

DAY 6:

Scripture Reading: Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body. [1 Corinthians 6. 19-20]

"As believers, how can we fail to see that abortion, euthanasia and assisted suicide are a terrible rejection of God's gift of life and love? And as believers, how can we fail to feel the duty to surround the sick and those in distress with the warmth of our affection and the support that will help them always to embrace life?" (St. Pope John Paul II)



DAY 7:

Scripture Reading: Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name. [Isaiah 49.1]

Physician-assisted suicide is part of a "throwaway culture" that offers a "false compassion" and treats a human person as a problem. True compassion does not marginalise anyone, nor does it humiliate and exclude—much less considers the death of a person as a good thing.' (Pope Francis, Address to Directors of the Orders of Physicians of Spain and Latin America, June 2016)

DAY 8:

Scripture Reading: Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, who formed you from the womb: "I am the LORD, who made all things, who alone stretched out the heavens, who spread out the earth by myself. [Isaiah 44. 24]

'As life is given by God, so we should be ready to meet God in death when the time comes. For Christians this is a time in which fear and sadness are mixed with hope and love. It is an occasion to surrender ourselves into the hands of God. It is wrong for us to anticipate God's command and bring about our own deaths...' (Cherishing Life, Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales 2004)



DAY 9:

Scripture Reading: And now the LORD says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him - for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD, and my God has become my strength [Isaiah 49.5]

"Never tire of firmly speaking out in defence of life from its conception and do not be deterred from the commitment to defend the dignity of every human person with courageous determination. Christ is with you: be not afraid!" (St. Pope John Paul II)



NOVENA TO ST. JOHN PAUL II

An Invitation.

From the 14th – 22nd October, in the lead up to the Second Reading, the bishops encourage the faithful to unite for nine days of prayer, seeking the intercession of St. John Paul II, as part of our efforts to help defeat this attempt to legalise assisted suicide.

Prayer

Merciful God, we pray with thanks and gratitude for the great spiritual gift of Saint John Paul II's apostolic life and mission. Through his heavenly intercession we ask that the 'Assisted Dying' Bill be defeated and that the infinite worth of each human person is upheld through proper investment in palliative care. Grant also that we may grow in love for You and proclaim boldly the love of Jesus Christ to all people. Through Christ, Our Lord. Amen

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Parish Priest: Fr. Anthony Psaila

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Hail Mary

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Glory be to the Father

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be world without end. Amen



DAY 1:

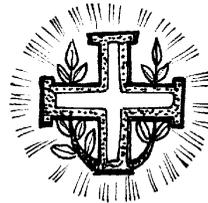
Scripture Reading: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." [Jeremiah 1.5]

'All life has inestimable value even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.' (Pope Francis, Message to Catholics participating in Day for Life in Britain and Ireland, July 28, 2013)

DAY 2:

Scripture Reading: For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. [Psalm 139. 13]

"A society lacks solid foundations when, on the one hand, it asserts values such as the dignity of the person, justice and peace, but then, on the other hand, radically acts to the contrary by allowing or tolerating a variety of ways in which human life is devalued and violated, especially where it is weak or marginalized. Only respect for life can be the foundation and guarantee of the most precious and essential goods of society, such as democracy and peace." (Evangelium Vitae, 101)



DAY 3:

Scripture Reading: Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple. [1 Corinthians 3. 16-17]

'A society will be judged on the basis of how it treats its weakest members; and among the most vulnerable are surely the unborn and the dying.' (St. John Paul II, Address to the New Ambassador of New Zealand to the Holy See, 25th May, 2000)

DAY 4:

Scripture Reading: For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2.10]

"Respecting the dignity of people who are dying must involve respecting their lives, for without life there is no dignity." (Cherishing Life, Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales 2004)



DAY 5:

Scripture Reading: Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God. Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows. [Luke 12. 6-7]

"Laws which legitimize the direct killing of innocent human beings through abortion or euthanasia are in complete opposition to the inviolable right to life proper to every individual; they thus deny the equality of everyone before the law." (Evangelium Vitae, 72)

