

SUGGESTED PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

A CALL TO PRAYER FOR LIFE, MARRIAGE & RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

*As part of the bishops' Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage, and Religious Liberty, it is encouraged that at Sunday and daily Masses the **Prayers of the Faithful** include specific intentions for respect for all human life from conception to natural death, the strengthening of marriage and family life, and the preservation of religious liberty at all levels of government, both at home and abroad. The following Prayers of the Faithful are suggestions for use/adaptation. Further resources can be found at www.usccb.org/life-marriage-liberty.*

For life, marriage and religious liberty:

For Pope Benedict XVI, bishops, priests, and all the faithful, that we may be strengthened by the grace of the Holy Spirit to continue proclaiming the dignity of all human life from conception to natural death, the unique meaning of marriage, and the importance of religious liberty for all. Let us pray to the Lord.

For all those who serve us in elected office, that they enact laws and policies that uphold the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death, the dignity of marriage as the permanent, faithful and fruitful union of a man and a woman, and authentic liberty for all. Let us pray to the Lord.

For our parish and our country, that we will become ever more aware of the dignity of all human life from conception to natural death, the beauty of God's plan for marriage, and the significance of full and authentic religious liberty. Let us pray to the Lord.

For life:

For parents and grandparents who have lost a child through abortion, that God will console them in their grief and lead them to forgiveness and healing in Confession and through the Church's Project Rachel Ministry. Let us pray to the Lord.

That this Year of Faith will awaken in the hearts of all Catholics a renewed sense of awe and gratitude for the gift of human life, and a renewed determination to protect all lives from conception to natural death. Let us pray to the Lord.

For those in the twilight of their lives, that their families and caregivers will cherish them and care for them with tender compassion, rejecting the path to assisted suicide. Let us pray to the Lord.

For marriage:

For all married couples, that they continue to live their vocation of love as an example to their families and to the world of God's faithful, fruitful, and lasting love. Let us pray to the Lord.

For all those suffering from troubled or broken marriages, especially children, that they will be assured of God the Father's unfailing care for them. Let us pray to the Lord.

For all those discerning a vocation to the priesthood, consecrated life, or marriage, that the Lord guide their hearts and make His will clear for their lives. Let us pray to the Lord.

For religious liberty:

For our President, Governor, legislators, judges, and all in service to the common good, that through the gift of heavenly wisdom they may work to uphold religious freedom and conscience protection for all. Let us pray to the Lord.

For people of faith who fight to preserve religious liberty, may the Lord strengthen their resolve to hold firm in their witness. Let us pray to the Lord.

For the rights of individuals and institutions to conduct their professional lives according to their religious convictions. Let us pray to the Lord.