

Prayer Intentions April – June, 2015

April 5 – That this celebration of new life may lead us to a greater appreciation of the gift and wonder of new life in the womb, we pray

April 12 – For those caught up in the web of abortion may turn to Christ for forgiveness and healing, we pray

April 19 – That the Author of Life may turn the minds of His people to a greater respect for all human life, we pray

April 26 – That we may stop rejecting unborn children with disabilities, but instead love them into life, we pray

May 3 – That women with untimely pregnancies may place their faith in God for the strength they need to bring their child to birth, we pray

May 10 – For those who show their love for mothers and their unborn children by praying for them outside abortion clinics, we pray

May 17 – For all those engaged in spreading the values of the Culture of Life, we pray

Mother's Day, May 21 – For increased respect and support for mothers in difficult situations, we pray

May 24 – That those who make policy decisions regarding abortion and suicide may turn to the Holy Spirit for guidance, we pray

May 31 – That Americans may recommit themselves to insuring the legal freedom to choose life, in honor of those who died defending our freedom, we pray

June 7 – For those who make loving sacrifices to care for the disabled and terminally ill, we pray

June 14 – For those who fight the pro-life battle in the courts that they may have the courage to persevere, we pray

June 21 – For fathers, that they may be advocates for the value of their unborn and disabled children, we pray

June 28 – That we may honor God the creator by respecting his gift of life at all stages, we pray

Bulletin Inserts April-June, 2015

April 5 - As we celebrate the day that we were given new life by Christ's death on the cross, it is worth remembering that new life usually comes at a price.

Pregnancy, the path to new life, can bring its discomforts, worries, and the pain of giving birth but the beauty of the new life that results is priceless.

April 12 - "Politicians and the Pulpits of Black America have betrayed its people. They have been shepherds leading the sheep to the slaughter," stated Rev. Luke Robinson, Senior Pastor of Quinn Chapel AME Church of Fredericksburg Maryland. Rev. Robinson, the keynote speaker at the rally at District Heights Church of Maryland, continued "Where are the leaders of righteousness and common sense? There is no way we can continue on this path of destruction and our established leaders have failed miserably." Though African American women make up 12% of the population, they account for 37% of all abortions. African Americans in the United States are presently beneath the replacement rate of the existing population. LifeNews, 10/27/14

April 19 - In our culture, we've lost the basic truth stated in Job (12:10), that every life is made and allowed to live by God's sovereign authority. We are a people who pride ourselves on our independence, so we have a hard time acknowledging our dependence on God. Worse yet, we have assumed the role of God, deciding whose God-created life continues and whose ends.

April 26 - Commenting on the state of California's decision to require employers to cover abortion in their health care plans, Atty. Casey Maddox stated, "Forcing a church-affiliated employer to be party to elective abortion is one of the most unimaginable assaults on our most fundamental American freedoms." He added that California officials are "flagrantly violating the federal law that protects employers from being forced into having abortion in their health insurance plans." Cited in Chuck Norris column, 10/28/14

May 3 - In a 2011 statement on physician-assisted suicide, the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops stated, "To live in a manner worthy of our human dignity, and to spend our final days on this earth in peace and comfort surrounded by loved ones--that is the hope of each of us."

May 10 – An inspirational story for Mother's Day: " Mother of Twins: My Daughter with Spina Bifida is No Less a Person than Her Sister." This headline on a recent interview says it all about a mother's unconditional love. It is a love that

sees her daughter as a person not a disability: "Spina bifida is part of her, always has been, always will be but "it is not all of her....Our kids are KIDS, first and foremost. They're people, human beings, whose value lies simply in the fact of their personhood, not in milestones or hurdles overcome." Lifenews 11/4/14

May 17 - The voice of the terminally ill is seldom heard in the debate about "death with dignity." Robert Salam, who suffered from Lou Gehrig's Disease stated his view: "If physician-assisted suicide is available, the right to die may become a duty to die. The hopelessly ill may be subtly pressured to get their dying over with — not only by cost-counting providers but by family members concerned about burdensome bills, impatient for an inheritance, exhausted by care-giving or just anxious to spare a loved one further suffering. In my view, the pro-euthanasia followers' posture is a great threat to the foundation upon which all life is based, and that is hope." Cited in Wesley J. Smith column, "How Assisted Suicide Advocacy Hurts the Sick," NRL News Online, 11/6/14

May 24 - In October 2014, Planned Parenthood Federation of America celebrated its 98th birthday by tweeting out an image of baby carriages - *this* from an organization that has done over 6.6 million abortions!

May 31 - As the nation remembers all those who died defending our freedom, may we ask whether those sacrificial souls could have believed they were defending a women's freedom to kill her unborn child.

June 7 - "When God created each of us, He did so with precision and purpose, and He looks on each of us with love that cannot be outdone in intensity or tenderness. We must look at ourselves and others in light of this truth and treat all people with the reverence and respect which is due." Abortion and euthanasia and the tragedies that lead to them "go directly against respect for life, and they represent a direct threat to the entire culture of human rights." Boston Cardinal Sean P O'Malley opening Respect Life month, 10/14

June 14 - Commenting on a federal appeals court's decision to strike down North Carolina's Ultrasound Law, the executive director of North Carolina Right to Life observed, "Turning the (ultrasound) screen at an angle where the mother may view it if she wishes is very little to ask, considering that a human life hangs in the balance. Ultrasound technology has made tremendous advancements and provides a window to the womb that allows mothers to see their unborn children in real time. It is absolutely vital that a woman, at this most crucial life-and-death juncture, be provided all the information possible about the abortion procedure and the development of her unborn child. Simply put, the abortion decision cannot be undone. Women deserve all the facts." NRL News Today, 12/22/14

June 21 - An inspirational story for Father's Day: "In the United Kingdom where 90% of Down Syndrome babies are aborted, the father of such a child shocked medical professionals when he and his wife refused abortion, saying, "I have a daughter to protect." Following his daughter's lengthy heart surgery, he realized that the fact that she had Down Syndrome was insignificant; all he wanted was for his "beautiful girl" to live. Lifenews, 10/31/14

June 28 - What beauty are we missing by shunning those with disabilities? Judith Scott was born in 1944 with Down Syndrome and institutionalized. She became deaf as a child and thus could not speak, resulting in a diagnosis of "profoundly retarded and in—educable." A New York Times Op Ed about Scott's recent sculpture exhibit declared her pieces to be "colorful, oddly shaped yet graceful, un-self-consciously beautiful." NRL News Today, 12/31/14