

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

PRESENCE of GOD

We pause and recall that You, O God, are always with us. O God of all creation, You saw fit to call us into being and instill in us the power to think and to choose. You continually abide with us, Your people. Help us to rejoice in You and Your magnificent work of creation and to imitate You in Your love for all that is good.

Glory to You Source of All Being, Eternal Word and Spirit most Holy.



This fall, 89 cities in 33 states across the nation will unite for a unique pro-life campaign called 40 Days for Life -- an intensive effort designed to raise awareness, save lives, bring healing, and prepare America for the beginning of the end of abortion.

The campaign will be conducted simultaneously in all locations from September 26 – November 4.

There are three components to 40 Days for Life...

1. PRAYER AND FASTING

Want to end abortion? First you pray. Prayer is at the center of 40 Days for Life. During the September 26 – November 4 campaign, we are calling on people of faith across the nation to fall on their knees before the Lord, asking Him to hear our plea and heal our land. Pray at church. Pray outside an abortion facility. Pray at work. Pray in the car. Pray at home with your family. Pray!

People of faith are also invited to fast throughout 40 Days for Life. Christ said there are some demons that can only be driven out by prayer and fasting. A fast is not a Christian diet; it is a powerful means of drawing closer to God by blocking out distractions. Fast from food. Fast from television. Fast from e-mail. Fast from apathy and indifference. Fast from whatever it is that separates you from God.

We believe that when God's people pray and fast with a broken, repentant, and contrite spirit, our heavenly Father will hear from heaven and heal our lives, our churches, our communities, our nation, and our world.

2. PEACEFUL VIGIL

The visible, public centerpiece of 40 Days for Life is a 40-day-long prayer vigil outside a Planned Parenthood center or other abortion facility in each community.

The prayer vigil is a peaceful and educational presence that sends a powerful message to the community about the tragic reality of abortion.

It also serves as a call to repentance for those who work at the abortion center and those who patronize the facility. In many locations, the vigil will be conducted 24 hours a day for each of the 40 days.

3. COMMUNITY OUTREACH

During 40 Days for Life, the pro-life message is proactively taken to every possible corner of a community through a focused, grassroots educational effort.

A door-to-door petition and education drive reaches out to households throughout a neighborhood or city. Informational flyers raise awareness about the local crisis of abortion. Citizens are invited to sign a petition of support for the sanctity of human life, and people are given the opportunity to visibly show their support for 40 Days for Life.

Additional outreach activities can include church involvement, media contact, and campus outreach.

WHY 40 DAYS?

Throughout Biblical history, God has used 40-day periods to transform individuals, communities and nations...

- * Noah was transformed by 40 days of rain
- * Moses was transformed by 40 days on Mount Sinai
- * David was transformed by Goliath's 40 day challenge
- * Elijah was transformed when God gave him 40 days of strength from one meal
- * Nineveh was transformed when God gave the city 40 days to remain faithful
- * Jesus was empowered by 40 days in the desert
- * The Disciples were transformed by 40 days with Jesus following His resurrection

Imagine the transformation God could accomplish in America this fall when individuals and communities unite together for 40 days of prayer and fasting, pulling out all the stops to end the violence of abortion...

You can be a part of that transformation by taking action today!

Benefits of Participating

By participating in a 40 Days for Life campaign you could help:

- * Reduce abortion rates -- by 15%... 20%... 25%... Or more!
- * Recruit and mobilize hundreds -- even thousands -- of new people into effective, life-saving efforts
- * Lead post-abortive women -- and men -- into proven and effective healing programs
- * Develop dynamic new leaders to increase the future impact of pro-life efforts

* Build church coalitions in an historic display of Christian unity and action

* Generate enormous buzz by getting prominent news coverage

* Increase local financial support for pro-life efforts

* Spotlight the sanctity of human life as a crucial issue in upcoming elections

PRAYERS

Lord of All Life, Father, Most High, Maker of heaven, the stars, and the sky, Life that goes on just as it should, Made in Your image, "It is good."

Every young child, stranger and friend, able or not, and all near their end, Those who are weak, body and soul--Send them Your Spirit, make them whole.

As we have seen, so have we heard; Faith has revived us, faith in Your Word. Help us protect all those who live that we may love the gift You give.

As You foretold, faith would be free. As You once promised, Lord, let it be. Send wisdom here, now through Your Son. Let light descend and make us one. Amen.



Heavenly Father, in Your love for us, protect against the wickedness of the devil, those helpless little ones to whom You have given the gift of life. Touch with pity the hearts of those women pregnant in our world today who are not thinking of motherhood. Help them to see that the child they carry is made in Your image -- as well as theirs -- made for eternal life. Dispel their fear and selfishness and give them true womanly hearts to love their babies and give them birth and all the needed care that a mother alone can give. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, on God, forever and ever, Amen.



God Our Father, Giver of life,
we entrust the United States of America
to Your loving care.
You are the rock
on which this nation was founded.
You alone are the true source
of our cherished rights
to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
Reclaim this land for Your glory
and dwell among Your people.
Send Your Spirit to touch the hearts

of our nation's leaders.
Open their minds
to the great worth of human life
and the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.
Remind Your people that true happiness
is rooted in seeking and doing Your will.

Through the intercession of
Mary Immaculate, Patroness of our land,
grant us the courage to reject
the "culture of death."

Lead us into a new millennium of life.
We ask this through Christ Our Lord.
Amen!



Saint John Baptist de La Salle
and all you holy men and women who have gone before us, help us to
have a great and reverent respect for all life.

Live Jesus in our hearts. Forever!

For more information go to: www.40daysforlife.com