

The 19th Annual
National Memorial for the
Pre-Born and Their Mothers & Fathers



On the Occasion of 40 Years Since Roe vs. Wade
Friday, January 25, 2013
Washington, DC

*The National Pro-life Religious Council is proud to present the
Pro-life Recognition Award to Michael Schwartz and
Reggie Littlejohn. Legatus is proud to present the Cardinal
O'Connor Pro-Life Hall of Fame Award to Michael Schwartz*

Sponsoring Organizations

National Pro-Life Religious Council

PO Box 61838
Staten Island, NY 10306
Phone: 718-980-4400
mail@nprcouncil.org
NPRCouncil.org

National Pro-Life Center

109 2nd St. NE
Washington, DC 20002
Phone: (202) 547-0068
information@nplac.org
NationalProLifeCenter.org

Gospel of Life Ministries

113 2nd St. NE
Washington, DC 20002
Phone: (202) 543-1511
info@gospeloflife.com
GospelofLife.com

The National Clergy Council

109 Second St. NE
Washington, DC 20002
Phone: (202) 546-8329
Fax: (202) 546-6864
info@faithandaction.org
NationalClergyCouncil.org

Priests for Life

PO Box 141172
Staten Island, NY 10314
Phone: (718) 980-4400
Fax: (718) 980-6515
mail@priestsforlife.org
PriestsForLife.org

Faith and Action

109 Second St. NE
Washington, DC 20002
Phone: (202) 546-8329
Fax: (202) 546-6864
info@faithandaction.org
FaithAndAction.org

National Pro-Life Radio

All pro-life, all the time
Nplr.net

Organizing Committee

Fr. Frank Pavone, National Director, Priests for Life; Rev. Rob Schenck, President, National Clergy Council; Fr. Paul Schenck, Chairman, National Pro-Life Center; Mr. Ernie Ohlhoff, Director of Outreach, National Right to Life Committee; Georgette Forney, President, Anglicans for Life

Pro-Life Recognition Award Winners



“I wish to take a moment to honor.. **Michael Schwartz**. He has been my chief of staff for almost 15 years, beginning while I was in the House and here in the Senate as well. ...he is one of the kindest, gentlest people anyone has ever met. He has been a light focused on how we do things to honor other people. Michael has been the kind of person who has always focused on others, especially those in need. ...Mike has also been an unapologetic defender of the family and of those who cannot defend themselves, whether that be the

disability community, the unborn, the infirm, or the elderly. He has reminded me and my staff and all of us that a society is truly measured in how it treats and cares for those less fortunate. . . He has been mentoring staff and others for years on the Hill in both reading groups and Bible studies, where he has shared his wisdom, his faith, and his heart. In a place preoccupied by titles and position and power, Mike has shown everyone by his life and his deeds and his words that things that are unseen are the things that matter. He has shown us what it means to run the race and finish it strongly. Well done, good and faithful servant. (Excerpt from Senator Tom Coburn's remarks)



Reggie Littlejohn is President of Women's Rights Without Frontiers, a non-partisan, international coalition to oppose forced abortion and sexual slavery in China, as well as an expert on China's One Child Policy for Human Rights Without Frontiers and China Aid. A graduate of Yale Law School, Ms. Littlejohn has represented Chinese refugees in their political asylum cases in the United States.

Homilist



Fr. Frank Pavone was authorized in 1993 by John Cardinal O'Connor to serve full-time as national director of Priests for Life, and has done so full-time since then. He is also a member of the Vatican's Pontifical Academy for Life, and has served as an official of the Pontifical Council for the Family, which coordinates the prolife activities of the Catholic Church.

He was asked by Mother Teresa of Calcutta to speak about abortion to the Sisters and clergy in India. He has been a spiritual guide for Norma McCorvey, the "Jane Roe" of Roe vs. Wade. He is the author of two books, *Ending Abortion: Not Just Fighting It*, and *Pro-life Reflections for Every Day*. He is a priest of the Amarillo, TX Diocese and leads Priests for Life with his bishop's permission.

The National Memorial for the Preborn and their Mothers and Fathers

Prelude Hymns

-- *Please stand* --

Opening Procession with Vested Clergy

PROCESSIONAL: NATIONAL HYMN

God of our fathers, whose almighty hand / Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies / Our grateful songs before Thy throne
arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past, / In this free land by Thee our lot is cast,
Be Thou our Ruler, Guardian, Guide and Stay, / Thy Word our law, Thy paths our chosen
way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence, / Be Thy strong arm our ever sure defense;
Thy true religion in our hearts increase, / Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way, / Lead us from night to never ending day;
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine, / And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.

(Public Domain. Text: Daniel C. Roberts (1876); Music: George W. Warren, 1888.)

Lighting of the Candle

(1) We now light the Life Candle, remembering the innocent lives lost and the hope of
the reconciliation and healing found in the Light of the World, Jesus Christ.

(2) Opening prayer - Spanish

(3) Opening prayer

Almighty Father, we gather here today in repentance, in resolve, and in rejoicing.

We gather in repentance, because we, Your people, could long ago have ended child-
killing in this nation.

We gather in repentance, for so many of Your people rightly call on You to act to save
the unborn,
but fail to realize that You call them to act to save the unborn.

We gather in repentance, for so many of Your people rightly lift up their hands and say "Lord have mercy," but fail to lift a finger to have mercy on the unborn.

We gather in repentance, because not one drop of innocent blood is shed upon the land, without every person on the land sharing responsibility for it.

We gather today, Lord, in resolve.

We are resolved to reach our goal, not just to *fight* abortion, but to *end it*. We will stop at no sacrifice and count no cost in defending the unborn.

We resolve that we will continue to challenge public servants who fail to serve the public who are yet unborn,

and will continue to challenge voters to elect only those who will advance a Culture of Life.

Finally, Lord, we gather today in rejoicing.

We rejoice that You have called us to do pro-life work, not as some "hobby" to be squeezed in when we have time, but as the very heart and soul of our quest for justice in this world.

Bless this gathering today, to the honor and glory of Your Name, and bless this movement for life.

We pray in the saving Name of the Author of Life, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Litany of Repentance

-- Please be seated --

The Congregation will be led in readings, prayers, and litanies of personal and national repentance.

(4) Biblical call to repentance (Joel 2:12-17)

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Joel

¹² 'Even now,' declares the LORD,
'return to me with all your heart,
with fasting and weeping and mourning.'

¹³ Rend your heart
and not your garments.
Return to the LORD your God,
for he is gracious and compassionate,

slow to anger and abounding in love,
and he relents from sending calamity.
¹⁴ Who knows? He may turn and have pity
and leave behind a blessing—
grain offerings and drink offerings
for the LORD your God.

¹⁵ Blow the trumpet in Zion,
declare a holy fast,
call a sacred assembly.

¹⁶ Gather the people,
consecrate the assembly;
bring together the elders,
gather the children,
those nursing at the breast.

Let the bridegroom leave his room
and the bride her chamber.

¹⁷ Let the priests, who minister before the LORD,
weep between the temple porch and the altar.

Let them say, ‘Spare your people, O LORD.

Do not make your inheritance an object of scorn,
a byword among the nations.

Psalm of Repentance (Ps. 51)

Psalm 51

(5) Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions.

² Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.

(6) ³ For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.

⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are proved right when you speak
and justified when you judge.

⁵ Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

⁶ Surely you desire truth in the inner parts;
you teach me wisdom
in the inmost place.

(7) ⁷ Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

⁹ Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.

¹⁰ Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

¹¹ Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.

¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

(8) ¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will turn back to you.

¹⁴ Save me from bloodguilt, O God,
the God who saves me,
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.

¹⁶ You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

(9) ¹⁷ The sacrifices of God are a
broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart,
O God, you will not despise.

¹⁸ In your good pleasure make Zion prosper;
build up the walls of Jerusalem.

¹⁹ Then there will be righteous sacrifices,
whole burnt offerings to delight you;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Prayers of Repentance by participating clergy

(10) Lord God, You are the Father of mercies.
We come before you today to ask forgiveness for all our sins.

While our sins bring us sorrow, the cross of Your Son Jesus Christ brings us joy, for there we find the only hope of humanity.

There we find the blood that washes the robes of the saints and makes them white.

(11) Forgive us, then, for saying No to you, in countless ways that we remember and have forgotten.

Forgive us when we abort your will in our lives, and assert our own will in defiance of your plans for us.

Forgive us, Lord, for all that we have failed to do.
Forgive us for the times that our courage has failed and we have been silent when we should have spoken.

(12) Forgive us for the times when we have not had full confidence in your power over the culture of death, and have forgotten that in Jesus Christ, the victory is already won!

Wash us today in the blood that saves; give us the joy of those who have been redeemed.
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Litany of Repentance

*Response: **Have mercy on us!***

(13) God the Father, Creator of the world,

*R. **Have mercy on us!***

God the Son, through whom all things were made,
God the Holy Spirit, Lord and Giver of Life,
Lord Jesus, the Beginning and the End,
Lord Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life,
Lord Jesus, the Resurrection and the Life,
Lord Jesus, Eternal Word of Life,
Lord Jesus, living in the womb of the Virgin Mary,
Lord Jesus, Lover of the poor and weak,
Lord Jesus, Defender of the helpless,
Lord Jesus, Bread of Life,

(14) For every sin against life,
For the sin of abortion,
For the daily killing of innocent babies,
For the bloodshed throughout our land,
For the silent screams of Your children,
For the killing of Your future disciples,
For the exploitation of women by abortion,
For the silence of Your people,
For the apathy of Your people,
For the co-operation of Your people in this tragedy,

-- Please stand --

(15) *Concluding prayer of Repentance*

Let us pray.

Great are your mercies, O God of the Universe,
And our need for those mercies is also great.

We come before you today with hearts that are burdened by sin, yet filled with hope, as we await your saving help.

Purify and forgive us, O Lord, that we may be ready to accept again the call to announce your Gospel of Life to the world.

Pour out your Spirit upon us, and prepare us for a season of New Evangelization.

May our own experience of your forgiveness make us effective witnesses to the world of your saving love.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Prayer of the Congregation for Repentance (together):

Father and Lord of Life, we stand in your presence today, not because we presume to approach you on our own, but because you have called us. You have sent us your Spirit, and by that Spirit we have been made even more aware of our sins.

We are aware of so many ways we have offended you by what we have done and by what we have failed to do.

Therefore, Lord God, we repent once again of all our sins. We seek to be reconciled with you and with all our brothers and sisters.

We also repent as citizens who share responsibility for our nation.

We stand before you today, forty years after our government abandoned its responsibility to children in the womb.

Today, we repent of any way in which we have abandoned our own responsibility to these youngest of our brothers and sisters.

May the blood of your Son Jesus, the only mediator between God and the human family, cleanse us from all sin.

Through him and his Saving Passion, Death, and Resurrection, fill us with new life, new strength, and a new sharing in the life of your Spirit.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SONG OF REPENTANCE

Have mercy on us, living Lord / Remember not our sin.
According to Your steadfast love / Come, cleanse us deep within.

Our sin and guilt are heavy, Lord/ And evil in Your sight.
Against You only have we sinned; / Your judgment, Lord, is right.

Oft silent towards a guilty world / Instead we look away.
Lord, give us courage in our hearts / Your Law that we obey.

Please come and purify our lives, / Our hearts with love redeem.
Commit us to Your life-filled ways / In us Your waters stream.

Your Spirit place within our hearts / That we observe Your ways,
And work with brothers, sisters all/ to heal and mend our frays..

Rebuild this nation once again, / Recall us every day!
Our efforts to defend all Life / Before Your throne we lay

(Text © Fred R Anderson, from Singing Psalms of Joy and Praise v.1-2; D Wilde, OSA, vs 3-6; music: Morning Song, Kentucky Harmony. Used with permission.)

The Sign of Peace

The exchange of the sign of peace recalls our Lord's words that if our brother has anything against us, we should first be reconciled, and then approach the Lord. Extending a sign of peace to people around us symbolizes our readiness to reconcile with all humanity, whether born or unborn, and whether friends or enemies.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

-- Please be seated --

Reading of God's Word

The Preborn

Creation Scripture - Genesis 1:26-31

(16) *A Reading from the Book of Genesis*

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

²⁷ So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

²⁹ Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. ³⁰ And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” And it was so.

³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

The Word of the Lord

Scripture of God's Dominion over human life -- Revelation 4:6-11

(17) A Reading from the Book of Revelation

In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back. ⁷ The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle. ⁸ Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under his wings. Day and night they never stop saying:

“Holy, holy, holy
is the Lord God Almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come.”

⁹ Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, ¹⁰ the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne, and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say:

¹¹ “You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they were created
and have their being.”

The Word of the Lord

Responsive Reading (Psalm 139:13-17)

(18) Leader: For You have formed my inward parts; You have covered me in my mother's womb.

People: I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.

(19) Leader: My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

People: Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them.

(20) Leader: How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them! Glory be to the Father, to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

People: As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Their Mothers

Scriptures of Motherhood

(21) *From Genesis 30* -- ²² Then God remembered Rachel; he listened to her and opened her womb. ²³ She became pregnant and gave birth to a son and said, "God has taken away my disgrace." ²⁴ She named him Joseph, and said, "May the LORD add to me another son."

(22) *From Luke 11*

²⁷ As Jesus was saying these things, a woman in the crowd called out, "Blessed is the mother who gave you birth and nursed you."

²⁸ He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it."

(23) *From Luke 1*

³⁹ At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰ where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³ But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished!"

-- Please stand --

(24) *Litany for Moms killed by abortion -- Dr Alveda King*

Leader:

Motherhood is a sign of God's blessing and favor.

In our culture of death, so many fear and reject motherhood, and our pro-life effort involves assisting, encouraging, and advocating for all mothers.

We also know that abortion not only kills the baby. It always harms the mother, and sometimes kills her.

At this point in our service, we pause to recall that in numbers greater than we know, there are women who have been killed by so-called safe and legal abortion.

The following names are only some among hundreds of others that we know, and countless others we do not know.

Let us commend these, our sisters, as well as their children, to the Lord, and pray that the scourge of abortion will soon cease to kill children and exploit women.

Our response, after each of these names, is:

Lord, have mercy on her!

Tonya Reaves
Marla Cardamone
Demetrice Andrews
Gloria Aponte
Jacqueline Bailey
Myrta Baptiste
Lisa Bardsley
Junette Barnes
Deanna Bell
Brenda Benton
Pamela Colson
Geneva Colton
Andrea Corey
Liliana Cortez
Edith Cote
Carol Cunningham
Betty Damato
Mary Ann Dancy
Angel Dardie
Barbaralee Davis
Ema Fisher
Bonnie Fix
Sharon Floyd
Linda Fondren
Glenna Jean Fox
Josefina Garcia
Marie Gibson
Barbara Lerner
Susan Levy
Cora Lewis
Sara Lint
Maria Lira
Suzanne Logan
Linda Lovelace
Dawn Mack
Michelle Madden
Sharon Margrave
Gail Mazo
Sophie McCoy

Dawn Ravenell
Angela Reynolds
Erica Richardson
Magdalena Rodriguez
Rhonda Rollinson
Stayce Ruckman
Maureen Tyke
Pamela Wainwright
Lynette Wallace
Debra Walton
Diane Watson
Robin Wells
Adrienne Williams
Ellen Williams

(25) Let us pray.

Lord, we are filled with sorrow at the devastation abortion has brought into our midst. Receive these, our sisters, and the countless others killed by abortion.

Give us hearts full of hope

And hands full of mercy,

That we may bring the light of your Gospel

Into the darkness of our world.

We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.

-- Please be seated --

Their Fathers

Scripture of Fatherhood - Ephesians 3:14-21

(26) *A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians*

¹⁴ For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. ¹⁶ I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen.

The Word of the Lord

Psalm 103

(27) *Our response to the Psalm is: Lord, fill all fathers with your Spirit.*

¹ Praise the LORD, O my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
² Praise the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits—

Response: Lord, fill all fathers with your Spirit.

³ who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,
⁴ who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,

Response: Lord, fill all fathers with your Spirit.

(28) ⁸ The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
¹⁰ he does not treat us as our sins deserve
or repay us according to our iniquities.

Response: Lord, fill all fathers with your Spirit.

¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his love for those who fear him;
¹² as far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Response: Lord, fill all fathers with your Spirit.

(29) ¹³ As a father has compassion on his children,
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;
¹⁴ for he knows how we are formed,
he remembers that we are dust.

Response: Lord, fill all fathers with your Spirit.

¹⁷ But from everlasting to everlasting
the LORD's love is with those who fear him,

and his righteousness with their children's children—
¹⁸ with those who keep his covenant
and remember to obey his precepts.

Response: Lord, fill all fathers with your Spirit.

**Georgette Forney introduces Silent No More Campaign
Testimony by Matt and Kelly Clinger**

(30) From Isaiah 57

¹⁵ For this is what the high and lofty One says—
he who lives forever, whose name is holy:
“I live in a high and holy place,
but also with him who is contrite and lowly in spirit,
to revive the spirit of the lowly
and to revive the heart of the contrite.
¹⁶ I will not accuse forever,
nor will I always be angry,
for then the spirit of man would grow faint before me—
the breath of man that I have created.
¹⁷ I was enraged by his sinful greed;
I punished him, and hid my face in anger,
yet he kept on in his willful ways.
¹⁸ I have seen his ways, but I will heal him;
I will guide him and restore comfort to him,
¹⁹ creating praise on the lips of the mourners in Israel.
Peace, peace, to those far and near,”
says the LORD. “And I will heal them.”

-- *Please stand* --

(31) Gospel Reading -- John 16:20-24, 33 -- Anglican Bishop

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

²⁰ I tell you the truth, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy.

²¹ A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world.

²² So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy.

²³ In that day you will no longer ask me anything. I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.

²⁴ Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

...

³³ “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

HYMN OF LIFE

O Lord the Giver of all life / Whose ways are ever just,
Your people lift their hearts to You / In praise and prayer and trust.
Protect the lives of those unborn / May laws reflect Your Will;
Give us the strength to work for Life / That all would cease to kill.

Help us to know Your Will for us / Give courage in our fight.
Dismiss our doubts; renew our hearts / To struggle for what's right.
O Mother of the Crucified / Who bore the Lord of Life
For ev'ry mother intercede/ Be with us in our strife.

Lord Christ, to whom each soul is dear, / For Whom each Child has worth,
Receive Your children who have died / Before their time of birth.
Blest Trinity, O living God / To You our prayers ascend;
Bring all at last to dwell with You / Where life shall never end.

(Text: © Calvert Shenk; Music: Ellacombe, Mainzer Gesangbuch, Mainz 1833)

-- Please be seated --

Sermon: Recall Abortion

Rev. Frank A. Pavone

National Director, Priests for Life

President, National Pro-life Religious Council

National Pastoral Director, Rachel's Vineyard and Silent No More Awareness Campaign

Their Advocates

(32) *Remembrance of Nellie Gray -- words and prayer by Pastor Luke Robinson*

Moment of Silent Prayer

Pro-life Awards

Reggie Littlejohn

Michael Schwartz

*In addition to the Pro-life Recognition Award, Michael will also receive the John Cardinal O'Connor Pro-life Hall of Fame award, to be presented by representatives of **Legatus**, the Catholic organization of business*

*professionals founded by Thomas Monaghan, Founder of Domino's Pizza.
Legatus.org.*

-- Please stand --

(33) Let us Pray

O Holy Spirit of God, You were promised to us by the Lord Jesus as an Advocate, as one who pleads our cause and speaks up for us in the heights of heaven. "I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever..."(Jn.14:15).

The apostle Paul has taught us that You intercede for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in speech (Rom. 8:26).

We praise You today for the gift of salvation, for we are deeply aware that we cannot save ourselves. We have sinned, and we cannot win forgiveness on our own. We need an Advocate.

We ask You, O Holy Spirit, to make us ever more aware of those who need us as advocates. Grant that we may hear the cries of our youngest, smallest brothers and sisters, those still in the womb, who cannot speak or defend themselves, and who cannot even pray.

Holy Spirit, as You are the Advocate, so make us advocates. As You hear our cries for mercy, so let us hear the cries of others for mercy. Save us from the misfortune of seeking mercy only for ourselves, while being deaf to others.

As you loosened the tongues of the apostles at Pentecost, so grant us today a Pentecost for the unborn, that we may speak for them before the great and the small, before governments and institutions, and before all Your people. Amen.

Time of Intercession

Prayers for the Preborn

(34) Let us pray now, dear brothers and sisters, for our first neighbors, our youngest brothers and sisters, the children yet in their mothers' womb.

Our response will be, ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

For our pre-born brothers and sisters killed by abortion, **Lord, hear our prayer.**
For our pre-born brothers and sisters threatened by abortion,
For our brothers and sisters who have survived abortion,
For mothers who have had abortions,
For mothers tempted to have abortions,

For mothers pressured to have abortions,
For mothers who have refused to have abortions,

(35) For the fathers of aborted babies,
For the families of aborted babies,
For the families of those tempted to have abortions
For abortionists,
For all who assist and cooperate in abortions,
For doctors and nurses, that they may nurture life,
For government leaders, that they may defend life,
For the clergy, that they may speak up for life,
For the pro-life movement,
For those who speak, write, and work to end abortion,
For those who help provide alternatives to abortion...
For those who promote adoption,
For national and local pro-life groups,
For unity in the pro-life movement,

(36) For courage and perseverance in pro-life work,
For those who suffer ridicule and rejection for their stand for life,
For those imprisoned for defending life,
For those who have been injured and mistreated for defending life,
For legal professionals,
For courts, judges, and police officers,
For educators and media professionals,

(37) In thanksgiving for the babies saved from abortion,
In thanksgiving for the mothers saved and healed from abortion,
In thanksgiving for the former abortion providers who have become pro-life,
In thanksgiving for all those who take a stand against abortion,
In thanksgiving for the call to be part of the pro-life movement,

(38) Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, You have created all things through Your Son Jesus Christ. He trampled the power of death by His Paschal Mystery. May all who acknowledge You promote the sacredness of life and always serve You faithfully, through the same Christ our Lord.

Amen.

(39) *Prayer for their Mothers*

Lord, your word speaks to us of the tender love with which you give life and nurture your people.

We praise you for so wondrously reflecting your love to us through the gift of motherhood.
We pray today for all mothers.
Make them aware of the sublime beauty of their vocation,
And of your grace that is always ready to sustain them.
Bless in a special way those mothers who are afraid to be mothers,
especially those who are tempted to commit the violence of abortion.
Lord, through the compassion of your people, reach them with your grace,
that they may trust in your Providence and welcome the life that is already within them.
We pray in Jesus' name.

(40) *Prayers for their Fathers*

Lord, your word speaks to us of the loving strength with which you protect and provide for your people.
We praise you for so wondrously reflecting your care for us through the gift of fatherhood.
We pray today for all fathers.
Make them aware of the how their vocation reflects you, the source of all fatherhood,
And of your grace that is always ready to sustain them.
Bless in a special way those fathers who are afraid to be fathers, especially those who are tempted to commit the violence of abortion.
Lord, through the example of other fathers, reach them with your grace,
that they may draw strength from you to protect the life that they have helped conceive.
We pray in Jesus' name.

(41) *For mothers and fathers who have lost a child to abortion*

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.

(42) *Prayers for our Nation*

God and Father of all,
You govern the universe from one end to the other.
All times and seasons obey your law,
And every creature is subject to you.
Your Son Jesus Christ is King of kings and Lord of lords,
And we acknowledge him today as Ruler of the kings of the earth.
In his powerful name, bless the United States of America -- a nation formed not
by geography, but by principles,
Starting with the truth that our rights come from you, O God, rather than from
government,
And that without obedience to You, we cannot find true liberty.
Lord, protect our nation,
Not only from physical attacks,
But from moral attacks.
Deliver us from evil,
Not only in the form of earthquakes, floods, and storms,
But especially in the form of false gospels
That distort your plan for marriage and the family,
That assault religious freedom with unjust mandates,
And that turn the violent destruction of unborn babies into a constitutionally
protected choice.
Give to us, your people, the grace to influence the course our nation takes.
Use us to return our nation to its founding principles.
May we, as faithful citizens of heaven,

Always live as faithful citizens on earth.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Prayer for our Nation's Leaders

(43) Lord, your word commands us to pray for all those in authority, that we made live our lives in peace. Hear us as we beg your grace for all in public office.

We intercede today for the President of the United States. Lord God, guide President Obama on right paths. Give to him the grace to see your Word and your will clearly, and the courage to make those changes necessary for the proper governance of this nation. For this we pray, **Lord, bless our nation.**

(44) We intercede today for the Presidential Administration. Lord God, give to the men and women who staff the various agencies of the Executive branch of government the grace they need to pursue the ways of justice and bear witness to you in all they say and do. For this we pray, **Lord, bless our nation.**

(45) We intercede today for the Congress of the United States. Lord God, grant us Representatives and Senators who will truly represent the values and convictions of the American people, and who care more about righteousness than popularity, more about gaining Divine favor than human favor. For this we pray, **Lord, bless our nation.**

(46) We intercede today for the Supreme Court of the United States. Lord God, You alone judge the world and all who live in it. Give to those men and women chosen for the Supreme Court the gifts of humility, wisdom, and prudence. Guide by your Spirit the judgments they are asked to make, and restrain their hands from all evil. For this we pray, **Lord, bless our nation.**

(47) We intercede today for the federal courts of the United States. Lord God, without you, we can neither know nor do what is good. Grant that those who serve in our federal courts may seek what is right and just, and hold fast to it when it is found. For this we pray, **Lord, bless our nation.**

(48) We intercede today for the Governors of the United States. Lord God, you have entrusted these men and women with a sacred stewardship. May they pursue the good of the people of the individual states they serve, and have the courage to do what it right even if it brings them conflict and criticism. For this we pray, **Lord, bless our nation.**

(49) We intercede today for the state legislators of the United States. Lord God, inspire them to take bold action to advance the protection of unborn children and

their mothers and fathers from the harmful and deceitful actions of the abortion industry. For this we pray, **Lord, bless our nation.**

(50) We intercede today for the state courts of the United States. Lord God, move your hand across this nation and guide us, that every decision that is made may lead us in your ways of truth and life. For this we pray, **Lord, bless our nation.**

Prayer for Unity in the Body of Christ

Mindful of the fact that January 25 is the conclusion of the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity, and that the pro-life movement is our nation's premier expression of Christians working together for human rights, a prayer is offered at this point for the unity of Christians.

(51) Dear brothers and sisters, today marks the conclusion of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. In the pro-life cause, in the march today, and in this prayer service now, we see a marvelous expression of the Body of Christ coming together to stand for the rights of our youngest neighbors. With longing for the day when all harmful division will end and Christ's followers may be one, let us now pray together for the gift of unity.

Prayer for Unity (recited together):

Almighty Father, whose blessed Son before His passion prayed for his disciples that they might be one, even as You and He are one: Grant that Your Church be bound together in love and obedience to You. Unite us as one body by Your one Spirit, that the world may believe in him whom You sent, Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Joyful Praise in Anticipation of Victory!

Spontaneous prayer and praise...

(52) Let us pray.

Lord God,
We thank you for our salvation in Jesus Christ.

We thank you for the call he gives us –
Not a call to sit in a corner cowering in fear over our enemies,
Mystified about how to overcome the Culture of Death,

Despondent because of our sins,
Or worried about the perceived political strength of our opponents.

(53) Rather, it is a call to stand victorious in the light of the Resurrection
And to proclaim to the Culture of Death:
“You have been conquered!
You have no place here,
No power to defeat the forces of truth and goodness!”

(54) Yes, Lord, we stand in that light
And we are filled with joy –
Not a superficial joy that rises and falls
With the ebb and flow of circumstances beyond our control,
But with the profound joy
That only you can give
And that nobody can take away.

(55) In the strength of that joy,
May we your people continue to proclaim your truth
And share your grace
Not only within the walls of our Churches,
But in the halls of government,
In the voting booth,
In the media,
And in every inch of the public square.

(56) Lord, in our work for you, may we find you.
In our efforts to change the world, may we ourselves be changed.
In our struggle to build a Culture of Life, may we find life eternal. We pray through
Christ our Lord.

HYMN IN ANTICIPATION OF VICTORY (“*Te Deum Laudamus*”)

God, we praise You! God, we bless You! / God, we name You sovereign Lord!
Mighty King whom angels worship, / Father, by Your church adored:
All creation shows Your glory, / Heav'n and earth draw near Your throne,
Singing "Holy, holy, holy, / Lord of hosts, and God alone!"

True Apostles, faithful Prophets, / Saints who set their world ablaze,
Martyrs, once unknown, unheeded, / Join one growing song of praise,
while Your church on earth confesses / One majestic Trinity:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, / God, our hope eternally.

Jesus Christ, the king of glory, / Everlasting Son of God.
Humble was Your Virgin Mother, / Hard the lonely path You trod:
By Your cross is sin defeated, / Hell confronted face to face,
Heaven opened to believers, / Sinners justified by grace.

Christ, at God's right hand victorious, / You will judge the world You made;
Lord, in mercy help Your servants / For whose freedom You have paid:
Raise us up from dust to glory, / Guard us from all sin today.
King enthroned above all praises, / Save Your people, God, we pray.

Closing prayer of Recommitment to End Abortion (all pray together)

(57) *Dear Friends, let us now recommit ourselves to the great cause of laboring for the protection of life; let us do so with utmost confidence in the grace of Jesus Christ, who lives and works in us and through us for the salvation of the world. Let us pray together:*

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!

(58) ***Closing Blessing (all clergy participating jointly)***

RECESSIONAL: BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord:
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword: His truth is marching on.
Glory, Halleluiah! Glory, Halleluiah! Glory, Halleluiah! His Truth is marching on!
I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps,
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps: His day is marching on.
Glory, Halleluiah! Glory, Halleluiah! Glory, Halleluiah! His Truth is marching on!
I have read a fiery gospel writ in burnished rows of steel:
"As ye deal with my contemners, so with you my grace shall deal;
Let the Hero, born of woman, crush the serpent with his heel, Since God is marching on."
Glory, Halleluiah! Glory, Halleluiah! Glory, Halleluiah! His Truth is marching on!
In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me:
As he died to make men holy, let us live to make men free, **and defend all human life!**
Glory, Halleluiah! Glory, Halleluiah! Glory, Halleluiah! His Truth is marching on!

(Text: Julia Ward Howe (Atlantic Monthly, 1862); MUSIC: commonly ascribed to William Steffe, 1861.)

The National Memorial for the Pre-Born and Their Mothers and Fathers was founded in 1994 by Rev. Rob Schenck of Faith and Action and Fr. Paul C.B. Schenck of the National Pro-Life Center on Capitol Hill. It is the only pro-life prayer service convened on the US Capitol complex.

We thank all of the sponsors of this event and appreciate their unfailing dedication to ending abortion in America. Please visit their websites (see front of program) and be in touch with them throughout the year. Let's all resolve to work together and to work harder than ever in this New Year to end abortion.

Many of the prayers led by the clergy and congregation for this service, as well as the sermon, will be available at the website

NationalPrayerService.com