

## 40 Days for Life - DAILY DEVOTIONS

**Feb. 18- DAY 1** *Intention:* For mothers facing unexpected pregnancies.

*Prayer:* God, we ask you to be with every expectant mother. Give them the courage of Mary to say yes to your divine will, even in the most unexpected circumstances. Help us to notice women in need and embrace every mother facing an unplanned pregnancy. Amen.

**Feb. 19- DAY 2** *Intention:* For fathers to have the courage of Joseph.

*Prayer:* Lord, thank you for the example of Joseph, who shows us what it means to live with courage in the wake of fear and uncertainty. Bless all fathers with the strength of Joseph so that in every circumstance they may place their trust in you. Help all fathers to answer the call of sacrificial love that comes with the birth of every child. Give them the strength to not be afraid. Amen.

**Feb. 20- DAY 3** *Intention:* For couples suffering from infertility.

*Prayer:* Our Father in Heaven, we pray in a special way for all those who struggle with infertility. We ask you to give them peace in their suffering, strength in their perseverance, and healing in body and soul. In the midst of sorrow and uncertainty, fill them with your joy so that, as Romans promises, they “may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

**Feb. 21- DAY 4** *Intention:* For parents to experience the joy of every child, including those with disabilities.

*Prayer:* Lord, help us renew our gratitude. For the joy that each child brings into our lives. We ask you to bless, keep, and cause your face to shine upon all unborn children- especially those with disabilities. Give parents supernatural strength and overwhelming support from their community to care for their child with special needs. Amen.

**Feb. 22- DAY 5** *Intention:* For the friends and families of expectant mothers.

*Prayer:* Dear Lord, thank you for the gift of friendship. Teach us to see your beauty in those around us, and give us the grace to serve our friends and neighbors. We ask you to especially bless the families and friends of expectant mothers. Help those who are close to expectant mothers to offer compassionate care that Elizabeth’s friends did throughout her pregnancy. Help us never to close our eyes to women in need. Amen.

**Feb. 23- DAY 6** *Intention:* That every child may reach his or her God given purpose.

*Prayer:* Lord, instill confidence and hope in every child. Help all children to grow up to see the purpose for which you made them. Give parents the wisdom and understanding to see the needs of each child and to nurture each child’s talents for your glory alone. Amen.

**Feb. 24- DAY 7** *Intention:* For mothers and babies in need of a safe place to stay.

*Prayer:* Dear Jesus, you entered the world through the “yes” of your mother. Help us to say “yes” to the needs of those around us, especially the needs of expectant mothers. Open our hearts so that we might generously share your love with others, and help us to be a refuge for women and children seeking safety and care. Amen.

**Feb. 25- DAY 8** *Intention:* For all doctors, nurses, and health care workers to have the wisdom and strength to save the most vulnerable lives.

*Prayer:* Jesus, you are the divine physician and the source of all life. Bless doctors, nurses, and health care professionals so that they might always protect the gift of life. Help them to see you in every patient. As you heal our souls, let them heal our bodies. Amen.

**Feb. 26- DAY 9** *Intention:* For lawmakers on the front lines of passing legislation to end abortion in America. *Prayer:*

Lord, we pray that you bless all lawmakers with the courage of the magi. We ask that you bestow wisdom and good judgement on those who serve us in government. Give them the courage to risk their careers for the unborn. Help them to use their positions of authority to cherish and defend life in America. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen..

**Feb. 27- DAY 10** *Intention:* To accept the things we cannot understand.

*Prayer:* Lord, we trust that you are always with us even as we encounter the mysteries of life, both great and small. Please give us the grace to accept your will for our lives, especially in the moments when we cannot fully understand how your plan will work together for good. Give us the spirit of thanksgiving so that we might turn to you in all suffering, joy, and confusion in this world. Amen.

**Feb. 28- DAY 11** *Intention:* That every mother, father, and child would experience God's loving fatherhood.

*Prayer:* Dear God, you are a good and gracious father. Help us to stand firm in our identity as your sons and daughters so that we might share your love with everyone we encounter. Heal the wounds caused by our shortcomings and the shortcomings of others. We pray that every parent and child might know that you love them more than anyone else in the world ever can. Amen.

**March 1- DAY 12** *Intention:* For the strength to resist the temptation of discouragement.

*Prayer:* Lord, help each of us to overcome the temptation of discouragement. Give us the perseverance to follow your will and remember that you hear our prayers even when we don't see the results. If it is your will, use us to save more lives than we will know in this lifetime. Amen.

**March 2- DAY 13** *Intention:* For scientific and medical leaders to make lifesaving advancements.

*Prayer:* Creator of all things, we praise you for your magnificent creation. We seek the truth in science because we cannot help but wonder at your works. Inspire our medical and scientific leaders to pursue the truth, proclaiming the existence of life in the womb and defending it until natural death. Amen.

**March 3- DAY 14** *Intention:* For the courage to follow Christ's will.

*Prayer:* Lord, we pray that you might grant each of us the courage to follow your will, regardless of the personal cost. You made your disciples Simon and Andrew into "fishers of men" so that they could bring other people closer to you. Help us to do the same. We ask that you bless all people in the pro-life movement by reminding them that you are with them. Help them to carry our earthly mission in a way that reflects your eternal love. Amen.

**March 4- DAY 15** *Intention:* For the faith to believe that God will work miracles through us.

*Prayer:* Lord Jesus, you have used water for wine and mud to make a blind man see. Please use me as your instrument on earth. Let others feel your compassion when I encounter them. Let your work be done through my hands. Please let me especially care for mothers and their unborn children with the faith that always desires to lead people to your side. Amen.

**March 5- DAY 16** *Intention:* That God will give us merciful hearts that bring healing and hope to individuals who have worked in the abortion industry.

*Prayer:* Lord in your infinite mercy, bring healing and hope to those caught in the lies of the abortion industry. Answer my prayer for forgiveness on their behalf: "Thoroughly wash away my guilt; and from my sin cleanse me." If it is your will, help me to know how to show men and women who work in abortion clinics your love, to get to know their names and their stories, to pray for them, to have an understanding heart, and to see them as you see them—as your children who have been deeply wounded by sin. Thank you for the many courageous workers who have left the industry and now save lives through their testimonies. Let them be a witness of hope for current abortion workers. Amen.

**March 6- DAY 17** *Intention:* For the creativity and initiative to go to extraordinary lengths to reach mothers contemplating abortions.

*Prayer:* Lord, your love is always the same and somehow always new. Your love is creative. Guide my steps, prompt my conversations, and help me to know how to reach expectant mothers contemplating an abortion. Help me to believe that you can and will work miracles through my faith. Amen.

**March 7- DAY 18** *Intention:* For the grace to respond with kindness and patience to those who oppose us.

*Prayer:* Lord, you showed friendship to the sinners and outcasts. You have been merciful in offering friendship to me. I long for true friendship with you and a Christ-centered friendship with those who need me. Let me show your kindness to those who fight against the right to life. Let me be understanding of their misguided intentions and own experiences. Let me be a bridge over which people may cross to your truth, goodness, and love. Amen.

**March 8- DAY 19** *Intention:* For every woman suffering from the grief of having an abortion.

*Prayer:* Heavenly Father, we pray in a special way for all women who have experienced an abortion. We ask that you draw these women close to your healing heart. Help us all to recognize our deep thirst for the living water that only you can offer, and give us the courage to invite others to the well of your forgiveness. Amen.

**March 9- DAY 20** *Intention:* For the fruit of these 40 Days of prayer and fasting.

*Prayer:* Heavenly Father, we ask for humility in our prayer and fasting. Help us to place you at the center of our lives so that others will come to know you through our words and deeds. As we continue through these 40 days, help us to

listen to your voice, act in accord with your will, and trust in the power of prayer even when we don't always see the fruits on earth. Amen.

**March 10- DAY 21** *Intention:* That God will help all those struggling with doubts.

*Prayer:* Lord, we ask that you might grant every person struggling with doubts the reassurance that you are with them. We ask that you might work in the hearts of men and women who question your existence. We pray that more people will come to believe that you are the source of all strength and the summit of all hope. And we ask young help us to trust that through your work in our lives, we can build up a culture that recognizes the dignity of every person. Amen.

**March 11- DAY 22** *Intention:* That God would multiply the fruits of 40 Days for Life.

*Prayer:* Lord, you multiplied the meager offering of one boy to feed a hungry crowd. Please do the same with our humble prayers. Multiply the fruits of these 40 days. Use our own resources to glorify your name. Grant us the humility to know our limitations, the wisdom to turn to you in moments of distress, and the grace to carry out your will with trust and courage. Amen.

**March 12- DAY 23** *Intention:* That mothers who feel abandoned would know that God will not leave them.

*Prayer:* Dear Lord, I know that you are always with me and that you work all things for good. When the truth of your perpetual presence is difficult to grasp, give me the grace to remember that you are a good and gracious father in every circumstance. Help us to speak this truth to those around us. In a special way, we ask you to wrap mothers who feel abandoned in your mantle. Amen.

**March 13- DAY 24** *Intention:* For every family that has lost a child, born or unborn.

*Prayer:* Lord, grant us the courage to weep. Let our tears mingle with yours and with parents who have lost a child. Grant them the solace of your peace, the confidence that their son or daughter is interceding for them in heaven, and the hope that they will be reunited in eternity. Amen.

**March 14- DAY 25** *Intention:* For parents facing difficult pregnancies.

*Prayer:* Dear Lord, I surrender my fear to your loving care. Give mothers and fathers the courage to invite you into their lives in good times and bad, and grant them the faith to place their children in your hands. Lead them to doctors who give their children the very best chance to live. Amen.

**March 15- DAY 26** *Intention:* That pastors and priests would receive each person with the compassion of Christ.

*Prayer:* Jesus, you have given us good pastors to lead your faithful. We thank you for their guidance and service, and we ask you to give them renewed strength. Help them to follow you with steadfast devotion. Guide their every action and give them the words to say to bring many people back to you. Amen.

**March 16- DAY 27** *Intention:* That every person in the pro-life movement would treat each individual with love.

*Prayer:* Dear Jesus, please instill in me a rich understanding of your love so that I might share it with others. Grant me the courage to open my heart to others. Give me the grace to treat each person as I would treat you. Amen.

**March 17- DAY 28** *Intention:* For expectant mothers beginning to doubt that God will provide.

*Prayer:* Thank you, Lord, for my doubt, which allows me to practice faith. Hear my prayer for expectant mothers. Give them the courage to walk in faith. Help them to see the nobility of their motherhood. Through the storms of life, keep them close to you and comfort them in the safety of your arms. Amen.

**March 18- DAY 29** *Intention:* To thank God for all the mothers whose lives have been changed and babies who have been saved through 40 Days for Life.

*Prayer:* Dear Lord, thank you for the innumerable babies and mothers who have been saved from abortion through 40 Days for Life. And thank you in advance for the lives that will be changed through this campaign. Work in our own hearts so that we might see every circumstance as a chance to express our thanksgiving for your faithfulness. Amen.

**March 19- DAY 30** *Intention:* For children who are adopted or in foster care.

*Prayer:* Lord, keep every child free from harm. Especially in moments of despair, help them to sense the presence of your angels watching over them. Provide a loving home for every child in need, and strengthen and sustain adoptive and foster parents to imitate your fatherly care. Amen.

**March 20- DAY 31** *Intention:* For mothers who have suffered a miscarriage.

*Prayer:* Dear Lord, give us the courage to pray for miraculous healing of body and soul. Extend your mercy to mothers and fathers who have experienced miscarriage. Grant them the peace of your son, and help them to rest in the assurance that they will one day be reunited with their precious children. Amen.

**March 21- DAY 32** *Intention:* For the desire to serve the needs of others.

*Prayer:* God, stir up in us the desire to serve as you serve. Grant us the discernment to understand you will for our lives, to use our gifts for your glory, and to love our neighbor well. When we feel that our efforts are in vain, remind us that we do everything for your glory, not for our fame or recognition. Amen.

**March 22- DAY 33** *Intention:* To draw closer to Jesus during this 40 day journey.

*Prayer:* Most sweet Jesus, my heart my heart aches for you suffering and loneliness in the garden of Gethsemane. Let me never fall asleep again when you so lovingly ask for my company. When I feel alone and afraid, remind me that you are with me and that you feel the pain I feel. Keep me close to you on this 40-day journey and strengthen me through your blood and tears. Amen.

**March 23- DAY 34** *Intention:* To accept the opportunity to suffer with Christ.

*Prayer:* Lord, teach us to suffer alongside you. Grant us the strength of Simon to help you on your way. We unite every tired step and discouraging defeat to your sacrifice for the redemption for all humanity. Amen.

**March 24- DAY 35** *Intention:* For all those who seek to advance abortion worldwide.

*Prayer:* Lord, we pray that you might help us to look with mercy upon those who seek to advance the evil of abortion. We ask that you lead them to a sincere conversion of heart. And we pray that you might help them to see the grace imbued in every soul and embrace the beauty that every child brings to the world. Amen.

**March 25- DAY 36** *Intention:* For individuals who have suffered from abuse and trafficking.

*Prayer:* Most loving God, please help the victims of abuse, trafficking, and broken relationships. Provide them with immediate and permanent safety from danger. In your loving arms, heal them from injuries—physical, psychological, and spiritual. Lead them to the best resources of support and healing. Bring comfort to all victims of abuse, and help children conceived in abusive situations to know they are loved by you. Amen.

**March 26- DAY 37** *Intention:* That we would help those who have participated in an abortion know that it's never too late to ask for God's forgiveness.

*Prayer:* God, we ask that those who have participated in abortion will know that your mercy does not expire. Help us to forgive as you do so that others might come to understand the dignity of every human life, including their own. Convert the hearts of abortionists. May they experience your forgiveness as Dr. Bruchalski and so many others have. Amen.

**March 27- DAY 38** *Intention:* To rest in the hope that God's plan is bigger than ours.

*Prayer:* Father, you never fail. Time and time again you have triumphed; with the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*, with the conversion of abortion doctors, with the courageous mothers who have chosen life, and with the countless babies saved against all odds. Why, then, do I doubt that you will help us now? I believe that you will help us empower women to choose life. I believe that you have a plan far greater than anything I could conceive on my own. I surrender the past, present, and future to you. Amen.

**March 28- DAY 39** *Intention:* That more women receive an ultrasound and choose life.

*Prayer:* Dear Jesus, thank you for then ways science helps us to better see and know your creation. Please lead expectant mothers to a place that will enable her to see her child with an ultrasound. Grant her the simplicity to see the humanity in her womb and the courage to protect it. Amen.

**March 29- DAY 40** *Intention:* To carry the light of Christ wherever we go.

*Prayer:* God, you have given me more than I could possibly ask. Help me never stray from your presence, for it is you whom I long to share with everyone I encounter. Show your face through my humility, direct my steps, and let every word I speak be from you. You ascended to Heaven not to abandon us but to be with us. You sent the Holy Spirit to guide our actions. As we conclude this 40-day fast, pour forth your grace on us to carry your light to the ends of the world. Amen