### **PRAYER**

Oh Lord,

In this season of unbearable grief, I submit my heart to You. May Your embrace provide solace and comfort, as I trust in You. In moments of deepest sorrow, please guide me to the foot of the cross, where I lay my burdens down. Remind me that Your love is unwavering and Your grace sufficient. As the waves of sorrow crash upon me, let Your peace wash over mu soul. Teach me to lean on You. and to find refuge in Your sheltering arms. Though my heart may be shattered, I trust in Your ability to mend the broken pieces. Help me to embrace the healing power of Your love, and to surrender my pain to You In the name of Your precious Son. Jesus Christ, I pray. Amen.





# Works of Mergy

## **CORPORAL**

- 1. Feed the Hungry Mt 25:35
- 2. Give Drink to the Thirsty Mt 25:35
- 3. Clothe the Naked Mt 25:36
- 4. Shelter the Homeless Mt 25:35
- 5. Visit the Sick Mt 25:36
- 6. Visit the Imprisoned Mt 25:35
- 7. Bury the Dead Mt 25:40

# **SPIRITUAL**

- 1. Instruct the Uninformed Mt 16:15
- 2. Counsel the Doubtful Jn 14:27
- 3. Admonish Sinners Lk 15:7
- 4. Bear Wrongs Patiently Lk 6:27
- 5. Forgive Offenses Mt 6:12
- 6. Comfort the Sorrowful Mt 11:28
- 7. Pray for the Living and the Dead Jn17:24

No one person can do everything, but everyone can do something.



# HEALING from the LOSS of a CHILD





### CHURCH TEACHING

### Jeremiah 31:15

In Ramah is heard the sound of sobbing, bitter weeping! Rachel mourns for her children, she refuses to be consoled for her children, they are no more!

Catechism Catholic Church, 2319 Every human life, from the moment of conception until death, is sacred because the human person has been willed for its own sake in the

image and likeness of the living and holy God.

noting order

Donum Vitae, Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Intro, 5

From the moment of conception, the life of every human being is to be respected in an absolute way [...]; his whole being bears the image of the Creator.

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# <u>HEALING from</u> LOSS of a CHILD

Grief is not a disorder, a disease, or a sign of weakness.

It is the price you pay for love.

Earl A. Grollman

One in four people sitting in our pews has experienced the death of a child. All have the right and need to grieve for the sake of their own emotional, spiritual, and physical health. Unfortunately, needed support might be lacking.

There are those who suffer in silence because they feel shame from an abortion no one knows about. Friends or family might not understand the deep, significant grief of a miscarriage. The loss of an infant or young child easily brings sympathy, but others may feel ill prepared to offer support, and so they avoid those who are grieving. Naturally, that only serves to compound the loss. The tragic death of an adult child combines the memories of what was, with the ache of not witnessing their hopes and dreams come to pass.

God doesn't promise how long anyone will live. But He sees us and our pain and promises us His love and a hope for the future. He has prepared a place for us and for our children.

Trusting in His will gets us through the agonizing times in life. We join our suffering with Jesus, when He says, "Father not My will but Yours be done."

### RESOURCES and IDEAS

<u>Archdiocese Respect Life Office</u> nolacatholic.org/protecting-the-unborn

New Orleans Catholic Cemeteries: nolacatholiccem@arch-no.org 504-596-3050 St. Patrick Cemeteru #1

Holy Innocents Prayer Garden

Dedicated for babies lost through abortion, miscarriage, or stillbirth.

All God's Babies Tomb, for interment of babies up to 12 months old lost to abortion, miscarriage, or early death & whose families are in financial need

**CCANO Pregnancy Services** 

accesspregnancy.com/project-rachel/ <u>Project Rachel</u> 504.832.1503 Free, confidential, professional counseling for healing after abortion.

Rachel' Vineyard Retreat
504.460.9360 rachelsvineyard.org
Open to all suffering after an abortion.

Catholic Counseling Service
Professional, confidential counseling 2814 S. Carrollton Ave., NOLA. 504–861–6245. ccs@arch-no.org

<u>Woman's New Life</u> womansnewlife.com Professional counseling for postabortive healing. 504-831-3117. 4612 S. Claiborne, N.O.

Red Bird Ministries redbird.love
Grief support ministry for child loss of any age and circumstance

<u>Run errands</u> and start a <u>meal train</u> for newly bereaved families

<u>Pray</u> a rosary for all those who have suffered the loss of a child

