



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
HOLY GHOST COUNCIL #4977



ST. THERESA & ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA

“NOVENA FOR LIFE”

Sat, Jan 18th to Sun, Jan 26th

Day 5 of 9: Wednesday, January 22, 2020

Step 1. REFLECTION:

After more than four decades of legalized abortion, many children’s lives have been ended, and many parents and family members suffer that loss — often in silence. Yet God’s greatest desire is to forgive. No matter how far we have each strayed from His side, He says to us, “Don’t be afraid. Draw close to my heart.”

Be assured that it is never too late to seek God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Consider the parable of the Prodigal Son. After repenting of sinning against his father, he returns from far away to seek forgiveness and work as a servant. But the father sees him approaching from far away, runs to warmly embrace him, and hosts a banquet to celebrate his return. So, too, does God welcome all repentant sinners, no matter how serious the sin. Let us run into the arms of Our Lord, Who is love and mercy.

Step 2. ACTS OF REPARATION (choose one):

- Abstain from meat today. If you are already abstaining from meat today, skip your favorite snack, too.
- Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (www.usccb.org/divine-mercy-chaplet) for those who are suffering the loss of a child through abortion, asking that they find healing and peace.
- Offer some other sacrifice, prayer or act of penance that you feel called to do for today’s intention.

One Step Further: If a friend confided in you that she had an abortion, would you be able to respond in a way that brings her closer to healing? Learn what to do and say in “How to Talk to a Friend Who’s Had an Abortion” (<http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/2014/how-to-talk-to-a-friend-whos-had-an-abortion.cfm>).

Step 3. DAILY “PRAYER FOR LIFE”



PRAYER FOR LIFE

O Mary, bright dawn of the new world, Mother of the living, to you do we entrust the cause of life: Look down, O Mother, upon the vast numbers of babies not allowed to be born, of the poor whose lives are made difficult, of men and women who are victims of brutal violence, of the elderly and the sick killed by indifference or out of misguided mercy. Grant that all who believe in your Son may proclaim the Gospel of life with honesty and love to the people of our time. Obtain for them the grace to accept that Gospel as a gift ever new, the joy of celebrating it with gratitude throughout their lives and the courage to bear witness to it resolutely, in order to build, together with all people of good will, the civilization of truth and love, to the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of life. Amen.

Pope John Paul II
Evangelium Vitae, 1995