



# 40 DAYS FOR LIFE<sup>®</sup>

*Devotional for Day 28, Tuesday, October 19*

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## Intention:

May we persevere until the end as we draw our strength from our Lord, Jesus.

## Scripture:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and of all encouragement, who encourages us in our every affliction so that we may be able to encourage those who are in an affliction with the encouragement with which we ourselves are encouraged by God.

— 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

## Reflection:

All one must do is make a quick observation on the internet, social media, our neighborhood, or even within our own families to discover there is no shortage of pain and suffering.

Our world is filled with all types of afflictions; from illness to addictions, divisions and violence, hopelessness and despair. But God gives us a great opportunity, doesn't He? To be the light in the darkest of places. God is our refuge and our salvation. He encourages us at every turn. How sad and lonely it must be for those who don't know Him.

Nowhere is this sadness, despair, and loneliness more evident than inside

and outside abortion centers. If there is ever a place where God's encouragement is most needed it is there. Society's most afflicted souls enter and exit like empty vessels as we pray for an end to abortion outside these places of human sacrifice.

But God does not want us to be discouraged. No! We must pick up our own Cross and carry it with great courage. It is by carrying our own afflictions to these places of death that God gives us the greatest strength to bring encouragement to the afflicted, to be the light in the darkness, to be the prayer that is answered, and to be the hope to the desperate.

## Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we thank you for your love, mercy, and goodness. We praise you for the gift of life and the conviction to defend it at all stages.

Father, give us the grace to walk alongside of and pray for those poor souls who are so greatly afflicted in their souls. Help us to be compassionate, but bold and courageous, as we defend what is true and just.

As the division in our world increases, let us be the unitive light that draws souls to your goodness, love and mercy. Amen.