

### **NOVENA FOR LIFE**

**INTRODUCTION:** Our Nation began in 1776 with the "Declaration of Independence", which declared "... that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." In 1973, a majority of Supreme Court Justices came to the conclusion that since they and science could not then determine when LIFE began, they would legalize abortion on demand, up to the time of natural birth, under the premise of a woman's right of privacy. Since that ruling, more than 60 million preborn babies have been legally murdered. We, as a Nation, have now turned away from our Creator (God) and legally condone the murder of the preborn.

Since that ruling, our Respect for LIFE as a Nation has slowly degraded; many State Legislatures have legally condoned Physician Assisted Suicides for the mentally impaired, terminally ill, physically handicapped and the aged; many of our larger cities witness human trafficking and the senseless murder of hundreds of innocent people every week – yet we remain silent. We pray this NOVENA for God's grace to give us strength to speak out to our neighbors, politicians and news organizations, and tell them that these forms of Legalized Murder and assaults on human dignity are a violation of God's natural law; and that, as a Nation, we must develop a change of heart, prayerfully repent, and ultimately change these laws and the conscience of our Citizens.

#### Day One:

**INTERCESSION:** Mary, our Blessed Mother, we ask you to intercede on our behalf for your Son's grace to soften the hearts and souls of the citizens of America. We pray that our society will develop a Culture of LIFE conscience that respects LIFE through all stages of LIFE from natural conception to natural demise.

PRAYERS: The Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary and the Rosary For Life

MEDITATIONS: Have I ever been too embarrassed to speak up when family members, neighbors and work place members discuss abortion, euthanasia and the Death Penalty? Could my voice have made a difference to save a life? Could I have provided any assistance or direction to a person in need?

#### Day Two:

**INTERCESSION:** Mary, our Blessed Mother, we ask you to intercede on our behalf for your Son's grace to soften the hearts and souls of the citizens of America so as to develop a Culture of LIFE conscience that fosters adoption in lieu of abortion. We pray for those parents who travel the path of adoption.

PRAYERS: The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary and the Rosary For Life

MEDITATIONS: Have I ever been too embarrassed to speak up when family members, neighbors and work place members discuss adoption as an alternative to abortion? Could my voice have made a difference to save a life? Could I have provided any assistance or direction to a person in need?

#### Day Three:

**INTERCESSION:** Mary, our Blessed Mother, we ask you to intercede on our behalf for your Son's grace to soften the hearts and souls of the citizens of America so as to develop a Culture of LIFE conscience that respects the Right to Life for the unborn. We pray that our society will show compassion for women and men who have had abortions and now suffering regret and repentance.

PRAYERS: The Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary and the Rosary For Life

MEDITATIONS: Have I ever been too embarrassed to speak up when family members, neighbors and work place members discuss the emotional effects an abortion has on both women and men? Could my voice have made a difference to save a life? Could I have provided any assistance or direction to a person in need?

# Day Four:

**INTERCESSION:** Mary, our Blessed Mother, we ask you to intercede on our behalf for your Son's grace to soften the hearts and souls of the citizens of America so as to develop a Culture of LIFE conscience that respects Right to Life for those born with abnormalities. We pray for those who are intellectually impaired and handicapped; that they may receive proper assistance to live a life for the praise and glory of God.

PRAYERS: The Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary and the Rosary For Life

MEDITATIONS: Have I ever been too embarrassed to speak up when family members, neighbors and work place members discuss the dignity and worthwhile of those who are intellectually impaired or handicapped? Could my voice have made a difference to save a life? Could I have provided any assistance or direction to a person in need?

### Day Five:

**INTERCESSION:** Mary, our Blessed Mother, we ask you to intercede on our behalf for your Son's grace to soften the hearts and souls of the citizens of America so as to develop a Culture of LIFE conscience that respects LIFE, especially for the aged and for those who are medically infirmed. We pray that the aged and medically infirmed receive assistance to live a life of dignity as they complete their LIFE journey.

# PRAYERS: The Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary and the Rosary For Life

MEDITATIONS: Have I ever been too embarrassed to speak up when family members, neighbors and work place members discuss the dignity of life for the aged and the horrors of euthanasia and Physician Assisted Suicide? Could my voice have made a difference to save a life? Could I have provided any assistance or direction to a person in need?

### Day Six:

**INTERCESSION:** Mary, our Blessed Mother, we ask you to intercede on our behalf for your Son's grace to soften the hearts and souls of the citizens of America so as to develop a Culture of LIFE conscience that respects LIFE, especially for victims and survivors of human trafficking. We pray for their rescue and safe return to society.

PRAYERS: The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary and the Rosary For Life

MEDITATIONS: Have I ever been too embarrassed to speak up when family members, neighbors and work place members discuss reasons and tragic effects of human trafficking? Could my voice have made a difference to save a life? Could I have provided any assistance or direction to a person in need?

#### Day Seven:

**INTERCESSION:** Mary, our Blessed Mother, we ask you to intercede on our behalf for your Son's grace to soften the hearts and souls of the citizens of America so as to develop a Culture of LIFE conscience that respects LIFE and supports Community Pregnancy Centers and Ultrasound Services. We pray that women who are faced with pregnancy will avail themselves of this service to see and respect the life within them.

PRAYERS: The Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary and the Rosary For Life

MEDITATIONS: Have I ever been too embarrassed to speak up when family members, neighbors and work place members discuss benefits from Community Pregnancy Centers and beneficial effects of Ultrasound Services? Could my voice have made a difference to save a life? Could I have provided any assistance or direction to a person in need?

# Day Eight:

**INTERCESSION:** Mary, our Blessed Mother, we ask you to intercede on our behalf for your Son's grace to soften the hearts and souls of the citizens of America so as to develop a Culture of LIFE conscience that respects LIFE as a gift from God. We pray that each person may come to realize that they are made in the image and likeness of God, and therefore deserve that Respect for Life.

PRAYERS: The Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary and the Rosary For Life

MEDITATIONS: Have I ever been too embarrassed to speak up when family members, neighbors and work place members discuss the senseless murders of hundreds of innocent people each week throughout America due to gang and drug violence? Could my voice have made a difference to save a life? Could I have provided any assistance or direction to a person in need?

### Day Nine:

**INTERCESSION:** Mary, our Blessed Mother, we ask you to intercede on our behalf for your Son's grace to soften the hearts and souls of the citizens of America so as to develop a Culture of LIFE conscience that respects LIFE through all stages of life from natural conception to natural demise. We pray for a Culture of Life to grow ever stronger in our communities, to provide assistance to the needy and to end abortions on demand.

PRAYERS: The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary and the Rosary For Life

MEDITATIONS: Have I ever been too embarrassed to speak up when family members, neighbors and work place members discuss abortion, euthanasia, human trafficking, gang and drug violence, and Christian Refugee Relief programs? Could my voice and efforts have made a difference to save a life? Could I have provided any assistance or direction to a person in need?

# <u>Rosary For Life</u>

Almighty God, Our Father, You have given us life and intended us to have it forever, grant us Your blessings. Enlighten our minds to an awareness and to a renewed conviction that all human life is sacred because it is created in Your image and likeness. Help us to teach by word and the example of our lives that life occupies the first place, that human life is precious because it is the gift of God whose love is infinite. Give us strength to defend human life against every influence or action that threatens or weakens it, as well as the strength to make every life more human in all its aspects.

Give us the peace...

When the sacredness of life before birth is attacked, to stand up and proclaim that no one has the authority to destroy unborn life.

When a child is described as a burden or is looked upon only as a means to satisfy an emotional need, to stand up and insist that every child is a unique and unrepeatable gift of God, a gift of God with a right to a loving and united family.

When the institution of marriage is abandoned to human selfishness or reduced to a temporary conditional arrangement that can easily be terminated, to stand up and affirm the indissolubility of the marriage bond.

When the value of the family is threatened because of social and economic pressure, to stand up and reaffirm that the family is necessary not only for the private good of every person, but also for the common good of every society, nation and state.

When freedom is used to dominate the weak, to squander natural resources and energy, to deny basic necessities to people, to stand up and reaffirm the demands of justice and social love.

Almighty Father, give us courage to proclaim the supreme dignity of all human life and demand that society itself give its protection. We ask this in Your name, through the redemptive act of Your Son and in the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(Adapted from Pope John Paul II's Homily, National Mall, October 7, 1979.)

This NOVENA FOR LIFE was adapted from one compiled by Edward J. Gillikin, Sr.