

40  DAYS FOR LIFE™



**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE  
PROTECTRESS OF THE UNBORN  
PRAY FOR US!**

**MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE CHURCHES IN THE VICINITY OF THE  
ABORTUARY**

**This schedule is being made available for those who wish to attend Daily Mass, or to go to Confession**

**Mass/Confession schedule for  
Notre Dame Cathedral**

**Saturday:**

4:15p.m. English (Cantor and Organ)

5:15p.m. French (Cantor and Organ)

**Sunday Eucharists:**

9:00a.m. Bilingual (Alternating Youth and Women's Choirs)

10:30a.m. French (French Senior Choir)

12:00p.m. English (English Senior Choir)

5:15p.m. French (Cantor and Organ)

7:30p.m. English (Cantor and Organ)

**Weekdays**

12:15p.m. English (from Monday to Friday)

5:15p.m. French (from Monday to Friday)

**Confessions**

15 minutes before all regularly scheduled Eucharists

**Mass schedule for St. Theresa's Parish**

**Saturday**                    4.30 p.m. Eucharist  
with singing

**Sunday**                    9.00 a.m., 10.30 a.m. with  
Choir, 12 Noon Folk Mass

**Monday to Friday**    7.00 a.m. and 9.00 a.m.

**Saturday**                    9.00 a.m.

**Mass/Confession schedule for  
St. Patrick's Basilica**

**Regular Weekday Masses**

**Weekdays:** 7:00am, 8:00am, 12:15pm, 4:30pm

**Saturdays:** 7:00am, 8:00am, 4:30pm

**Masses for Sunday Obligation**

**Saturdays:** 4:30pm

**Sundays:**

8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am, 12:15pm, 9:00pm

**First Friday**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament follows the **12:15pm** Mass

until Benediction preceding the **4:30pm** Mass.  
(Mass times as above)

**Confessions**

**Weekdays:** 15 minutes before each Mass

**Saturdays:** 3:30pm to 4:30pm

**Thursday before First Friday:** 4:00pm to  
4:30pm

**First Friday:** 4:00pm to 4:30pm

**Daily Holy Hour**

**Weekdays:** 3:00pm to 4:00pm

**Saturday:** 8:30am to 9:30am

**Sunday:** 3:00pm to 4:00pm

## **PRAYER TO END ABORTION**

**Lord, God, I thank you today for the gift of my life,  
And for the lives of all my brothers and sisters.  
I know that 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 to never stop defending life.**

## **PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN MARY**

O Mary, Mother of Jesus and Mother of us all, we turn to you today as the one who said "Yes" to Life. "You will conceive and bear a Son," the angel told you. Despite the surprise and the uncertainty about how this could be, you said yes. "Be it done unto me according to your word."

Mary, we pray today for all mothers who are afraid to be mothers. We pray for those who feel threatened and overwhelmed by their pregnancy. Intercede for them, that God may give them the grace to say yes and the courage to go on. May they have the grace to reject the false solution of abortion. May they say with you, "Be it done unto me according to your word." May they experience the help of Christian people, and know the peace that comes from doing God's will. Amen.

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## **DAILY PRAYERS**

Note: Priests for Life is happy to make the following prayers available with the kind permission of the author, Fr. Terry Gensemer, a priest of the Charismatic Episcopal Church. He serves in Birmingham, Alabama, and has been a friend of Priests for Life for many years.

### **Rescue the Pre-born Sunday**

O God of Beginnings, You are the Creator of all life. As we begin this week, be near us as we unite with our Pre-born brothers and sisters who are scheduled for death. May you by your Holy Spirit and by the voice of your church lead your people to rescue from death the innocent children and bring those who participate in their death to true repentance that they may taste of your goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### **Spiritual Warfare Monday**

Almighty and Powerful God, drive all evil spirits away from the innocent Pre-born children and from the killing centers where their destruction is planned. Overcome evil with good in the hearts of those who reject your truth and who have believed the lies of the evil one who would say that good is evil and evil is good. Rebuke the enemy for the sake of innocent children and for your sake, Oh Lord; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**Kingdom Prayer  
Tuesday**

Oh Great King of Kings, let your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven for the sanctity of all human life. You have said that your Kingdom is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost. Where there is unrighteousness let righteousness come to bear, where there is hostility, cause your peace to reign supreme, where there is sorrow, bring joy in the hearts of people. Lead us into your unshakable and everlasting kingdom in which you reign forever and ever that truly the kingdoms of this world will become the Kingdoms of our God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**For Forgiveness  
Wednesday**

Oh God of mercy and grace, as you hung on the hard wooden cross, you asked that those who were putting you to death might be forgiven. Please, Oh Lord, help us to offer that same forgiveness to those who participate in abortion, euthanasia, the destruction of embryonic life and who by other means violate the sanctity of human life, that in all things the world would know the height, the depth, the breadth, and width of your love, your mercy and your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**Restoration of the Holiness and Protection of the Womb  
Thursday**

Oh Holy God, our Rock and our Fortress, you used the womb of Mary to be a tabernacle for the dwelling of the Incarnation, where the Holy Son of God was to be nurtured and protected. You created the womb of woman that the miracle of human life might be nurtured and protected. Many women have been deceived to believe that their womb is not a place of holy protection for a human life, but that it is simply another appendage of their body. Renew and restore your purpose and will concerning the womb of all women throughout the earth, that you may be glorified; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**For Governments  
Friday**

Oh Ruler of the nations, many of the kings of the earth have set themselves against you; they rebel against your rule. Yet you have set your King on your holy hill of Zion so that in every local, state, provincial and national government you would rule in the midst of your enemies. We pray that you would strengthen and uphold those rulers that, by your grace, are following your ways and purpose. Make your enemies a footstool for your feet, that all people in all nations would kiss the Son, so they may know that happy are those who take refuge in you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, forever and ever.  
Amen

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## **For an End to Abortion**

### **Saturday**

Oh God, who is the Beginning and the End, hear our prayers as we cry out to you to end the merciless shedding of innocent blood in our nation and throughout the world. Through death you have conquered death and through your life we experience eternal and everlasting life. Cause life to spring forth in the hearts of all people and bring forth a love and respect for life that will dominate our culture. May your kingdom and church apprehend and overtake the culture of death that has prevailed through deceit and selfishness; may the Seed of the woman crush the head of the serpent through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

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## **PRO-LIFE MEDITATIONS ON THE MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY**

By Fr. Frank Pavone

**Sorrowful Mysteries: *Chosen because of the sorrow we share as a result of these abortions.***

### **The Agony in the Garden**

Let us pray for mothers and fathers who are in agony because they are tempted to abort a child. May they be given the good news that there are alternatives, and may they make use of the help that is available.

### **The Scourging**

As Christ's flesh was torn by the instruments of those who scourged Him, so the bodies of babies in the womb are torn by the instruments of the abortionists. Let us pray that abortionists may repent of these acts of child-killing.

### **The Crowning With Thorns**

Jesus suffered the pain of thorns in His head, and did so silently. We pray for the mothers and fathers of aborted children. So many of them suffer deep grief and regret over a choice they can never reverse. So many suffer in silence, because others tell them it's no big deal.

### **The Carrying of the Cross**

Jesus was not condemned by the power of wicked people. He was condemned because of the silence of good people. Silence always helps the oppressor, never the victim. Let us pray that we may never be silent about abortion, but rather will clearly speak up to save babies from death.

### **The Crucifixion**

As we ponder the death of Christ, let us remember the many women who have died from so-called "safe, legal" abortions. Let us ask forgiveness and mercy for them. May their memory save other women from making this tragic mistake.

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**Glorious Mysteries - *We may pray these Mysteries at the end of the 40 Days to thank God for our Victory!***

#### **The Resurrection**

Christ is Risen! By his Resurrection, He has destroyed the power of death, and therefore the power of abortion. The outcome of the battle for Life has already been decided: Life is victorious! Let us pray that all proliferators will spread this victory to every segment of our society.

#### **The Ascension**

By ascending to the Father's throne, Christ takes our human nature, given to us in the womb, to the heights of heaven. He shows us that human beings are made to be raised to heaven, not thrown in the garbage. Let us pray that the world may learn this truth and reject abortion.

#### **The Descent of the Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit is the Advocate: He pleads our cause, for we cannot save ourselves. We pray that He will make us advocates for the babies, who cannot speak or write or vote or protest or even pray.

#### **The Assumption**

The Blessed Virgin Mary was taken body and soul into heaven because she is the Mother of God. Mother and child are united. The Assumption reminds us that they belong together. We pray that society will see that it cannot love women while killing their children, and cannot save children without helping their mothers. We pray that people will be touched by the pro-life question, "Why can't we love them both?"

#### **The Coronation**

Mary is the Queen of the Universe. The Church teaches that she is the greatest creature, second only to God Himself. The Church defends the dignity of women. We pray that people will understand that to be pro-life means to be pro-woman, and that to be pro-woman demands that we be pro-life.

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# DIVINE MERCY

**Fr. Frank Pavone**  
**Priests for Life**

The Holy Father has given a new gift to the pro-life movement.

You have likely seen the picture of Jesus standing with his hand pointed to his heart, from which red and pale rays emanate. The words "Jesus, I trust in you" are at the bottom. This image represents the devotion to Divine Mercy, based on revelations given to St. Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938). The image itself was revealed to her, as was the "Chaplet of Divine Mercy," in which we pray the following words: *"Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world."*

Pope John Paul II has fostered this devotion within the Church, and has declared the Sunday after Easter to be Divine Mercy Sunday. Many of the faithful, especially in the pro-life movement, practice this devotion.

Indeed, the link between this devotion and abortion is established by St. Faustina herself and recorded in her "Diary." Fr. Seraphim Michalenko, MIC, who was a principal translator of St. Faustina's diary, and the postulator of her cause of canonization, writes the following:

*"On at least three occasions, from 8:00-11:00 in the evening, she felt like her insides were being torn apart. She suffered so much that she thought she was going to die. The doctors couldn't figure out what was ailing her, and no medication was able to alleviate her sufferings. Later, she was given to understand that she was undergoing those pains for mothers who were aborting their children (Diary, 1276).*

*"On another occasion, she had a vision of an angel coming with thunderbolts to destroy one of the most beautiful cities of her country. And she felt powerless to do anything about it (Diary, 474). What antidote did the Lord give her? The Chaplet of Divine Mercy. [She explained] that the city was to be chastised for its sins, **primarily the sin of abortion.**" ("Wombs of Mercy," *Marian Helpers Bulletin*, Summer 1995, p.13).*

Now the Pope has personally emphasized this connection once again, by signing a special Papal Blessing for those who pray the Chaplet for an end to abortion. The blessing, signed on the Feast of the Annunciation, March 25, 2003, is addressed to the Eucharistic Apostles of the Divine Mercy and to "all the faithful worldwide who join them in offering the Divine Mercy Chaplet...for mothers, that they not abort their offspring; for infants in danger of being put to death in the womb; for a change of heart of providers of abortions and of their collaborators; for human victims of stem cell research, genetic manipulation, cloning and euthanasia; and for all entrusted with the government of peoples, that they may promote the Culture of Life, so as to put an end to the culture of death."

**God cannot fail to hear our prayer, let's not fail to pray it.**

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## **THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET**

Prayed on ordinary rosary beads, **the Chaplet of Divine Mercy** is an intercessory prayer that **Our Lord specifically told Saint Faustina to recite during the nine days before the Feast of Mercy (the first Sunday after Easter)**. He then added: By this Novena, [of Chaplets] I will grant every possible grace to souls (Diary, 796).

### **Begin with One Our Father, One Hail Mary, One Apostles' Creed**

**On the large bead before each decade pray the following:** Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

**On the 10 Small Beads of Each Decade the following prayer is repeated:** For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

### **Concluding Doxology: (after five decades)**

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world. (Three times)

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### **BLESSED SALT**

Rev. John H. Hampsch, C.M.F.

There is a renewed interest today in the ancient sacramental of blessed salt, especially by charismatics, in healing and deliverance situations, etc. To understand its proper use and its efficacy, it would be helpful to review the Scriptural symbolism and its history, since Vatican II urges us to participate "intelligently and actively" in the use of sacramentals, just as in the use of Sacraments.

Salt in the ancient world was a precious commodity (even monopolized by the royalty in Egypt and Persia). Roman soldiers were partially paid with packets of salt ("sal" in Latin); this was the origin of our word "salary" and of phrases like "worth his salt," etc. Being costly, it was an appropriate offering to God as a "covenant of salt" (Lev. 2:13; II Chron. 13:5; Num. 18:19) used in sacrifices by the Israelites (Ezek. 43:24) and for the accompanying sacrificial meal (Gen. 31:54).

Belief in its preservative and healing properties led to its use to dry and harden the skin of newborns (Ezek. 16:4) and to prevent umbilical cord infection. Used for 3500 years to preserve meats from deterioration, it became a symbol of preservation and spiritual incorruptibility that was to characterize anyone offering sacrificial worship. Shared at the sacrificial meal, salt became a symbol of friendship and hospitality, custom-symbol still used today in Arab culture. Jesus referred to this salt symbolized friendship covenant in Mark 9:50: "Have salt in yourselves and be at peace with one another" that is, "preserve that quality (flavor) that makes you a blessing to one another." (Note the double symbol of preservation and flavoring.)

This double primary symbolization is also found in Paul's advice in Col. 4:6: "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone." That is, let it be wholesome and savory, preserved from the corrupting conversation of worldlings (3:8 and Eph 4:29). (His use of the word salt may also have referred to another of its symbols: spiritual wisdom, since the Latin word for savor or taste, "sapientia", is the same as for wisdom.)

Some or all of these symbols may have been implied in Jesus's words to his chosen ones, describing them as the "salt of the earth" (Matt. 5:13). He especially indicated that they were to oppose the world's corruption, reminding them that, as salt must preserve its own anti-corruptive quality, they too must preserve their anti-corruptive influence in a sin-corrupted world. (See Luke 14:34).

The blessing promised by God on food and water, as well as the prevention of miscarriages and agricultural catastrophes (Exod. 23:25-26) was extended by God through Elisha in Jericho (II Kings 2:20-21), when he was inspired to put salt into the contaminated water. Adding salt to already brackish water to decontaminate it made the miracle all the more impressive, since one would expect the opposite effect. This first miracle of Elisha is the primary Scriptural basis for the sacramental use of blessed salt, as the Roman Ritual indicates.

As a Catholic sacramental, salt blessed by the liturgical prayer of a priest may be used by itself, unmixed, as in exorcisms, and formerly in the exorcistic prayer at baptism, or it may be mixed with water to make holy water, as the Ritual prescribes (reminiscent of Elisha's miracle).

In whichever form, it is intended to be an instrument of grace to preserve one from the corruption of evil occurring as sin sickness, demonic influence, etc.

**As in the case of all sacramentals, its power comes not from the sign itself, but by means of the Church's official (liturgical, not private) prayer of blessing power the Church derives from Christ himself (see Matt. 16:19 and 18:18). As the Vatican II document on the Liturgy states (art. 61), both Sacraments and sacramentals sanctify us, not of themselves, but by power flowing from the redemptive act of Jesus, elicited by the Church's intercession to be directed through those external signs and elements. Hence sacramentals like blessed salt, holy water, medals, etc. are not to be used superstitiously as having self-contained power, but as "focus-points" funneling one's faith toward Jesus, just as a flag is used as a "focus-point" of patriotism, or as handkerchiefs were used to focus faith for healing and deliverance by Paul (Acts 19:12).**

Thus used non-superstitiously, modest amounts of salt may be sprinkled in one's bedroom, or across thresholds to prevent burglary, in cars for safety, etc. A few grains in drinking water or used in cooking or as food seasoning often bring astonishing spiritual and physical benefits, as I have personally witnessed many times. As with the use of Sacraments, much depends on the faith and devotion of the person using salt or any sacramental. This faith must be Jesus-centered, as was the faith of the blind man in John 9; he had faith in Jesus, not in the mud and spittle used by Jesus to heal him.

In light of this, we can see why Vatican II states that "there is hardly any proper use of material things which cannot thus be directed toward the sanctification of persons and the praise of God." (art. 61 of Liturgy document). Hence new sacramentals may also be added when rituals are revised (art. 79). Blessed salt is certainly not a new sacramental, but the Holy Spirit seems to be leading many to a new interest in its remarkable power as an instrument of grace and healing.

Any amount may be presented to a priest for his blessing, using the following official prayer from the Roman Ritual: **Almighty God, we ask you to bless this salt, as once you blessed the salt scattered over the water by the prophet Elisha. Wherever this salt (or salt mixed with water) is sprinkled, drive away the power of evil, and protect us always by the presence of your Holy Spirit. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen."**

N.B. Blessed Salt should not be used carelessly. If you wish to dispose of it you may add it to a bottle of water and use as you would Holy Water.

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### MIRACULOUS MEDAL

The Medal of the Immaculate Conception, popularly known as the Miraculous Medal, is unique



among all medals. It was designed by the Blessed Virgin Mary herself! No wonder, then, that it wins such extraordinary graces for those who wear it and pray for Mary's intercession and help. Our Lady manifested the Medal to Sister (now Saint) Catherine Laboure on November 27, 1830 in the motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul and St. Louise de Marillac, in Paris. Catherine saw Our Lady standing on a globe, with dazzling rays of light streaming from her outstretched hands. Framing the figure was an inscription: *O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.* Then Mary spoke to Catherine: "Have a medal struck upon this model. Those who wear it will receive great graces, especially if they wear it around the neck."

The vision then seemed to turn to show the reverse of the Medal: the letter M surmounted by a cross with a bar at its base; below this monogram, the Sacred Heart of Jesus crowned with thorns, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary pierced with a sword.

With approval of the Catholic Church, the first medals were made in 1832 and were distributed in Paris. Almost immediately the blessings that Mary had promised began to shower down on those who wore her medal, and soon all of France was clamoring for what the people referred to as the "Miraculous Medal." Use of the Medal spread from country to country and now blankets the world. Everywhere the Medal is still drawing down from God golden blessings for body and soul.

The power of United Intercession is exceedingly great, and brings about wonderful answers to prayer!

