

# Prayer & Praise for Life





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Friday, January 23, 2026

Welcome by Canon Georgette Forney

## Hymn #1

*Officiant:* "This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live 20 and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to His voice, and hold fast to Him. For the Lord is your life, and He will give you many years in the land He swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob." (Deuteronomy 30:19-20)

**ALL:** Almighty God, to You all hearts are open, all desires known, and from You no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit – that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify Your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Officiant:* Dear Heavenly Father, You formed Adam from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. We bless You that at our creation Your eyes saw our unformed substance. We praise You, for we are fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works. Purify our hearts. Deliver us from Satan's deception and enlighten us with an understanding of Your Word. Grant us a spirit of repentance and a love for Your word. Help us to fix our eyes on You. You are our hearts' desire. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

*Officiant:* O God, make speed to save us;

**People:** O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Officiant:* Glory be to the Father, and 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.

Alleluia

**Psalm 100** (said together)

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness;  
come before him with joyful songs.

Know that the Lord is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
and his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and praise his name.  
For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;  
his faithfulness continues through all generations.

### **The Gospel: John 1:1-14**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

6 There was a man sent from God whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. 8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

9 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. 11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. 12 Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

*Officiant: The Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **THE APOSTLES CREED**

*Officiant and People together, all standing*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## SILENT NO MORE TESTIMONY

Diane Pyle

### PRAYERS & INTERCESSIONS

#### CONFSSION OF SIN

**ALL:** Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed. Specifically, we ask You to forgive us for failing to honor You as our Creator, the Sanctifier of all human life, created in Your image. Have mercy upon us, O God, after Your great goodness; According to the multitude of Your great mercies, cover our offenses in Your blood, and cleanse us from our sins; for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen.**

*Bishop:* Almighty God who is rich in mercy, receive your confession of sorrow and faith, forgive you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

#### GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY

Heavenly Father, we acknowledge that as a nation, a church and individually we have not honored You as the Creator and Sustainer of Life. As a nation and as its citizens we have lost an appreciation for the gift of life. We repent and confess that our country has turned from Your life-giving ways by endorsing abortion, assisted suicide and research on embryos through our laws. Deliver us, and our nation, from deception and apathy as human beings are turned into commodities. Stir our hearts with a passion to protect, respect and celebrate the life of every human being, created in Your image. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen.**

For the President of the United States and for all who advise him, that God might give them the wisdom to lead us with justice, and compassion for those who are weak, broken and defenseless; For our Senators and Congressmen that they may defend life from conception to natural death; For the members of the Supreme Court, that like Solomon, they might temper justice with compassion and proclaim by their lives a dedication to what is right and true. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen.**

Lord, touch the hearts of those with authority who set policy, at all levels in our government to recognize their responsibility to protect and respect life. Let our nation re-commit itself to ensuring life, liberty and justice for all, born and unborn. May we be a nation under Your divine authority and always honor the sanctity of life. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen.**

I bid your prayers for our government leaders: that they may impartially administer justice, uphold integrity and truth, restrain wickedness and vice, and maintain true righteousness.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

## ABORTION

Lord, we recognize the destruction of unborn human life contradicts your very purpose in creating us. We pray that as the Church defends unborn life, it may proclaim the Gospel's teaching with clarity and firmness, as a gift to a dangerously confused world. We pray that the plight of the unborn will move the hearts of all people to risk unpopularity and support these children's inalienable right to life. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen**.

Help women who are considering abortion to heed the call of the Holy Spirit to spare the life developing in their womb, give them love and courage to give birth to their baby. Help every new mother to have faith to trust You to provide for their children. For all fathers who are fearful of fatherhood, give them a heart of compassion and courage to exercise responsibility to care for the child they have helped create and to encourage and help the woman who bears it. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen**.

Convert the hearts of doctors, nurses, and others who provide abortion services, that their eyes will be opened to the effect of their actions. For all who support abortion, may their hearts be turned toward the unborn and their minds enlightened about the sanctity of all life. And we pray for the evangelization of our society, that we would once again see marriage as the first step in building families so no pregnancy would be unwanted or unwelcomed. Please make abortion unthinkable and unnecessary. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen**.

We pray for the healing of women and men whose children have died by abortion: through the ministry of the Church and abortion recovery programs, may they find reconciliation with God and with themselves. Have mercy and forgive those who perform abortions. Soften their hardened hearts, and though we hate the sins you hate, give us a heart to also love as you do those persons for whom your Son died and rose. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen**.

Let us pray for all infants who have died in abortions. May Jesus recognize them as his own and bring them to the heavenly place where peace resides. We ask you to bless and encourage ministries worldwide, who are working to protect life, especially Anglicans for Life, and Pregnancy Resource Centers who provide alternatives to abortion, that they would be strengthened in your service and bold in their witness. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen**.

I bid your prayers for all who promote the cause of life, that not only laws, but also hearts and minds, be changed to affirm the dignity of all people.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

## AGING AND DEATH

May the Church treasure the lives of the aged as God treasures them, especially those who have grown old or weak or sick, that we might learn to value their wisdom and cherish their lives. Help those who have lost consciousness or the ability to communicate, to have their needs met as God's children. Give them the protection of the law, respect from their doctors and nurses, and the abiding love of their families. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen**.

May the families of those who are terminally ill never despair of God's goodness and never forget that the life of their loved one is always precious to Him. May all who attend the sick see in their patients, God's precious gift of life. Help us to never see a person's productivity, physical dexterity, or mental acuity as the measure of the quality of their life. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen**.

For those who are tempted to hasten their death through assisted suicide or euthanasia, give them courage to discuss their fears about suffering and dying with their loved ones. Equip those who provide counsel with wisdom based on your life-giving words and truth, so that all fears are brought to Jesus, the suffering servant they can trust. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen**.

Father, by your grace, help us to revere and protect the lives of those who are silenced by age or illness, or who suffer intensely. May our devotion acknowledge your sovereignty over life and death, and the respect we offer reflect the sacred dignity of every human person. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen**.

I bid your prayers for people with disabilities, and those who are suffering, sick, troubled, weak, terminally ill, or dying, that they may be granted the joy of salvation and the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

## ADOPTION PRAYERS

Thank you, Lord, for our adoption into Your forever family. We are grateful that you call us sons and daughters and did not leave us orphaned. We thank you also for the people in our congregations who have experienced adoption, bless their birth families and their adoption family. Help those of us called to adopt a child into our family, to have the resources needed to pursue adoption ensuring that every child has a forever family. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen**.

We pray for children who have been orphaned, from newborn to young adult, to be welcomed in the family You have chosen for them. Protect children in the foster care system from abuse, neglect, or exploitation, and help those who can be adopted to be led to the right family. We also ask for Your help and redemption for parents whose children have been temporarily placed in foster care. Help these parents get emotionally, spiritually, and physically healthy so they can be re-united with their children and build stable home environments. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen**.

May all those who have had the courage to place their children with a family for adoption, be blessed for choosing life for their child. Reveal to them the fullness of Your love for them and for the child entrusted to another family. Assure them of the child's well-being, and if it is Your will, allow them to be re-united in your perfect timing. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen**.

I bid your prayers for all to know they have a forever family in the Church and would be welcomed as your child, with faith and joy.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

## BIOETHICS

Almighty God and Father, the Creator of all that is and ever was, as your image bearers and stewards of your creation, help us humbly to recognize your love for every human life. As science and technology seek to imitate your creative nature, help us accept our human limitations and guide us as we pursue knowledge and wisdom on behalf of life. Grant us all a trust for your precepts, a teachable spirit, and the guidance and protection of your Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen**.

I bid your prayers for researchers and scientists to recognize you as the true creator of life, humbly acknowledging the mystery of your divine nature.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

## INFERTILITY

For those who are struggling with infertility, guide them with your wisdom, which you promise to give generously. Direct couples in evaluating when and if to seek medical treatment and interventions and which technologies to pursue or avoid. Help them entrust their bodies, marriage, and desires to you. Equip your church to minister to those longing for the blessing of a child, and give each couple courage to wait on your guidance, especially if their path is unclear. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen**.

I bid your prayers for all who desire to be parents, that God would be the author of every family.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

## IMPOVERISHED PEOPLE

Almighty and most merciful God, we remember before you all poor and neglected persons whom it would be easy for us to forget: the homeless, the destitute, the old, the infirm, and all who have no one to care for them. For refugees, and the persecuted, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected. Help us offer healing to those who are broken in body, mind, or spirit. Grant this, Father, by the power of your Spirit, and for the love of your Son, who for our sake became poor. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen**.

I bid your prayers for all to know Jesus as Lord and Savior, and to receive the healing and wholeness offered by Him.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

## THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Lord, give Your Church, especially bishops, and ordained leaders wisdom and courage to stand up and proclaim the sacredness of life through the love of your life-giving truth. Lord, empower Your people through Your Holy Spirit to be agents of change, and influence, offering Your gift of everlasting life to transform our culture. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen**.

Lord, we pray for all those who are grieving the loss of a life precious to them and You. Help them find reconciliation with You, themselves, and others according to Your perfect justice and mercy. Lord, we remember the lives of those who have died through violence, by abortion, assisted suicide, and embryo research. May Jesus gather them as His own, and carry them close to His heart for all eternity. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen**.

I bid your prayers for the Church and for the world, that those who confess God's Name may safeguard, with faith and joy, the dignity of all people.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

## PRAISE:

**Thank You, God, for Your love at work within us. We praise You, Lord for Your healing love for all of us gathered here and for those for whom we have interceded. Thank You, Lord Jesus, for Your healing love at work throughout all the world. We praise You Holy Spirit for the assurance of forgiveness and freedom. We love You - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**ALL:** Lord God, you created us in your image and love us with a perfect love: Grant us grace and strength in all our words and deeds, both today and throughout the year, that we might manifest your love for the most vulnerable in our midst and for all who do not know you. Be present with those who march for life today and work through us all for the expansion of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### **THE BLESSING**

Bishop: God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with His favor look upon you, and fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace, that you may live faithfully in this life, and in the world to come have life everlasting **Amen.**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **DISMISSAL - Hymn**

*Officiant:* Alleluia, Alleluia, Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**People:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.



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335 Sherman Street  
Ambridge, PA 15003

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