

Day of The Unborn Child

In keeping with the established tradition, the Order will once again celebrate the International Knights of Columbus Day of the Unborn Child on the solemnity of the Annunciation. The Day of the Unborn was instituted as an addition to the Order's Crusade for Life and a symbol of commitment to building a culture that respects and protects every life.

When celebrating the Day of the Unborn, councils are encouraged to conduct either a Pro-Life Mass or a Rosary prayer service. In this brochure there is a recommended hymn that can be used at either a Mass or Rosary service, suggested intercessions for the cause of life should the council be hosting a Mass, as well as suggested verses for the five joyful mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary.

Suggested Verses for the Five Joyful Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary

The Annunciation

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary (*Lk 1:26-27*).

The Visitation

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth (*Lk 1:39-40*).

The Nativity

And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn (*Lk 2:7*).

The Presentation in the Temple

And when the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (*Lk 2:22*).

The Finding in the Temple

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers (*Lk 2:46-47*).

Suggested Hymn O Lord, the Giver of all life

1 O Lord, the Giv - er of all life, Whose
2 Pro - tect the lives of those un - born; Let
3 Help us to know your will for us; Give
4 O Moth - er of the Cru - ci - fied, Who
5 Lord Christ, to whom each soul is dear, For
6 Blest Tri - ni - ty, O liv - ing God, To

ways are ev - er just, Your peo - ple lift their
laws re - flect your will; Give us your strength to
cour - age for the fight. Dis - miss our doubts; re -
bore the Lord of life, For ev - 'ry moth - er
whom each child has worth, Re - ceive your chil - dren
you our prayers as - cend: Bring all at last to

hearts to you In praise and prayer and trust.
work for life, That man may cease to kill.
new our hearts To strug - gle for the right.
in - ter - cede; Be with us in our strife.
who have died Be - fore their time of birth.
dwell with you Where life shall nev - er end.

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HARMONIZATION: William Croft, 1678-1727

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Suggested Intercessions for the Cause of Life

Celebrant: Rejoicing in God's gift of life, and confident of His love to bring us to the fullness of life with Him, we pray confidently for all human life, and for the needs of the Church, the world, our Order, and our families.

Reader: Let us pray for our Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI, our Bishop (N.), and for all those entrusted with authority in the Church; that the Lord may strengthen and confirm them in their proclamation of the Gospel of Life, let us pray to the Lord.

All: *R/ Lord, bear our prayer.*

Let us pray for all civil authorities and for all the citizens of our land; that the Lord would convert our hearts and enlighten our minds, teaching us to protect and revere the gift of human life, let us pray to the Lord. *R/*

Let us pray for all mothers and fathers, that the Lord would open their hearts to welcome the gift of new life with gratitude and joy, let us pray to the Lord. *R/*

For an end to abortion, artificial contraception, embryonic stem cell research, human cloning, in-vitro fertilization, euthanasia, unjust executions, and all sins against the dignity of human life, let us pray to the Lord. *R/*

For children, born and unborn, and for the terminally ill, the elderly, and the handicapped, and that they may be welcomed, revered, and protected from all harm, let us pray to the Lord. *R/*

For our nation and for the entire family of man, that every society and culture may be reborn through the Gospel, and that we may devote ourselves more profoundly to the work of the New Evangelization, let us pray to the Lord. *R/*

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, You have given us life and brought us to the household of the faith. Grant us eyes to recognize your loving kindness all about us, and grant that we may always protect and enhance your precious gift of human life at every moment from conception to natural death. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.