

▣ SAINT ANDREW'S CHAPEL

Sanctity of Life Prayer Guide



Abortion is an urgent matter for prayer.

More than *1.2 million*
babies are killed by
abortion in the United
States every year. That's
over *3,300 every day*.

Approximately *one of*
every five babies
conceived in the
United States *is killed*
by abortion.

Abortion is the leading
cause of death in the
United States, *more than*
heart disease and
cancer combined.

Open your mouth for the *speechless*,
in the cause of all
who are *appointed to die*.

Open your mouth, *judge righteously*,
And plead the cause of
the poor and needy.

PROVERBS 31:8-9



Love

You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Mark 12:31

The abortion industry disguises destruction as healing, cruelty as mercy, and murderous hatred as love. Women and men considering or dealing with abortion need the church to share the love of Christ and the truth of the gospel to combat this deception. But how can we love them when our hearts are far from them?

We often become so busy with our daily lives that we forget these neighbors. However, we cannot effectively love those considering or dealing with the ramifications of abortion if we do not take time to cultivate a love for them and their unborn babies.

Let us ask the Lord to grant us the capacity to love others with the same love Christ showed us on the cross. Romans 5:8 says, "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Even when we were dead in our sin, Christ died for us! In the same way we must love those in the midst of such physical, emotional, and spiritual destruction.

Pray that the Lord would cause us to grow in our love for the unborn and their mothers and fathers, fulfilling the greatest commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Grace

*And of His fullness we have
all received, and grace for grace.*

John 1:16

Are we quick to give grace or quick to judge? When someone offends us it is much easier to condemn than to extend grace. How have we responded to others when they tell us they have had an abortion? Is our first response what Christ's would be?

In John 8:7-11 Jesus says, "'He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first.' ... Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one ... When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, 'Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?' She said, 'No one, Lord.' And Jesus said to her, 'Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.'"

If you have had an abortion, have you repented of your sin, confessed it to God, and asked for His forgiveness? If so, you can be assured that "He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). However, if you are considering killing your baby, the Bible warns us that we cannot presume upon His grace. "Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not!" (Romans 6:1-2).

In 2 Corinthians 12:9 Jesus tells Paul, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." It can be difficult to display the grace of God to others, or even to ourselves. But we can rest assured that "He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Philippians 1:6).

**Pray that the Lord would soften
our hearts and enable us to extend
grace as He has extended it to us.**

Faithfulness

*Most men will proclaim
each his own goodness,
but who can find a faithful man?*

Proverbs 20:6

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines faithfulness as “full of faith; steadfast in affection or allegiance; firm in adherence to promises or in observance of duty.” God calls us to proclaim His truth even when it is controversial. The ultimate example of faithfulness is our Heavenly Father (Deuteronomy 7:9; 2 Thessalonians 3:3), and though “the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak” (Matthew 26:41), His Spirit enables us to be faithful (Galatians 5:22) in carrying out what He calls us to do.

The gospel is ‘good news’ when we have knowledge of the Law. God commands us not to murder (Exodus 20:13) and He “hates ... hands that shed innocent blood” (Proverbs 6:16-17). We must pray that we would be faithful to preach the true gospel to the world. Life is sacred because we are made “in the image of God” (Genesis 1:27), and abortion is a violation of God’s law. Proverbs 13:17 tells us “a faithful ambassador brings health,” so we should pray that we would be faithful to proclaim His truth.

We can cry out with the psalmist, “Help, Lord, for the godly man ceases! For the faithful disappear from among the sons of men” (Psalm 12:1). In 2 Thessalonians 1:4 Paul praised the church for her faithfulness. May we strive to make that true of us!

Pray that we would be faithful to stand against abortion, that we may say with Paul, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith” (2 Timothy 4:7).

Laborers

Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

Matthew 9:37-38

"Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble" (James 1:27). Children whose parents are bringing them to be killed are orphans, and women whose husbands or boyfriends are bringing them to murder their children are widows. "Open your mouth for the speechless, in the cause of all who are appointed to die. Open your mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy" (Proverbs 31:8-9).

Jesus tells us, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). When God told Moses to deliver His people from slavery, he said, "O my Lord, I am not eloquent ... I am slow of speech and slow of tongue." So the Lord said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? ... Have not I, the Lord? Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say" (Exodus 4:10-12). In Luke 12:11-12 Jesus tells His disciples, "Do not worry about how or what you should answer, or what you should say. For the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say." Indeed the popular saying is true: God does not call the qualified; He qualifies the called.

We need to pray that God would raise up more full-time laborers in a variety of pro-life ministries, and that His church would commit to supporting those He calls. Proverbs 24:11-12 tells us, "Deliver those who are drawn toward death, and hold back those stumbling to the slaughter. If you say, 'Surely we did not know this,' does not He who weighs the hearts consider it? He who keeps your soul, does He not know it? And will He not render to each man according to his deeds?"

Pray that God would raise up more men and women to fight the horror of abortion, and how He might be leading you to labor for the unborn.



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How to help.

As you pray, if you are moved to take action you can:



Contact your local crisis pregnancy center and get involved in their ministry through donations, volunteer work, or serving as a counseling or shelter resource.



Ask your pastor, elders or deacons about pro-life efforts your church or larger church/denominational community is involved with.



Research your local abortion clinic. Do Christians go to share the gospel there? Consider physically joining them, whether to preach alongside them or simply to stand and pray for the abortion-minded parents entering the clinic.



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