



Respect Life

FORTY DAYS FOR LIFE

DAY 40: A milestone

Since 40 Days for Life started these coordinated campaigns in September of 2007, we now know of MORE THAN FOUR THOUSAND BABIES SPARED FROM ABORTION! And yes, THAT is the milestone!

DAY 40 INTENTION

Let us keep our eyes fixed on the New Jerusalem, where death will be no more.

SCRIPTURE

"He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" -- *Revelation 21:4-5*

REFLECTION

by Fr. Frank Pavone, Priests for Life

Every activity we undertake in defense of the sanctity of life is prophetic, inasmuch as it points to the day when "death will be no more." Every victory we have when an act of abortion is prevented is prophetic of that day when death itself will be definitively conquered.

Every triumph of grace in this world, whereby someone is brought to see the value of life and given the strength to welcome it, is a breaking into our history of that definitive future in which the old order of things will have passed, and all things will be made new. As pro-life warriors, we must

keep our eyes fixed on heaven, and our hearts secure in the hope that the day is coming when all evil will be conquered.

It is the future that shapes the present; it is victory that informs the battle; it is the destination that determines the journey. Daily, we are called to reflect on heaven. When we weep, we are to think of the day when every tear will be wiped away. When we face the destructive power of death, we are to think of the day when death is swallowed up in victory.

When we labor against abortion, we are to think of the day when we will have the rest and peace of the final triumph of life. Heaven is as real as earth, and its joys will be as real as our present sorrows.

PRAYER

Father, you are the God of hope. Your word fills us with the vision of the world to come, when every tear will be wiped away, and death will be no more.

Father, how we need that hope, how we are strengthened by that vision! Keep our hearts focused on heaven, and diligent in the labors of earth.

As we struggle against the culture of death, root our souls in the assurance of victory. We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORD OF LIFE

How much the world is in need of the mercy of God today! In every continent, from the depths of human suffering, a cry for mercy seems to rise. ... In those places where there is less respect for life and human dignity, one needs the merciful love of God, in whose light we see the ineffable value of every single human being. Mercy is needed to ensure that every injustice may find its solution in the splendor of truth. So today, in this Sanctuary, I solemnly wish to entrust the world to Divine Mercy. I do so with the burning desire that the message of God's merciful love, proclaimed here through Saint Faustina, may reach all the inhabitants of the earth and fill their hearts with hope. ... May the binding promise of the Lord Jesus be fulfilled: from here has to come out "the spark that will prepare the world for his final coming." ~ *Blessed Pope John Paul II, Homily in Lagiewniki, Poland, August 17, 2002*

Let us pray for all mothers and fathers who have lost a child in an abortion, that through the intercession of Blessed Pope John Paul II, Divine Mercy may fill their souls, bringing them healing and new life.

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*I came that they may have life and have it to the full.
John 10:10*