

My 2025 COMMITMENT

- **Pray at least twice a week using the Life Support Prayer Calendar.** We encourage at least once in the hearing of other Christians.
- **Encourage other individuals in your congregation to join in the Life Support Prayer ministry.** Notify PPL of those who are interested in making the commitment.
- **Encourage public prayers by the church for the efforts to protect preborn children** for the care of their mothers and families, as well as for the aged and those suffering with chronic disease or disability.
- As you are led, **renew your commitment** annually.

PPL is so grateful for your prayers! We know that the seasons of your life change. If you are unable to continue your commitment to PPL's prayer team, please contact us and we will remove you from these mailings.



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LIFE SUPPORT PRAYER CALENDAR

MAY | JUNE
2025 | VOL. 37 | NO. 2A



Romans 15:13 ESV

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

Matt. 18:20

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Faith-full Prayer

By Rev. John Sheldon, PPL Board President

Why do we introduce these prayer prompts with a call to prayer? Because our Lord Jesus emphasizes for his people that we "ought always to pray and not lose heart" (Luke 18:1). Faith-filled prayer is an essential and necessary means for the outpouring of God's grace on us and for those for whom we pray. When we pray according to God's revealed will he answers our prayers. When we pray for the protection of pre-born baby in the womb, or help for the pregnant mother carrying that nascent human person, or at the other end of life, for the vulnerable aged man or woman in the nursing home, we know we are praying according to God's will revealed in Scripture. Therefore, Presbyterians Protecting Life (PPL) invites you to use these prayer prompts.

Too often we find it difficult to pray. Actual prayerlessness is more of a problem for Christians than we would like to admit. Our Lord knows this about us. He "knows our frame and remembers that we are dust" (Psalm 103:14). He reminds us that our heavenly Father will nurture the faith he has given us. Jesus our Mediator intercedes for us. The Holy Spirit empowers us to pray. In light of these truths, as Pastor Martin Luther is reported to have said to his congregants, "Take yourself in hand and say to yourself, 'Down on your knees and pray!'"

In these weeks that follow the glorious celebration of the Lord's Resurrection, we thank God for his sovereign power in both creating human life and now giving us new forgiven life because of penal substitutionary atoning death and resurrection of Jesus the Messiah. There may be hard-to-bear realities right now in your life or the lives of your loved ones but, in light of the resurrection, all will be well. In our world the culture of death blinds people to the reality of the Risen Christ. It is tempting to give in to the world's anxiety and hopelessness and think that abortion or assisted suicide are reasonable solutions. But we have been given victory over sin and death! We will soon "bear the image of the man of heaven" (1 Corinthians 15:49). So, with the OT prophet Jeremiah we remember God's promises and have true hope, "But this I call to mind, and therefore have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end" (Lamentations 3:21-22).

Many of us like to walk several times a week. I enjoy listening to podcasts as I walk but, sometimes, I take that time to pray. Walking and praying go well together. Take a copy of this Life Support Prayer Calendar in your pocket and use the prayer prompts as you walk. Consider asking your pastor to include one of these PPL prayer prompts in each Sunday's bulletin or have it included on the video monitor in your church's worship area. Give others in your church the opportunity to pray for the protection and respect for preborn and vulnerable lives among us. Pray for the ongoing work of PPL and its executive director Carla van Eyk. Our mission statement reads, "Compelled by the Gospel, PPL equips Presbyterians to champion human life at every stage." We need your prayers to accomplish that mission.

The Life Support Prayer Calendar prayer prompts are authored by Rev. Lowell Avery and Rev. John Hopkins, PPL Board Members. PPL's Life Support Prayer Calendar at ppl.org is updated weekly for online use. Downloads of May-Aug. 2025 LS Prayer Calendar are available, also.

MAY

May 4- May 10: *"How blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD."* Ps 119:1

- Loving Father, as we embrace Your grace, keep us keenly aware of Your holiness as well, that as we pray for the vulnerable among us, there might be no self-righteousness in our own hearts.
- *O God, may Your Holy Spirit purge me of self-sufficiency so that the pursuit of Your glory and honor governs my every thought.*

May 11- May 17: *"How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Your word."* Ps 119:9

- All-wise God, give the young men of our world such respect for their own mothers that they would never allow bringing fear or guilt or shame upon a young woman by fathering a child before marrying her.
- *As Mother's Day is celebrated, Lord, may you minister Your comfort to those who have lost babies either to miscarriage or abortion.*

May 18- May 24: *"Deal bountifully with Your servant, that I may live and keep Your word."* Ps 119:17

- Generous LORD, we need Your wisdom, Your power, and Your love to be able to help those in danger in this culture of death that surrounds us. We cannot do it on our own.
- *Father, thank You for Your faithfulness to forgive us when the Holy Spirit convicts us for failing to pray on behalf of those deceived by the pro-death agenda. Lead us to take initiative on ways to provide education and support for parents of the unborn..*

May 25- May 31: *"My soul cleaves to the dust; revive me according to Your word."* Ps 119:25

- O God our help, this struggle is exhausting. May your Spirit breathe new strength into our lives by reminding us that You are the victor over all evil.
- *God, may our high school and college graduates be guided by Your commandments; we pray for Your Spirit to lead them to Jesus and His salvation. We boldly ask that they be steered to be followers of our King and serve His church!*

JUNE

June 1- June 7: *"And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever, the Spirit of truth, ... He abides with you and will be in you."* John 14:16-17

- O God, fill us with your Holy Spirit that we may have joy, insight, and persistence as we pray for babies, moms, dads, vulnerable older folks, and the earthly powers that have great influence in this dark world.
- *Lord, in our appeal to You, help us to resist the tide in our world to disrespect life in the womb and in the older years.*

June 8- June 14: *"But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; ... and He will disclose to you what is to come."* John 16:13

- Thank You, Father and Son, for sending the Holy Spirit to help us know and understand about the past, present, and future. What we see and hear with mere human eyes and ears can be deeply discouraging. Renew our hearts.
- *Heavenly Father, You have imparted Your Holy Spirit to us so that we would not go about Your service alone. Equip those who minister as pro-life directors and counselors as they impart "wisdom from above." (James 3:17-18)*

June 15- June 21: *"When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, He will testify about Me, and you are testifying as well, because you have been with Me from the beginning."* Jn 15:26-27

- Because You are our Father through Christ, we are grateful to walk the path of discipleship. Please help all of us who are dads to convey the fruit of the Spirit to the little ones. (Gal. 5:22-26)
- *Holy Spirit You have taught the older men in the Church many powerful truths. Help them to testify to the truth You have given them in a world filled with lies about life and death issues.*

June 22- June 28: *"... we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words."* Romans 8:26

- Lord Jesus, remind us of how the Spirit empowered You to endure the cross, that we too might regard as nothing any public humiliation we may endure for speaking up for the powerless and helping the weak, for whom You suffered and died.
- *Father, what a relief it is to know that when the world confuses or obscures the truth, Your Spirit reveals it to us.*

Next week's prompts will follow in July-August 2025 calendar.

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