

10 Reasons to Participate at 40 Days for Life Vigils

All credits given to the author, the Archdiocese of Dallas Pro-Life Committee

Reason No. 10. Come because you can. - If you are healthy, you can postpone the chores a few hours, or skip the sleep-in, and be a witness for life! If you are homebound, you can unite in spirit with the others.

Reason No. 9. In a spiritual battle, prayer is the weapon of choice. In this battle for the sanctity of human life, we're not fighting against people; we're fighting for people. As Fr. Frank Pavone reminds us, God has already won the victory, through the life, death and resurrection of Christ. So let us unite with Him in that victory as we draw people away from the sin of abortion. Let us learn from Love Himself.

Reason No. 8. It's good to pray together. Each of us prays often, if not daily, for an end to abortion. But often we pray alone. Let us take this special opportunity to heed Jesus' words in Matthew 18: "*For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them.*"

Reason No. 7. Our prayers can bring reparation for the sins of abortion, whether our own or those of others. Abortion has touched us all, some of us personally. We're all wounded by it. But in the mystical body of Christ, we can help bring healing, through our prayers and acts of penance.

Reason No. 6. You can grow deeper in your own pro-life convictions. Maybe you're not as stirred up as you think you ought to be. Many of us have found there's nothing like being there - at the very places of death - to becoming convicted of the tragedy of abortion. Open yourself to further conversion!

Reason No. 5. You can inspire other pro-lifers to put their "money where their mouth is." Just by telling a friend you are coming, you may motivate them to join you the next time.

Reason No. 4. You could prick the consciences of young men and women who aren't living in chastity. Those who see you at the abortion center may be convicted about their own behavior, knowing they aren't ready to raise a child, yet they're engaging in sex, but they're also not eager to walk by a group of people to take the life of their baby.

Reason No. 3. You could help convert the heart of a passerby who just found out she is pregnant, and remind her that abortion is never a solution to a problem, but the worst problem she could ever have.

Reason No. 2. You could help convert the heart of an abortion worker - the receptionist, the sonographer, the nurse, even the abortionist! Norma McCorvey, the former "Jane Roe," wrote about being "Won By Love" from working at an abortion center in Dallas to joining the pro-life movement.

And the best reason of all, Reason No. 1. You could help save a life! Right there, as you're praying, a mom with an abortion appointment might decide against the abortion, and for her baby. You don't want to miss that!

Copied from the Fairfax, VA, 40 Days for Life, web site Feb 24, 2011.