

## **A Litany for an Understanding of the Sacredness of Unborn Human Life:**

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born, I dedicated you...” Jeremiah 1:5

**Sign of the Cross +**

### **OPENING PRAYER**

**Priest or Deacon:** O God, source of all life and goodness, you fashion human lives in your image and likeness, and through your love, give each human life dignity, sacredness, and priceless worth; awaken in every heart new reverence for the least of your children, and renew among your people a readiness to nurture and sustain your precious gift of human life at all stages, and in all conditions. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Priest or Deacon:** Our response will be: **Help all to understand.**

**Priest or Deacon:** That human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. **RESPONSE**

**Priest or Deacon:** That from the first moment of our existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person. **RESPONSE**

**Priest or Deacon:** That abortion willed either as an end or a means, is gravely contrary to the moral law. **RESPONSE**

**Priest or Deacon:** That formal cooperation in an abortion constitutes a grave offense. **RESPONSE**

**Priest or Deacon:** That the inalienable right to life of every innocent human individual is a constitutive element of a civil society and its legislation. **RESPONSE**

**Priest or Deacon:** That the inalienable rights of the person must be recognized and respected by civil society and the political authority.  
**RESPONSE**

**Priest or Deacon:** That human rights depend neither on single individuals nor on parents; nor do they represent a concession made by society and the state. **RESPONSE**

**Priest or Deacon:** That all may be welcomed at the borders of existence. **RESPONSE**

**Priest or Deacon:** That the embryo, since it must be treated from conception as a person, must be defended in its integrity, cared for, and healed, as far as possible, like any other human being. **RESPONSE**

**Priest or Deacon:** That it is immoral to produce human embryos intended for exploitation as disposable biological material. **RESPONSE**

**Priest or Deacon:** That certain attempts to produce human beings selected according to sex or other predetermined qualities may be recognized as contrary to the personal dignity of the human being and his or her integrity and identity which are unique and unrepeatable.  
**RESPONSE**

**All:** Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be.

**All:** God, the Lord of life, has entrusted to us the noble mission of safeguarding life, and we must carry it out in a manner worthy of ourselves. Life must be protected with the utmost care from the moment of conception. Amen.

**Sign of the Cross +**