**Pro-Life Prayers**

**Pro-Life Pledge / Prayer to End Abortion** (by Frank Pavone)

Lord God, I thank you today for the gift of my life, and for the lives of all my brothers and sisters. I know there is nothing that destroys more life than abortion, yet I rejoice that you have conquered death by the Resurrection of Your Son.
I am ready to do my part in ending abortion. Today I commit myself **never to be silent, never to be passive, never to be forgetful of the unborn**. I commit myself to be active in the pro-life movement, and never to stop defending life until all my brothers and sisters are protected, and our nation once again becomes a nation with liberty and justice not just for some, but for all. Through Christ our Lord, Amen!

 **Prayer for Those who Have Lost a Child to Abortion** (by Frank Pavone)

Lord of all Life, you have entrusted us to the care of one another and called us to be one Body in Christ. You call us to rejoice with those who rejoice, and to weep with those who weep. Hear our prayer today for our brothers and sisters who have lost children to abortion. Help us to understand the pain that is in their hearts, and to be a living sign to them of your welcome, your mercy, and your healing.

Help them to undergo with courage the process of grief and the journey of healing. Never allow them to feel alone; always refresh them with the presence of Your Spirit and of their brothers and sisters in Christ. Console them with the sure hope that you love and care for their children.

Give them new strength, that even while they grieve what they have lost, they may look forward to all the good that you still have in store for them. Lord of healing and hope, give us all the forgiveness of our sins, and the joy of your salvation. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

 **For Those Grieving Abortion Decisions** (From “40 Prayers for Life”\*)

Merciful Father, You have promised that for Your own sake You blot out our transgressions and will not remember our sins. By Your blessed Gospel, forgive the sins of those who grieve past abortion decisions, and give them certainty that Your Son’s absolving blood was shed to cover this very guilt and shame. Give readiness by Your Holy Spirit to pastors and Christian friends, that they may be surrounded by constant acclamations of their deliverance; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (Isaiah 43:25; Psalm 32:7)

God of all consolation, You have known us from the womb and still know the thoughts of our hearts. You alone know how wide the swath of devastation is spread through the bodies, souls, and memories of mothers, fathers, friends, and family as a result of abortion. To the hardened, grant **honesty and repentance**; to the guilt-ridden, give a **clean conscience through the forgiveness of Christ**; and to the divided and broken, bring **wholeness** in the Body of Christ and the hope of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

 **Prayer to the Redeemer in the Womb** (by Frank Pavone)

Lord Jesus Christ, you took our human nature upon Yourself. You shared our life and death, our childhood and adulthood. You also shared our time in the womb. While still God, while worshiped and adored by the angels, while Almighty and filling every part of the universe, you dwelt for nine months in the womb of Mary. You were our Redeemer in the womb, our God who was a preborn child.

Lord Jesus, we ask You to **bless and protect the children** who today are in their mothers' womb. Save them from the danger of abortion. **Give their mothers the grace to sacrifice themselves**, in body and soul, for their children. Help all people to recognize in the preborn child a brother, a sister, saved by You, our Redeemer in the womb.

**General Intentions** (by David Benrexi)

1) O Most High Father God: Save the lives of the unborn children who have been targeted for death. Grant each one the precious gift of life.

2) Pour your Spirit out on all young women who are with child that they would know you are with them in their time of need and that the life they carry within them is a precious gift from you.

3) Speak to the hearts of your people that we would know how precious each life is to you and how it hurts you to see any life destroyed.

4) Draw men closer to you and to one another, that we would become more faithful, more bold, and more hungry and thirsty for righteousness.

5) Establish our hearts to surrender our lives to you more fully each day so that we would learn to hear your voice and follow your commandments.

6) Cleanse America from the flood of filth that bombards the hearts of children and restore the innocence of prior days.

7) Give us boldness to live according to your Word, guided by your Spirit, that we would speak out against the daily slaughter of innocent lives, and anoint our words to touch hearts and stir men to action, guided by your Holy Spirit.

8) Move on our government, that it would once again be a citizen government, that godliness would once again become the standard by which we choose our leaders. We ask for leaders who will speak out against the evil of abortion and make ending abortion their divine mission.

9) Raise up legislators who will follow in the footsteps of the Abolitionists of the mid-nineteenth century, who will demand an end to the systematic slaughter of innocent life in America's abortuaries.

10) Cause a vexation to fall on the abortion industry, that their consciences would be pricked, that they would be horrified at what they promote and lead our women into, and that voices of dissent would rise and be heard within the medical community, calling them to repent of this evil.

11) Move in our hearts to seek your wisdom and guidance and help us to prioritize the various causes we have chosen to study and discuss. Make saving innocent lives our top priority.

12) Teach us your ways, that we would continually seek Wisdom, that we would boldly stand tall for life, and be a voice for the voiceless.

13) Let your message go forth to the young, that the pressures of conforming to this world would no longer compel them to surrender their innocence, that our boys and girls would be taught the truth that sex is not a toy, but a precious gift for men and women to share with their spouse, and that giving in to temptation has consequences.

14) Help us to teach our children that new life is a gift and that when new life is created, it is to be protected, that every unborn child is a precious and unique gift from God.

15) Lead us by your Spirit and according to your instructions to see the world as you see it. Cause us to be merciful as you are merciful, and to be fathers to the fatherless.

16) Guard our tongues from speaking ill toward other men. Cause us to be peacemakers, but grant us the courage to speak out against the evil practices of this current age. May we no longer shrink from our responsibility to protect and preserve innocent human life.

17) Lead us and guide us daily to be **instruments of change** in a wicked nation that has turned away from you. May we seek you daily and be leaders in our family and community as you direct.

18) Open doors for us to stir hearts to action that we would end abortion in America this year, and that the womb would once again be a sacred place where life is safe from harm.

19) Bring us a boldness in all our local churches, that no church would ever be oblivious to the evil in our land, but each one would feel the call of God to stand against this wickedness and restore America as a land that treasures babies.
20) Re-educate us to the power of our words, so that we may boldly advocate for the changes America must make in order to be one nation under God once again. Lead us and guide us daily by your Spirit to end abortion and restore reverence for life in America.  Dear Lord, hear our prayer.

**A Comprehensive Prayer for Life** (From “40 Prayers for Life”\*)

O God, Creator of life, You knit us together in the wombs of our mothers and You desire us to have life. So also Your only-begotten Son took on our flesh in the womb of His mother and entered this world as all children of men do — except without sin — so that He might be one with us and make us Your children.

Look in mercy and love upon all the precious lives of children yet unborn. Guard them and give them growth, that they might come to the saving water of Holy Baptism and a saving knowledge of Your Son. Protect and guide all pregnant mothers, that they would treasure the new life they are given to bear and not be dismayed by fear of pain or cost.

Strengthen all fathers, that they would protect and provide for both mother and child so that all would be cared for in this world. Encourage young people to get married and encourage husbands and wives to desire the gift of children, that they might be fruitful and multiply according to Your gracious will.

Finally, visit with Your grace those who have committed awful sin by destroying life in the womb. Bring them to repentance, but do not let them sink into despair. Forgive and heal their souls, that they would trust in the Child of Mary who was killed for their sin and rose again to give everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

**That All Would Come to the Knowledge of the Truth** (From “40 Prayers for Life”\*)

O Lord, You look from heaven and see the children of mankind. You see the corruption of minds darkened by sin,

the ignorance of evildoers who eat up life like bread and imagine that You do not see. Yet, You desire that all would

be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. **Correct the hearts** of those who foolishly deny God. Send forth the

salvation that comes from Your Son’s cross and resurrection. **Turn the hearts** of those who have become enemies of life,

and give them knowledge and understanding; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (Psalms 14 and 53)

**To Turn Hearts** (From “40 Prayers for Life”\*)

O Author of life, You did not reject our first parents who chose themselves over Your promised care, but You gave

them the hope of a marvelous salvation from sin’s futility in Eve’s very Offspring. Turn the hearts of all who **will not**

**know You**, **who believe they hold the power of life and death**, and who **trust in the choices of the sinful heart** over

the promises of God. Bring them into the knowledge of what is good, that they may know the profound value of

all human life, which You have created and redeemed, and the everlasting truth of salvation in the Offspring who has

crushed Satan’s head forever; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**To End Abortion** (From “40 Prayers for Life”\*)

O Lord, the wicked say in their heart that You have forgotten. They murder the innocent and imagine that because

others do not see it, neither will You. Arise, O Lord God, and **lift up Your hand to put an end to the evil of abortion**!

Have mercy on our nation, hear the desire of the afflicted, incline Your ear and work by Your might, that men of this

earth may strike terror on the unborn no more; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (Psalm 10)

Lord of life, we thank You for creating us, giving us life, and providing us opportunity to serve our neighbors. You

command us to **defend those who cannot defend themselves**. Look with mercy on our unborn brothers and sisters

and spare them from abortion. Direct us to **speak and act in their defense within our vocations**. Turn the hearts of

people **from selfishness and fear to love and joyful service**. Bring those responsible for the deaths of others to repentance and eternal freedom in full forgiveness through the atoning death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord;

who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

**For Adoption and Foster Care** (From “40 Prayers for Life”\*)

For wisdom to cherish the gift of life, for our care for children and the unborn, for children to be adopted and placed

in foster homes, for the protection and care of mothers with child, and for our pursuit of just laws that will extend protection to children in the womb and the aged in their frailty, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

For all orphans, that they would be given a safe place in which to grow and thrive, and for kind and generous

couples who will open their hearts to give them permanent homes through adoption, let us pray to the Lord: Lord,

have mercy.

**For Expectant Mothers Vulnerable to Abortion** (From “40 Prayers for Life”\*)

O God, our merciful Protector, arise with counsel and comfort for all expectant mothers vulnerable to or pressured to

seek abortion. Give them clarity of mind to see death for the enemy that it is, open their eyes to possibilities when

they can see no other option, and give compassion to Your church, that she may be eager and ready to apply the balm

of Christ’s forgiveness and love to them; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**For Those who Grieve and Those who are Barren** (From “40 Prayers for Life”\*)

For those mothers who grieve the loss of children through miscarriage and stillbirth, and for those parents who have

been unable to bear children, that they may be comforted in their sorrow and longing, let us pray to the Lord: Lord,

have mercy. For husbands and wives who are burdened by the inability to have children, that God would comfort them in their sorrow and give them new and unexpected opportunities to share their love.

 **For the Unborn**  (From “40 Prayers for Life”\*)

Wise and gracious Father, You are the Lord of life. We give you thanks for the gift of children. By Your grace, enable

all people to embrace all human beings, especially the most vulnerable, as part of the human community, worthy of our

protection and care. Empower parents to love their children and to teach them of the Lord Jesus. Sustain all agencies

dedicated to caring for the most vulnerable among us. By the power the cross of Christ, enable all who carry a burden

of guilt to repent, confess, and experience the forgiveness of sins and renewal of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For the unborn, that the Lord Jesus Christ who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary might

form them for His service and praise, grant them health and safe delivery, protect them from all danger and especially

from those who would seek to end their lives, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

**For Government and Judicial Officials** (From “40 Prayers for Life”\*)

Almighty and everlasting God, who rules all things in heaven and earth, give Your wisdom to the leaders of our

government and of nations throughout the world, that they may seek to govern with justice and compassion. As they

create policies and legislation, cause them to defend the lives of all people. We pray for judges and court officials,

that they may seek to do what is right in Your eyes and that all their decisions would be founded in justice and truth;

through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**For Government** (From “40 Prayers for Life”\*)

Lord God Almighty, You reign over the heavens and the earth in perfect love and rightful power. Direct those who

govern our country, state, and communities, that they may maintain proper order among us. Protect the weakest in our

land, especially the unborn children and the infirm. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.Z

O Lord, You set apart kings and governments to safeguard Your people. Bless, we pray, our president; the Congress; our

governor; our legislature; and all those who make, administer and judge our laws. Make them wise, and give them

discerning hearts in the pursuit of justice for the offender, peace between the nations, and protection for the unborn

and those least able to defend themselves. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

**A Prayer for our Nation as we Prepare to Elect our Leaders** (F. Pavone)

O God, we acknowledge you today as Lord, not only of individuals, but of nations and governments.

We thank you for the privilege of being able to organize ourselves politically and of knowing that political loyalty
does not have to mean disloyalty to you.

We thank you for your law, which our Founding Fathers acknowledged and recognized as higher than any human law. We thank you for the opportunity that this election puts before us, to exercise our solemn duty not only to vote, but to influence countless others to vote, and to vote correctly.

Lord, we pray that your people may be awakened. Let them realize that while politics is not their salvation,
their response to you requires that they be politically active.

Awaken your people to know that they are not called to be a sect fleeing the world but rather a community of faith renewing the world.

Awaken them that the same hands lifted up to you in prayer are the hands that pull the lever in the voting booth; that the same eyes that read your Word are the eyes that read the names on the ballot, and that they do not cease to be Christians when they enter the voting booth.

Awaken your people to a commitment to the sanctity of marriage and the family, to the dignity of each human life, and to the truth that human rights begin when human lives begin, and not one moment later.

Lord, we rejoice today that we are citizens of your kingdom. May that make us all the more committed to being faithful citizens on earth. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**For Sexual Purity** (by Julie Loos, p.144 and 145 of *Mama Bear Apologetics: Guide to Sexuality* book)

Search me and show me, God, where I have fallen prey to the lies of the world about sexuality and not upheld your view. Forgive me and forgive our nation for untethering sexuality from Your strong cord of goodness. Forgive us of promoting promiscuity, advancing abortion laws, and selling a sex ed curriculum that leads young people to “sell” their bodies to an unholy alliance with the world. For equating morality with consent, for making pleasure our god, for silencing Your Holy Spirit and common sense. We repent of celebrating sins clothed in deception.

Help us, we pray that we may live and proclaim, positively, that the only healthy sexuality is a holy sexuality. That we may value faith over feelings, logic over labeling. Give us the wisdom to recognize lies and point them out to our children. Help us be sensitive to Your Spirit and not desensitized by culture. Show us how to teach our children that Your boundaries for sex and marriage are not oppressive but freeing. That when they honor their bodies, they honor You. Help us raise up a generation as fierce as lions who will roar in the face of false narratives and positively proclaim that Your ways are higher and better.

**A Litany for Life** *Based on 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:8a (*<https://www.usccb.org/prayers/litany-life>*)***Lord, love is patient.**Give to the mother who is tempted to abort the patience to endure the suffering that will bring forth new life.

**Lord, love is kind.**Give to the father whose friends tell him to abort his child the gentleness, compassion, and courage to support both mother and child, protect them from all harm, and sustain them against selfishness and hate.

**Lord, love is not jealous.**Remove from all human hearts the temptation to trade human life for advantage, convenience, or personal benefit. Deliver us from the expediency that values personal gain and pleasure over the dignity of human life.

**Lord, love is not pompous.**Deliver us from the arrogance that sees our needs or wants as superior to the rights of others. Help us to see all our brothers and sisters as worthy of all of our love.

**Lord, love is not inflated.**Grant us a share in the humility of your Son, who sought not to be served, but to serve. Help us to see in every human life, rich or poor, young or old, guilty or innocent, a reflection of your image and likeness.

**Lord, love is not rude.**Implant a spirit of gentle compassion in the hearts of each of your sons and daughters, Lord, that no person may ever be treated as less than the child of God which you have made them, through the Paschal Death and Resurrection of your only-begotten Son.

**Lord, love does not seek its own interests.**Give to all who govern us, Lord, a generous spirit, that our country may not so much seek to be great as to be good, to be rich in possessions as to be rich in mercy, or to be renowned as to be renowned for justice and truth for all.
**A Litany for Life (Cont.)**

**Lord, love is not quick-tempered.**Grant that by our prudence and patience we might learn to live that sacrificial love by which your Son died for us on the Cross, that all men and women might know our kindness and willingness to love them unto death after the model of our Lord and Savior.

**Lord, love does not brood over injury.**Give us the grace of mercy, Lord, that like your Son we might forgive those who sin against us, seeking only their redemption and eternal happiness. Forgive the abortionist who takes the life of an unborn child. Move his heart, grant him the grace of repentance, and give us a full share in your mercy.

**Lord, love does not rejoice over wrongdoing.**Help us to seek only the redemption of wrongdoers, Lord, and remove from our hearts all desire for vengeance and hate. Help us to desire not revenge, even for the horrors of abortion, but the repentance and happiness of all your children.

**Lord, love rejoices with the truth.**Implant deep within our hearts a sense of the joy of the Gospel of Life, and make us joy-filled evangelists of your great gift of life.

**Lord, love bears all things.**When we are insulted or reviled for the sake of the Gospel of Life, give us the courage and the innocence of the children of God. Help us, Lord, to suffer for the sake of your truth, and never to seek our own good, even in the good work we do.**Lord, love believes all things.**Deliver us from every temptation to despair, Lord. When we are discouraged, give us the grace to trust in your mercy and to know that your love is ever victorious, even in the face of darkness, death, and hate.

**Lord, love hopes all things.**As we trust in your infinite love, O Lord, give us the trust that comes from the Gospel, and help us to cling to that sure and certain hope that for those who love God all things come to good.

**Lord, love endures all things.**In the face of death, destruction, and a culture of death, never let us lose sight of the beauty of the face of your only-begotten Son, Our Lord, who suffered the torments of his Passion and Death for the sake of our sins. Let us trust that through his Passion we will have the strength to do your will and to carry each cross that comes our way for the glory of God and the love of his little ones.

**Lord, love never fails.**When the crusade for life seems unending and our latest initiatives have failed, when our hearts are filled with sadness or anger or fear, come to our aid, O Lord, and give us the assurance that you are ever with us, that your mercies will not end, and that you, our Creator and our God, will bring victory to all who seek to love as you have commanded them.

**Bible passages:**

**Life:**

* Genesis 1:26-31
* Genesis 2:7
* Psalm 127:3-5
* Psalm 139:13-18
* Colossians 1:15-23

**Love:**

* Proverbs 31:8-9
* Isaiah 58:6-8
* Romans 12:9-21
* 1 John 3:16-18

**Hope:**

* Romans 8:28
* Jeremiah 29:11-13
* John 3:16

**Additional prayer suggestions** (From “40 Prayers for Life”\*)

+ Pray for your pastor and church leaders, and for your congregation’s efforts to witness to the value of every

human life.

+ Pray for strength to stand up for the truth about God’s gift of life.

+ Pray for the media, that their eyes will be opened and that they will inform the public truthfully about abortion.

+ Pray for Christians in government, that they will speak in defense of the defenseless.

+ Pray for the president and vice president; for your congressmen, senators, and all of Congress.

+ Pray for the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the state legislature.

+ Pray for the Supreme Court, that they will seek the Lord’s wisdom and submit to His authority.

+ Pray for judicial decisions and legislation to uphold all human life from conception to natural death.

+ Pray for our nation to be brought to repentance, as a people who have tolerated and accepted abortion.

+ Pray for couples who are barren and those who long to adopt a child, that they would be comforted.

+ Pray for abortionists, that they may be brought to repentance.

+ Pray for the closing of the abortion centers in your community and nationwide.

+ Pray for those in groups that promote abortion.

+ Pray for preborn babies in your community who are in danger of being aborted.

+ Pray for pro-life pregnancy resource centers and medical clinics that help women in need choose life.

+ Pray for pro-life organizations that face trials combatting the abortion industry each day.

+ Pray for pregnant women in your community, that their needs will be met and that they will care for their babies.

+ Pray for Christian doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and medical providers.

+ Pray for women who have had abortions, that they would receive God’s forgiveness.

+ Pray for grandparents grieving over abortion of their grandchildren.

+ Pray for fathers mourning the death of their aborted children.

+ Pray for women who suffer physical health problems because they had abortions.

+ Pray for single parents.

+ Pray for your family, that they will live a life pleasing to God and uphold the sanctity of human life.

+ Praise God for answering your prayers to save parents and children from abortion.

**Additional petitions:**

**Please, Lord:**
+ Have mercy on all men who are led to believe they have no say in the abortion debate.

+ Send your Holy Spirit to inspire more “workers in the vineyard” of the pro-life movement.

+ Strengthen all pro-lifers who suffer ridicule, rejection, or imprisonment.

+ Grant our society a return to the values of purity and chastity.
+ Grant all clergy the courage to preach on life issues from the pulpit.
+ Give us Your courage and Your strength to boldly, actively build a culture of life.
+ May all who view life as trivial come to understand that we live because God wills it so.
+ May all supporters of abortion come to realize that only God has the right to dominion over human life.

+ May all people realize that abortion results in the violation and degradation of women and mothers.

+ May all God’s people awaken to the fact that we are our brothers’ keepers.

+ May we all realize the generational impact of abortion.

+ May all children be accepted, loved, corrected, praised, and taught by their parents in accordance with Your will.

+ May those who have had abortions have the courage to persuade others not to do so.

+ May all people prioritize life issues in the voting booth.

+ May the media report the truth about abortion and the ways it harms women.
+ ***May the truth of the final judgment shape our thoughts, priorities, and choices here on earth***.

\*40 Prayers for Life is a PDF publication created by the The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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