LEADER: Hail Mary...

ALL: *Holy Mary...*

LEADER: And the Word was made Flesh:

ALL: *And dwelt among us.*

LEADER: Hail Mary...

ALL: *Holy Mary...*

LEADER: Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God:

ALL: *That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

LEADER: Let us pray:

ALL: *Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection, through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen*

PERIOD OF REFLECTION AND PRIVATE PRAYER:

PRAYER REQUESTS:: Please include in your private prayer, prayers for the intentions of Charlotte Dietrich, Marcy Gollery, Frank Soda's brother, Aina Ratermansis and Mary Ann Konizeski. They are in need of prayers for healing and consolation. Charlotte and Marcy were among the original founders of the Respect Life Holy Hour. Charlotte is recovering from a surgical procedure and Marcy is suffering from lung cancer. Frank's brother is suffering from the lingering effects of Covid 19 and still has lung and blood oxygen level issues. As a result he is unable to receive his second vaccination. Aina has to be on a feeding tube for 6 months or more. Pray for her to be able to adjust to the situation. Mary Ann is recovering from a shoulder replacement after having fallen a few weeks ago. Thank you for your prayers.

NOTES:

PRAYER FOR LIFE BEFORE THE PRO-LIFE ROSARY:

***ALL:** Father, all life is in Your care. You have entrusted us to one another, that we may show our brothers and sisters the same love You have for us.*

We pray, then, for an increased respect for human life and for the dignity of the human person in our country and our world.

We pray in particular for the most vulnerable among us, the children in the womb. Protect them. Give new hope to their parents that they will accept and embrace the gift of their child.

We pray for the conversion of those who do not respect human life, particularly those who work at the Hillcrest facility here in our neighborhood. Help those men and women harmed by abortion to find reconciliation and peace.

We pray also for the sick, the handicapped and the elderly. May they know Your grace in their difficulties.

Inspire many more to speak up in defense of life, and give us peace and joy in serving as Your disciples. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

PRO-LIFE ROSARY INTENTIONS:

LEADER: The Agony in the Garden: Lord Jesus, as we meditate on your bitter agony in Gethsemane, we pray for those who are misled, confused, threatened, or afraid to say, 'yes' to human life from conception to natural death. Please lift us out of the darkness of confusion and fear, O Lord, and fill us with your strength and grace.

LEADER: The Scourging at the Pillar: Lord Jesus, as we meditate on your painful scourging, we pray for those who have been scourged by the devaluation of human life, especially here in Baltimore and throughout our country. Convert our culture of drugs and death to a culture of life, and grant us the grace to acknowledge the dignity of all life and to conform ourselves to Your Holy Will.

LEADER: The Crowning with Thorns: Lord Jesus, as we meditate on your humiliating coronation with thorns, we bring to you our lost and hurting human family, especially those who are involved with abortion. Let us pray for a conversion of heart for the doctors, nurses and all those persons of the medical, social and media professions who bring about death rather than life.

LEADER: The Carrying of the Cross: Lord Jesus, as we meditate on your excruciating climb to Calvary, we pray that parents facing an unexpected pregnancy will lovingly accept the precious life God has entrusted to them and that women in crisis pregnancies suffering abandonment or neglect, will be aided by compassionate individuals who come forward to offer them comfort and aid.

LEADER: The Crucifixion: Lord Jesus, as we meditate on your suffering and death on the cross and the good thief you so readily pardoned, we pray for all who commit acts of violence and sins against life and who are consequently dreadfully damaged in body and in spirit. Please fill them--and all of us--anew O Lord, with the grace of conversion, so that we may know your Love and Mercy so as to restore and heal us.

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL:

ALL: *St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen*

CLOSING PRAYER FOR OUR NATION:

ALL: *God our Father, Giver of life, we entrust the United States of America to Your loving care. You are the rock on which this nation was founded. You alone are the true source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Reclaim this land for Your glory and dwell among Your people.*

Send Your Spirit to touch the hearts of our nation's leaders. Open their minds to the great worth of human life and the responsibilities that accompany human freedom. Remind Your people that true happiness is rooted in seeking and doing Your will.

Through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, Patroness of our land, grant us the courage to reject the "culture of death." Lead us into a new millennium of life. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen



BENEDICTION PRAYERS:

TANTUM ERGO (BENEDICTION HYMN):

Tantum ergo Sacramentum
Veneremur cernui:
Et antiquum documentum
Novo cedat ritui:
Praestet fides supplementum
Sensuum defectui

*Down in adoration falling,
This great Sacrament we hail,
Over ancient forms of worship
Newer rites of grace prevail;
Faith for all defects supplying,
Where the feeble senses fail*

Genitori, Genitoque
Laus et jubilatio,
Salus, honor, virtus quoque
Sit et benedictio:
Procedenti ab utroque
Compar sit laudatio
Amen

*To the everlasting Father,
And the Son Who reigns on high
With the Holy Ghost proceeding
Forth from Each eternally,
Be salvation, honor, blessing,
Might and endless majesty|
Amen*

PRAYER BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

V. Panem de caelo praestitisti eis
R. *Omne delectamentum in se habentem*

(English translation):

V. You have given them bread from Heaven
R. *Having all sweetness within it*

BENEDICTION PRAYER:

LEADER: Lord Jesus Christ, You gave us the Eucharist as the memorial of Your suffering and death. May our worship of this Sacrament of Your body and blood help us to experience the salvation You won for us and the peace of the kingdom where You live with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever.

ALL: *Amen.*

THE DIVINE PRAISES:

ALL:

Blessed be God
Blessed be His Holy Name
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man
Blessed be the Name of Jesus
Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart
Blessed be His Most Precious Blood
Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar
Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete
Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most Holy
Blessed be her Holy and Immaculate Conception
Blessed be her Glorious Assumption
Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother
Blessed be St Joseph, her most chaste spouse
Blessed be God in His Angels and in His Saints

PRAYER AFTER BENEDICTION:

ALL: *May the Heart of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament be praised, adored, and loved with grateful affection, at every moment, in all the Tabernacles of the world, even until the end of time. Amen.*