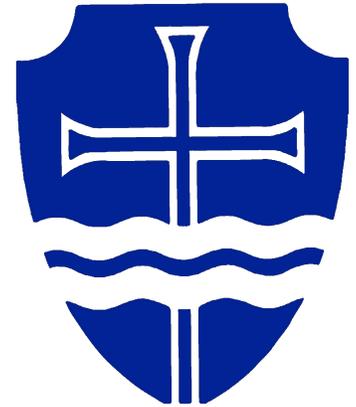


SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

CATHOLIC CHURCH

New Brighton, Minnesota

Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis



Called Forth Devotion  
&  
40 Days for Life  
Prayer



In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Holy Mary, Mother of God,

**pray for us.**

All you holy Angels and Archangels,

**pray for us.**

Saint John the Baptist,

**pray for us.**

Saint Joseph,

**pray for us.**

Saint Peter,

**pray for us.**

Saint Paul,

**pray for us.**

Saint Andre Bessette,

**pray for us.**

Saint Thomas Aquinas,

**pray for us.**

Saint Dominic,

**pray for us.**

Saint Francis,

**pray for us.**

Saint Clare,

**pray for us.**

Saint John Paul II,

**pray for us.**

Saint Anthony,

**pray for us.**

Saint Junipero Serra,

**pray for us.**

Saint Francis Xavier,

**pray for us.**

Saint Jerome,

**pray for us.**

Saint Patrick,

**pray for us.**

Saint Isaac Jogues,

**pray for us.**

Saint Charles Lwanga and Companions,

**pray for us.**

Saint Damian of Molokai,

**pray for us.**

Saint Hyacinth,

**pray for us.**

Saints Joachim and Anne,

**pray for us.**

Saint Mary Magdalene,

**pray for us.**

Saint Agatha,

**pray for us.**

Saint Lucy,

**pray for us.**

Saint Agnes,

**pray for us.**

Saint Cecilia,

**pray for us.**

Saint Philomena,

**pray for us.**

Saint Catharine,

**pray for us.**

Saint Gianna Molla,

**pray for us.**

Saint Maria Goretti,

**pray for us.**

Saint Bernadette,

**pray for us.**

Saint Therese of Lisieux,

**pray for us.**

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary,  
pray for us.  
Saint Teresa of Calcutta,  
pray for us.  
Saint Kateri Tekakwitha,  
pray for us.  
Saint Josephine Bakhita,  
pray for us.  
Saint Marianne Cope,  
pray for us.  
Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne,  
pray for us.  
The Fourteen Holy Helpers,  
pray for us.  
Blessed Solanus Casey,  
pray for us.  
Blessed James Miller,  
pray for us.  
Blessed Stanley Rother,  
pray for us.  
Blessed Frederic Ozanam,  
pray for us.  
Blessed Rosalie Rendu,  
pray for us.  
Blessed Michael McGivney,  
pray for us.  
All you Holy Saints of God,  
pray for us.

From Your merciful heart,  
call us forth oh Lord.  
Towards the incomparable depth of  
Your mercy  
call us forth oh Lord.  
To the places Your love isn't known,  
call us forth oh Lord.  
To minister to the hearts that have  
been hardened,  
call us forth oh Lord.

To be a bright light shining for You in the  
darkness of our world,  
call us forth oh Lord.  
To greater respect for all human life,  
call us forth oh Lord.  
Into deeper communion with You,  
call us forth oh Lord.

Be merciful to us sinners,  
Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.  
Guide and protect your holy Church,  
Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.  
Restore us with your life in abundance,  
Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

That You are continually taking care of me,  
Jesus, I trust in you.  
That not knowing the future invites me to  
lean on You,  
Jesus, I trust in you.  
That You are with me in my suffering,  
Jesus, I trust in you.  
That my suffering, united to Your own,  
will bear fruit in this life and the next,  
Jesus, I trust in you.  
That You give me all the strength I need for  
what is asked,  
Jesus, I trust in you.  
That my life is a gift,  
Jesus, I trust in you.  
That You are my Lord and my God,  
Jesus, I trust in you.  
That I am Your beloved one,  
Jesus, I trust in you.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins  
of the world,  
**spare us, Lord.**

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins  
of the world,  
**graciously hear us.**

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins  
of the world,  
**have mercy on us.**

Christ, hear us.

**Christ, hear us.**

Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

**Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.**

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Let us pray:

Heavenly Father, you call us forth from Your heart to share the Good News that Jesus is alive. Jesus, call us forth into deeper communion with You at every Mass and at all our times of prayer. Holy Spirit, call us forth to fulfill the mission that You have prepared for us. You have provided for us in our time of need and restored us to life as a parish. We turn to You, relying on prayer, confident in Your goodness. May Your grace call us forth to grow into the saints You desire us to be. We are called forth from Your loving heart which inspires us to live out of a generous spirit. Strengthen us today to respond to Your invitation and take the next step on our journey of faith. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**



# 40 DAYS FOR LIFE®

*Devotional for Day 36, Wednesday, November 2*  
*Fr. Shenan J. Boquet, President, Human Life International*

## Intention:

May we never hesitate in our response to Jesus' invitation but take the extra step of faith: "Master...but at your command, I will..."

## Scripture:

Jesus said to Simon, "Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch." Simon said in reply, "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets.

— *Luke 5:4-5*

## Reflection:

Often in our service of the Gospel of Life, having "worked hard all night long," we too may feel unsuccessful in our efforts, thinking we have "caught nothing." And from a temporal point of view, Peter's initial objection against Jesus' command seemed realistic. The night hours were the normal time for fishing, which on this occasion had yielded nothing. What was the point of fishing by day?

Peter and his companions are exhausted from the night's work and know there are no fish to be caught during the day. We too, on occasion, hesitate to do what Jesus asks of us, thinking the task is unreasonable, the cross too heavy, and the sacrifice too great.

What makes Peter's companions dismiss from their minds these considerations and gather their nets to lower them once again? It is Peter's trust and faith in Jesus! Peter's shift from an act of complaint to one of obedience inspires his companions to "put out into deep water and lower [their] nets for a catch."

We stand against the culture of death, a mighty foe, bombarded from every direction, and we know that the battle for Life will not be overcome by merely natural works. However, our trust is not in ourselves but in Jesus, the one who asks to "put out into deep water."

Guided purely by faith, we know that whatever the task we undertake will bear fruit in abundance.

## Prayer:

Father and Creator of human life, help us never to become discouraged in defending the full breadth of that most precious gift.

Inspire us to remember that without You, we are powerless, and that what we do for the least, especially the helpless unborn, we are doing for Your Son, who lives and works in and through us.

Give us strength to persevere in Your will. Amen.



# 40 DAYS FOR LIFE®

*Devotional for Day 37, Thursday, November 3  
Carmen Pate, former 40 Days for Life board member*

## Intention:

Pray that we will each submit ourselves this day as a living sacrifice to God, giving all that we have in us for those being sacrificed on the altar of convenience.

## Scripture:

I beseech you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

— *Romans 12:1*

## Reflection:

Since all things are for His glory, we are to offer ourselves for that purpose.

This of course is in sharp contrast to those who are being swayed by the enemy to sacrifice their babies on the altar of convenience, rather than choosing to surrender their all, including their unborn child, to the Lord for His purposes.

A career, education goals, or even a boyfriend can unknowingly become an idol for some young women. In their minds, abortion is a convenient way to “rid themselves” of an obstacle in the way of their “worship.”

In light of the sacrifice Christ made on our behalf, and the fruit of God’s mercies on our lives, we owe God our highest form of praise and worship.

Presenting our bodies as living sacrifices is therefore reasonable service.

We were made to worship God and to worship God alone.

The enemy who seeks worship for himself distorts God’s truth regarding worship, sacrifice, idols, and children.

As you have given of yourself to rescue those who are perishing—the young woman as well as her child—you are worshiping God in the truest sense of the word.

May your prayerful example lead an abortion minded client to turn away from her idols to worship the one true God, sparing her child from the altar of convenience, and sparing herself from a lifetime of regret.

## Prayer:

God Almighty, You alone are worthy of our praise and worship.

Having accepted Your Son’s sacrifice on my behalf, I in turn present my body to you as a living sacrifice.

Thank you for deeming me holy and acceptable because of Christ’s shed blood for me.

I pray that you would use me as your vessel to rescue others who are perishing. Through Christ who is Our Glory, amen.



# 40 DAYS FOR LIFE®

*Devotional for Day 38, Friday, November 4  
Carmen Pate, former 40 Days for Life board member*

## Intention:

Pray that those standing in peaceful vigil will extend mercy and grace to others as they remember that Christ did not treat us as our sins deserve.

## Scripture:

You have heard it was said, 'you shall love your neighbor, and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.

— *Matthew 5: 43-44*

## Reflection:

Perhaps it is obvious by now that not everyone thinks this campaign is a great idea! In fact, those on the front lines standing in peaceful vigil are perhaps being cursed and hated for what God has called you to do. Because we are all fallen creatures, our natural response may not be as Christ-like as we would hope it would be.

So, how do we keep our natural response in check, while allowing the Holy Spirit to empower us to love, bless, do good, and pray for those who hate us or would do us harm?

Consider first the Holiness of God. It seems that sin has clouded our ability to think clearly about God's nature. We

simply don't have a clue of how outraged God is by our sin, what an insult sin is to His person, or how sin fires the flames of His wrath. Praise God that He didn't leave us in our depravity destined for His divine wrath!

Ephesians 2:4-5 says, "But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in sin, made us alive together with Christ; by grace you have been saved."

Because of God's mercy and grace towards us, we who receive Him receive eternal Hope. Those who curse you, hate you, spitefully mistreat you and persecute you need that same Hope. That is the only way we can ever expect them to behave differently. Ask the Holy Spirit to love them -- through you -- so they are drawn to the Hope that is in you, that is Christ Jesus.

## Prayer:

Heavenly Father, may we reflect your character of grace and kindness to those who hate us and curse us. Guard our hearts and our tongues as we respond in love to words and actions meant to rile us or cause us harm. Let others see the Hope that is Christ in all we say and do. In His precious name we pray, amen.



# 40 DAYS FOR LIFE®

*Devotional for Day 39, Saturday, November 5  
Carmen Pate, former 40 Days for Life board member*

## Intention:

Pray that volunteers will replace exhaustion or discouragement with rejoicing over the miracles we have seen thus far, and enthusiastic service as God takes us on to victory!

## Scripture:

In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

— 1 Peter 1:6-7

## Reflection:

We have reason to rejoice when we consider the many babies whose lives have been saved during the 40 Days for Life campaign. Add to those lives, the women and men who have been spared from a devastating decision and now have opportunity to make a plan for their baby that is both life affirming and God honoring.

Whether directly, or indirectly, you have contributed to these testimonies of praise with your sacrificial service.

Perhaps you have been grieved by various trials during your commitment to 40 days.

The attacks of the enemy come in many forms -- difficulties in relationships, finances, health. Or maybe you are physically and mentally exhausted and have been marking off the days on your calendar, eagerly waiting for Day 40.

Consider these trials in light of God's plan for you.

The Apostle Paul understood the big picture when he said in Romans 8:18, "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."

This is our Hope and our victory. Let us rejoice in the opportunity to give that Hope to others in our path.

## Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, we sing to You a new song, for You have done marvelous things. Forgive us when we allow circumstances to defeat us. You give power to the faint and You increase strength in those who have no might.

We rest in You dear Lord, and ask You to empower us again for Your service as You work out Your plan for us and through us.

May You receive glory through our victory in Christ, in whose name we pray, amen.



# 40 DAYS FOR LIFE®

*Devotional for Day 40, Sunday, November 6  
Fr. Frank Pavone, National Director, Priests for Life*

## Intention:

Let us keep our eyes fixed on the New Jerusalem, where death will be no more.

## Scripture:

He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!"

— *Revelation 21:4-5*

## Reflection:

Every activity we undertake in defense of the sanctity of life is *prophetic*, inasmuch as it points to the day when "death will be no more."

Every victory we have when an act of abortion is prevented is prophetic of that day when death itself will be definitively conquered.

Every triumph of grace in this world, whereby someone is brought to see the value of life and given the strength to welcome it, is a breaking into our history of that definitive future in which the old order of things will have passed, and all things will be made new.

As pro-life warriors, we must keep our eyes fixed on heaven, and our hearts secure in the hope that the day is coming when all evil will be conquered.

It is the future that shapes the present; it is victory that informs the battle; it is the destination that determines the journey.

Daily, we are called to reflect on heaven.

When we weep, we are to think of the day when every tear will be wiped away.

When we face the destructive power of death, we are to think of the day when death is swallowed up in victory.

When we labor against abortion, we are to think of the day when we will have the rest and peace of the final triumph of life.

Heaven is as real as earth, and its joys will be as real as our present sorrows.

## Prayer:

Father, you are the God of hope. Your word fills us with the vision of the world to come, when every tear will be wiped away, and death will be no more.

Father, how we need that hope, how we are strengthened by that vision! Keep our hearts focused on heaven, and diligent in the labors of earth.

As we struggle against the culture of death, root our souls in the assurance of victory. We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.