

pray for ★ columbus

SANCTITY of LIFE – September 2023 Prayer Guide

ANSWERED PRAYERS

- Pregnancy Decision Health Centers reported **831 decisions for life last year!** They also conducted nearly 6,000 parenting courses for new families. Praise God for these encouraging reports of God's redemption!
 - Halt Violence reports **mediating 57 conflicts last year and mentoring 69 at-risk youth preventing shootings and violence on Columbus city streets.** Praise God for the ongoing vital work this ministry provides.
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SPECIFIC REQUESTS

- Pray for the **sacredness of life to be cherished and protected** in our city and nation. Ask God to send the Holy Spirit to **empower believers to transform our culture to highly value human life in all stages.**
- Pray for all who are **grieving loss from the taking of human life.** Comfort families in their grief and help them find solace in Your nail-scarred hands.
- **Lift up all who face crisis pregnancies.** May these precious women experience mercy, God's provision and choose life for their babies.
- Pray **against a spirit of murder and the evil forces** raging against our city. (Ephsians 6:12, Jude 1:9)
- Ask God to **raise up more believers to adopt children, engage in foster care, and care for the elderly and disabled.** May life and the image of God reflected in all human life be honored and treasured no matter the stage or condition.
- Lift up our city ministries dedicated to crisis pregnancies, adoptions, foster care, ending violence and ministry to seniors. **Pray for their protection, provision and for the raising up of more equipped volunteers.**
- Specific, measurable prayers for our city:
 - **Ask God for a dramatic decrease in all forms of violent crime in Columbus over the next two years.**
 - **Ask God for every single Columbus City School to have a Church or Christian nonprofit partnership.**
 - **Pray for the number of believers in Columbus to increase faster than our population growth.**

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SANCTITY of LIFE – September 2023 Personal Prayer Guide

PRAISE and THANKSGIVING

- **Start with Praise! Worship God for His masterful creation and for creating us in His image.** Meditate on Genesis 1:27 and Psalm 139. Consider God's intimate knowledge of your entire being.
 - Be still in His Presence, **thanking Him for the price that was paid for your salvation.** The precious blood of Jesus speaks to your own value in His eyes. (1 Corinthians 6:20) **Meditate on your response to His extravagant grace.**
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CONFESSION and INTERCESSION

- **Take a moment to reflect** and ask God to speak to you personally about anything in your life that is out of alignment with His will. Ask the Holy Spirit to convict you of anything that needs repentance. **Yield to God's prompting** for confession and forgiveness.
 - **Pray for a dramatic awakening to honor the inherent dignity and value of every human life.** Pray for the gift of repentance to all who have dishonored the image of God in His creation and a **radical turnaround to cherish life.**
 - **Bless your family, neighborhood and all of our city with a knowledge of the truth.** (See 1 Timothy 2:4)
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PRAY ALOUD

Father God, we honor You and magnify Your Name today. We acknowledge Your masterful handiwork in all humankind. We confess that we fall short of Your glory and dishonor Your image when life is not cherished. We ask for Your Holy Spirit to empower believers to radically shift our culture to treasure human life in all its stages. To the spiritual forces of murder raging against our city we say the Lord Himself rebuke you. Together, we stand for life and we honor You, Jesus, the life-giver. We ask You to protect ministries standing for life and the vulnerable. May people all across our city come to a knowledge of the truth. In Jesus' mighty Name we pray, Amen.