

RESPECT LIFE NOTES XIX, OCTOBER 2007

Coinciding with Respect Life Month, two major pro-life efforts are under way, the “15th Annual Week of Prayer and Fasting For the Conversion of Nations, an End to Abortion, and to build a Culture of Life,” Oct. 5-13 (for details, call 888-478 PRAY or open www.iwopf.org) and the nationwide “40 Days for Life” campaign, September 26-November 4, an important part of which, consists of prayer and fasting (for details, call (202) 337-1966 or open www.40daysforlife.com). To help ensure the success of these endeavors, we provide here a small collection of pro-life prayers compiled from the 2000 Liturgy Guide of the U.S. bishops’ pro-life secretariat:

“God our Savior, strength of the weak and guardian of the defenseless, hear our prayer on behalf of all unborn children. May their fundamental right to life be safeguarded. Give your Church the voice to defend them and to speak out against all forms of injustice and oppression. We ask this through Christ our Lord.”

“Lord of all creation, give to all parents a love of their unborn child. Enable them to strengthen and nourish their child from the first moment of conception. We ask this through Christ our Lord.”

“Merciful Father, hear our prayer for all involved in the death of an aborted child. Help us to lead fathers, doctors and all stained by sin home to your merciful love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.”

“God of all ages, hear our prayers for all who are old, and especially those who are incurably ill or dying. Give them the strength to accept their suffering, and help us to cherish and sustain their lives. We ask this through Christ our Lord.”

“God of wisdom and life, look upon us in our weakness, hear our foolish pride, the sin which deludes us to think that we are the masters of life and death. Give us compassion for all who are sick, compassion for the suffering, and humble acceptance of your will. We ask this through Christ our Lord.”

“God of wonder, give us the grace of gratitude for the gift of life that we may welcome, savor and share the beauty of the Gospel of Life through Christ our Lord.”

“Lord, give to the members of our parish, a dedication to building a culture of life. May [we] all...grow in ...appreciation for the basic issues of human life. We ask this through Christ our Lord.”

Frank Zapatka, St. Ann’s Respect Life Committee Coordinator