



In the wake of the SCOTUS decision to strike down *Roe v. Wade* and the so-called “right” to abortion, we praise God for the dozens of states in the nation that have moved to ban or greatly restrict this heinous practice. In blue states like Illinois however, those who love death are busy establishing new death chambers, expanding to strategic new locations and inviting people over the state line to destroy innocent human life.

Illinois State Lawmakers are going out of their way to support an industry committed to ending the lives of innocent pre-born babies. As we once again recognize Sanctity of Human Life Sunday (January 22, 2023), Christ followers must respond intentionally, bringing both salt and light to this desperate situation.

We must recognize that prayer is where we start. We must pray that God would soften the hearts of our friends, neighbors, and family members while we work to lovingly persuade those same people with the truth of what abortion is and does. We all must engage in educating, equipping, and exhorting the culture around us. We must shine the light of truth to those who hear only the lies of Big Abortion, Inc. and their allies in the media.

**Deliver *those who* are drawn toward death,  
And hold back *those* stumbling to the slaughter.**

If you say, “Surely we did not know this,”

Does not He who weighs the hearts consider *it*?

He who keeps your soul, does He *not* know *it*?

And will He *not* render to *each* man according to his deeds?

Proverbs 24:11-12



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## Here are some additional prayers to lift up before our holy God through the name of Jesus:

- That God will open the eyes of policymakers and candidates running for office to the sanctity of life. Pray that they will become defenders of innocent human life and not enablers of sexual immorality and death. (Proverbs 21:1-8)
- Pray for pregnancy resource centers, sidewalk counselors and those diligently reaching out to vulnerable mothers who feel as if abortion is their only option. Please pray for God's hand of protection on those who work in these ministries.
- Pray for a cultural awakening about abortion. Scripture teaches us that the image of God dwells equally in all people [Gen. 9:6], yet far too many in our culture believe that killing pre-born human beings is a legitimate choice. Many so-called "progressives" advocate for this under the banner of "reproductive rights" for women. Yet these narratives deny God's truth about the sanctity of life and when it begins.
- Please pray for God's forgiveness for our culture's wickedness and complicity in the destruction of human life. Though God commands, "You Shall Not Murder," we have instead legalized it and subsidized it with our tax dollars and have failed to treat all human life as sacred to the Lord. We deserve God's judgment, but please cry out to God for his MERCY on our state and nation.
- Pray for a softening of hearts and minds. May God give us opportunities to minister to those who are hurting and may our conversations be filled with His grace and love.
- Pray that the church steps up to teach and defend God's truth regarding the sanctity of human life, marriage, and family. We are seeing a steep increase in abortion traffic into our state as people come to abortion facilities in Illinois. The opportunities to be salt and light at prayer vigils, as sidewalk counselors, as friends and neighbors, are increasing. Pray that we recognize these opportunities and ask God to work through us to help would-be mothers and fathers avoid the sin of abortion.

**Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good.**

**Do not repay evil for evil, but overcome evil with good.**

Romans 12:9b, 17a, 21

Sanctity of *Life*

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