



## Lenten Life Calendar

Saint Athanasius Lutheran Church

Lent 2020

Lent is all about life. Jesus' life. Your life.  
Jesus giving His life for your life, that you may have life.  
Abundant life.

Satan wants to take that life, your life, and make it his.  
Destroy it. Twist it. Make you think life a curse, not a blessing.

Jesus says this: *The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.  
I came that they may have life and have it abundantly* (John 10:10).

Satan is a thief. Jesus gives.  
And in His death and resurrection, Jesus gives us life again.  
Abundant life.  
Eternal life.

Lent is therefore the perfect time to think about life and pray for life.  
For your life, your neighbor's life, all life.  
Young life, old life, disabled life, unwanted life.  
To remember again that all life is precious to God.  
For He died to save every life.  
Your life.

Please use this calendar this Lenten season to reflect on the gift of life,  
the ways life is thought about wrongly today,  
and to pray for life.  
All life.

And if your heart is so moved,  
consider giving some Lenten alms to support the gift of life,  
as suggested at the end of each week.

*For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor,  
so that you by his poverty might become rich* (2 Corinthians 8:9).

~ Saint Athanasius Commission on Mercy

## Suggestion for How to Use This Calendar

There is no right or wrong way to use this calendar. This is only a suggestion . . .

- (1.) Read the verse assigned in the morning, along with the short prayer.
- (2.) Try to keep this verse and prayer in mind throughout the day.
- (3.) If you need help, since they are short, try writing them on an index card or a small piece of paper so you can have them with you and read them throughout the day.
- (4.) If you are ambitious, try memorizing the verse for the day!
- (5.) Pray at the end of the day, adding your own thoughts to the prayer, including those you thought about during the day and their needs, as well as your own needs.
- (6.) If your heart is so moved, consider making a special Lenten gift to the organization listed at the end of each full week.

### February 26 - 29 The Gift of Life

February 26 Ash Wednesday	Read: 1 John 3:16 Pray: Jesus, thank You for loving me. Help me to love others. All others. Amen.
Thursday February 27	Read: Colossians 3:3-4 Pray: Jesus, help me always remember that my life is safe in Your hands. Amen.
Friday February 28	Read: Ezekiel 18:32 Pray: Jesus, help all people turn to You and not to death for all they need. Amen.
Saturday February 29	Read: Proverbs 31:8-9 Pray: Jesus, help me to open my mouth and speak for all who need my help. Amen.

**Week of Lent 1: March 2 - 7**  
**Life Issue: Abortion**

Monday March 2	Read: Deuteronomy 30:19 Pray: Jesus, help all people (including me!) choose life, not death. Amen.
Tuesday March 3	Read: Luke 23:34 Pray: Jesus, help all who have had abortions find the forgiveness and life they need in You. Amen.
Wednesday March 4	Read: Jeremiah 1:5 Pray: Jesus, every life is planned and wanted by You. Help me and all people know that and see everyone as valuable and precious, as You do. Amen.
Thursday March 5	Read: Psalm 139:13 Pray: Jesus, thank You for the life You have given me, and for carefully knitting me together in my mother's womb. Amen.
Friday March 6	Read: Mark 10:16 Pray: Jesus, bless me and all children with Your loving embrace, and help us all embrace one another with Your love. Amen.
Saturday March 7	Read: Psalm 72:4 Pray: Jesus, deliver the children of the needy, the lives of all the unborn. Amen.

*If your heart is so moved, consider making an additional, special Lenten gift for the **Assist Pregnancy Center** to help families in need turn to life, not death, and rejoice in the gift of life given by God. (Designate on your check or envelope or electronic form what part of your offering is for Assist.)*

**Week of Lent 2: March 9 - 14**  
**Life Issue: Fathers and Mothers**

Monday March 9	<p>Read: Ephesians 6:4</p> <p>Pray: Jesus, help all fathers and mothers fulfill their sacred calling. Amen.</p>
Tuesday March 10	<p>Read: John 14:18</p> <p>Pray: Jesus, You have promised not to leave us as orphans. Thank You for Your love and care for me. Amen.</p>
Wednesday March 11	<p>Read: Proverbs 30:11</p> <p>Pray: Jesus, help all children honor, serve, obey, love, and cherish their parents. Amen.</p>
Thursday March 12	<p>Read: Psalm 27:10</p> <p>Pray: Jesus, forgive those fathers and mothers who have neglected the care of their children and help them be faithful both to You and the children You have given them. Amen.</p>
Friday March 13	<p>Read: 2 Timothy 1:5</p> <p>Pray: Jesus, help all parents pass the faith down to their children, raising them to know You as their Saviour. Amen.</p>
Saturday March 14	<p>Read: Luke 1:17</p> <p>Pray: Jesus, turn the hearts of all fathers (and mothers!) to their children, that all children be loved and wanted and cared for. Amen.</p>

*If your heart is so moved, consider making an additional, special Lenten gift for **Bethany Christian Services**, an organization that helps parents and families with counseling, adoption, foster care, and other needed life services. (Designate on your check or envelope or electronic form what part of your offering is for Bethany.)*

**Week of Lent 3: March 16 - 21**  
**Life Issue: Miscarriage, Stillborn**

Monday March 16	Read: Isaiah 55:8-9 Pray: Jesus, comfort the childless and strengthen them in the sure and certain knowledge of Your love for them, even in the midst of sorrows and things we cannot understand. Amen.
Tuesday March 17	Read: Psalm 77:9 Pray: Jesus, in the midst of sorrow help all believe that You have not forgotten them and are always with them. Amen.
Wednesday March 18	Read: Matthew 2:18 Pray: Jesus, comfort those who mourn the loss of children. Amen.
Thursday March 19	Read: Psalm 42:5-6a Pray: Jesus, raise up all whose souls are cast down. Amen.
Friday March 20	Read: Romans 8:32 Pray: Heavenly Father, you know what it's like to lose Your Son. Give resurrection hope to all who mourn loved ones. Amen.
Saturday March 21	Read: Matthew 18:14 Pray: Jesus, we know You want no one to perish. Help me and all people know and rely on Your great and steadfast love for us. Amen.

*If your heart is so moved, consider making an additional, special Lenten gift for **Through the Heart**, an organization that helps those grieving the loss of children. (Designate on your check or envelope or electronic form what part of your offering is for this cause.)*

**Week of Lent 4: March 23 - 28**  
**Life Issue: Mercy Killing, Euthanasia, the Aged**

Monday March 23	Read: Psalm 31:15a Pray: Jesus, our times, our lives are in Your hands. Grant that all people may live out their lives in full and in peace. Amen.
Tuesday March 24	Read: Philippians 1:21 Pray: A Christian death means life eternal, but Jesus, help those who struggle wait for Your time with patience and faith. Amen.
Wednesday March 25	Read: John 8:12 Pray: Jesus, shine the light of Your love on all that we aim always to care and never to kill. Amen.
Thursday March 26	Read: Isaiah 46:3-4 Pray: Jesus, carry the weak and aged, help them know Your love and how precious they are to You. Amen.
Friday March 27	Read: Matthew 9:36 Pray: Jesus, help me have compassion on all people, to love and to care, as You did. Amen.
Saturday March 28	Read: Proverbs 16:31 Pray: Jesus, help us to honor and care for the elderly. Amen.

*If your heart is so moved, consider making an additional, special Lenten gift for **Lutherans for Life** to help them educate people on the value of all life, no matter how young or old, abled or disabled. (Designate on your check or envelope or electronic form what part of your offering is for LFL.)*

**Week of Lent 5: March 30 - April 4**  
**Life Issue: Assisted Suicide, Mental Illness, Suffering**

Monday March 30	<p>Read: Psalm 121:7</p> <p>Pray: Jesus, when evil seems to overwhelm, help me and all people remember that we have a sure refuge in You. Amen.</p>
Tuesday March 31	<p>Read: Lamentations 3:22-23</p> <p>Pray: Jesus, when all seems lost, help the suffering in Your faithfulness and love. Amen.</p>
Wednesday April 1	<p>Read: John 14:27</p> <p>Pray: Jesus, give peace to all who are troubled in mind and spirit. Amen.</p>
Thursday April 2	<p>Read: Psalm 18:6</p> <p>Pray: Jesus, help us to pray in our distress and answer us with Your good. Amen.</p>
Friday April 3	<p>Read: 2 Corinthians 12:10</p> <p>Pray: Jesus, be the strength of all who are weak. Amen.</p>
Saturday April 4	<p>Read: Matthew 11:28-29</p> <p>Pray: Jesus, many in this world are troubled and confused. Grant them rest and faith in You. Amen.</p>

*If your heart is so moved, consider making an additional, special Lenten gift for **Community Residences, Inc.**, a local group dedicated to helping individuals with mental health needs and developmental disabilities. (Make sure to designate on your check or envelope or electronic form what part of your offering is for CRi.)*

**Holy Week: April 6 - 11**  
**The Redemption of Life**

Monday April 6	Read: 1 Corinthians 15:54b-57 Pray: Jesus, this week we remember Your great victory, the victory of life over death! Help me live always with this confidence. Amen.
Tuesday April 7	Read: Genesis 1:31a Pray: Lord God, all that You have made is good. Help me to see all people and all life as good and valuable and precious, as You do. Amen.
Wednesday April 8	Read: Romans 6:5 Pray: Thank You, Jesus, for baptizing me that I have life now and forever with You. Amen.
Thursday April 9	Read: John 6:48 Pray: Jesus, feed me with the bread of life tonight as I receive Your Body and Blood and remember that You gave Your life for me. For me! Amen.
Friday April 10	Read: Isaiah 49:15-16a Pray: Lord Jesus, You died for me to give me life. Give me joy as Your child. Amen.
Saturday April 11	Read: Isaiah 25:9 Pray: Jesus, as we celebrate Your resurrection tomorrow, let all people rejoice and be glad in You and all that You have done for us, to give us life. Amen.

*If your heart is so moved, consider making an additional, special Lenten gift for **LCMS International Mission**, to help our missionaries proclaim the love and life of Christ to a lost and dying world. (Make sure to designate on your check or envelope or electronic form what part of your offering is for LCMS Int'l Mission.)*