



# Intercessions for Life

### *What are these?*

"Intercessions for Life" contains two sets of prayer intentions related to respect for all human life.

The first set relates to a broad spectrum of life issues from the perspective of the theme, "Be Not Afraid."

The second set contains intentions highlighting issues more specifically related to unborn children, as well as some intentions that are more general.

## BUT FIRST... Q & A

### *Who are they for?*

Lectors; priests and deacons; Catholic educators; parish bulletin editors; catechists; leaders in pro-life, youth, young adult, or campus ministry; Catholic communications; individuals; etc.

### *When do I use them?*

You are welcome to use these intentions at any time. For your convenience, some dates are also suggested.

The first set was developed with Respect Life Sunday (October 1, 2017) in mind, and the second set with the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children (Monday, January 22, 2018) in mind.

You could also use any of the intentions on Friday, January 19 (the 2018 March for Life); the day of a local pro-life march/rally; or Monday, April 9 (the 2018 celebration of the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord).

### *What are some ideas for using them?*

- Use during the Prayer of the Faithful in a Mass for Respect Life Sunday, Respect Life Month, or the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children.
- Use as inspiration for a homily given on one of the previously mentioned days.
- Include an intention in the parish bulletin on one of the dates mentioned or at another time that naturally relates to the topic. (For example, November is often recognized as "Adoption Awareness Month," so the intention relating to

adoption could be included one of the Sundays in November.

- Begin class (high school, RCIA, religious education, etc.) with prayer and include one or more of the intentions. Consider spending time discussing the intention chosen.
- Ask students to use as inspiration for a written reflection or digital presentation (prepared in class or for homework). Have them connect one of the intentions to something they are learning in class.
- Use as inspiration for a talk or class lecture, or incorporate into a regularly-planned talk or lecture that addresses related concepts.
- Review these intentions and incorporate, as applicable, when you address a related topic as part of regular programming (youth ministry, religious education, high school classes and/or retreats, etc.)
- Use as inspiration to write about the theme "Be Not Afraid," and publish your piece in Catholic communications (parish e-newsletter, parish bulletin, diocesan newspaper, etc.)
- Use for individual prayer and reflection. To go a step further, pick one of the topics to learn more about, and/or consider how you can become more involved in bringing Christ's love to the people you've been praying for—especially those who are suffering.