



- The one thing everyone can do is pray**
- Pray for all those affected by abortion. Pray every day for a particular baby at risk; ask the Lord to touch the heart of the mother carrying this child in her womb and to give her the courage and strength she needs
 - Pray for our politicians that they will always keep in mind the sacredness of life in every decision that they take. Pray that our pro-life politicians will have the courage of their convictions
 - Pray for all the victims of abortion, the babies, the mothers, the fathers, the families, the medical profession, our society and ourselves. We are all victims when we live in a society which allows abortion

- Once you know a bit more, get active and get involved!**
- What you are able to do will depend on your personal situation. Speak to someone at one of the pro-life groups and offer your help (see contacts on back)
 - If you have ideas, why not discuss them with others and just go for it
 - Speak to people who are already involved; check out what they do and join in

- Learn more about the issues involved:**
- Keep up-to-date with what is happening in the news on this subject
 - Find out more on the Day for Life website www.dayforlife.org
 - Look at the websites of the other groups mentioned or give them a call and ask questions about what they do—and why
 - Get involved with a local pro-life group. If there isn't one, why not start one?
 - Read the Church's documents on life. They are a source of information and inspiration

WHAT CAN I DO?

DAY FOR LIFE SCOTLAND - THURSDAY 31ST MAY 2007

Contact: The Cardinal Winning Pro-Life Initiative,
 104 Albert Road, Glasgow G42 8EL
 Phone: 0141 433 2680
 Email: info@prolifeinitiative.org.uk Web: www.prolifeinitiative.org.uk

DAY FOR LIFE IRELAND - SUNDAY 7TH OCTOBER 2007

Contact: Cura National Office, Columba Centre, Maynooth, Co. Kildare,
 Ireland
 Phone: 353 1 5053040 Helpline: 1850 622 626
 E-Mail: curacares@cura.ie Web: www.cura.ie

DAY FOR LIFE ENGLAND AND WALES - SUNDAY 1ST JULY 2007

Contact: Life (Pregnancy care and support charity)
 Newbold Terrace, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, CV32 4EA
 Phone: 01926 421 587
 E-Mail: info@lifecharity.org.uk Web: www.lifecharity.org.uk

Proceeds of the Day for Life collection to be held in parishes in England and Wales will go principally to the Life organisation and the Linacre Centre for Healthcare Ethics. You may donate online at www.dayforlife.org or to Catholic Trust for England and Wales (39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1BX). Charity No.1097482

The text of this leaflet is available in large print: www.dayforlife.org



Day for Life is celebrated yearly by the Catholic Church in Ireland, Scotland and England and Wales. It is a day dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition. www.dayforlife.org



DAY FOR LIFE

2007

www.dayforlife.org

Blessed is the fruit of your womb

What is Day for Life?

The Church has a consistent and very clear message on the sacredness of human life. Day for Life is our annual celebration of this message. "Its primary purpose is to foster in individual consciences, in families, in the Church and in civil society a recognition of the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition" EV 85.

The Church also has a great deal of experience in all areas of pro-life work and has given the world a lead in the intellectual, political and social battle to save and protect all human life from conception to natural death.

Why does the Church oppose abortion?

The Church believes that every life has been created by God in his own image and likeness – that all life is sacred from the moment of conception to the point of natural death. The Church opposes abortion because it is the taking of an innocent human life.

What does the Church mean by pro-life?

To be pro-life means to promote human dignity and development in every sphere of life; to say 'yes' to life. The Church is opposed to all direct attacks against innocent human life e.g. abortion, abortifacient pills and devices, the abortion pill and the morning after pill, destructive embryo and embryonic stem cell research, genetic engineering, euthanasia, etc. because it believes that every life has purpose, meaning and inherent value.

What alternative does the Church offer?

This year sees the 30th anniversary of Cura in Ireland; the 10th anniversary of The Cardinal Winning Pro-Life Initiative in Scotland and the 30th anniversary of the Life Care and Housing Trust in England and Wales. All these groups are charities caring for women in a crisis pregnancy situation. Through these agencies and many individual committed Catholics, the Church has for many years been at the forefront of offering practical, emotional and spiritual care to women and babies in need.

In recent years this care has developed to include specific services to the many women, and men, who suffer grief, pain and loss following an abortion experience.

How does the Church promote a 'Culture of Life'?

27th October 2007 is the 40th anniversary of the passing of the Abortion Act in England, Scotland and Wales. During the past 40 years, the Church—local and universal—has been at the forefront of challenging people to think more deeply about 'life' issues.

Through such prophetic documents as *Humanae Vitae*, *Evangelium Vitae* and the promotion of Day for Life, the Church desires to share with everyone the reasons for her pro-life beliefs. There is a consistent vision at the heart of the pro-life issue. The Church has answers worth hearing and questions and challenges to share aimed at helping people to come to that deeper understanding demanded by the seriousness of the current situation.

The Catholic Church is a pro-life Church. For us, being pro-life is not an optional extra—it is at the heart of what we believe. 'We believe in one God ... maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen' The Nicene Creed.



PRAYER

We thank you, Lord, for the gift of life.
Every human life is your gift to the world.
Each person is unique,
with a task you have entrusted to them alone.
Help us always to promote the basic rights of all,
and to recognise that we are all parts of one body,
dependent on one another,
and called to share a common life.

AMEN.