

*The Lord is near to all who call on Him,
to all who call on Him in truth.*

PSALM 145:18



ON OUR KNEES

31 Days of Prayer for Life

DEAR FRIEND,

We invite you to join **On Our Knees**, an ecumenical nationwide prayer initiative for the unborn and for the U.S. Supreme Court as it reconsiders abortion law in America.

In *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, the U.S. Supreme Court is reviewing Mississippi's law limiting abortion after 15 weeks of pregnancy. The law was passed in 2018 by overwhelming majorities in the Mississippi state legislature and signed by then-Governor Phil Bryant. Specifically, the Supreme Court will consider whether all pre-viability bans on abortion are unconstitutional.

The *Dobbs* decision is expected in the summer of 2022. While a range of outcomes is possible, our prayer is that *Roe v. Wade* will be upheld and lives will be saved. Further consideration of laws protecting the unborn would be returned to the 50 states, where citizens' voices can be considered and where lawmakers must answer to the voters.

Science has advanced considerably since *Roe* and *Casey* were decided in 1973 and 1992 respectively. Modern technology allows us to observe more about life in the womb than ever before. We know that by 15 weeks, children in the womb have fully formed noses and lips, eyelids and eyebrows; they can suck their thumbs; and they feel pain. Yet the United States remains one of a small handful of countries – including China and North Korea – to permit late-term abortion on demand. By contrast, 47 out of 50 European nations limit elective abortion prior to 15 weeks.

We know unborn children are human beings who deserve protection: now is the time to humanize our laws.

Lawmakers across America, acting on the will of the people, have done just that – introducing more than 500 pro-life bills this year alone. We pray the Supreme Court will continue the work begun in the states.

On Our Knees calls upon the Lord asking for His mercy and favor. We aim to join the scores of people who have been praying faithfully and working valiantly on behalf of the unborn. Whether you have been engaged in this work for decades or today is your first day, we welcome you to join us in prayer.

We encourage you to join our weekly 15-minute guided prayer calls – by dialing **(833) 380-0736** on **Mondays at 8:30 pm Eastern/5:30 pm Pacific** – and to use the **On Our Knees: 31 Days of Prayer for Life** prayer guide.

Please visit dobbscase.com for more information, including links to Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch's outstanding brief. In the introduction she states clearly: "Under the Constitution, may a State prohibit elective abortions before viability? Yes. Why? Because nothing in constitutional text, structure, history, or tradition supports a right to abortion... *Roe* and *Casey* are egregiously wrong... [and] have proven hopelessly unworkable."

Pray with us for an end to abortion in America.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Dannenfelser, Fileen Bakke, Diane Black, Sheri Schulze, Kristen Short

HOW TO USE THIS PRAYER GUIDE



This prayer guide was created for anyone who wants to pray for themselves, their families, their community, or our nation. It is intended specifically to be used to pray for our nation during the roughly nine months (October 2021-June 2022) that the United States Supreme Court will hear arguments and render a decision on *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* reviewing the Mississippi law limiting elective abortions after 15 weeks' gestation.

This prayer guide is intended to unite us in entreating God to move mightily in our nation, that His perfect plan will be accomplished to His glory. The guide can be used for individual or group daily devotions and prayer. There is an entry for each day of the month. You are encouraged to share the guide with friends, members of your church, Bible studies, and prayer groups. You might ask a friend to join you in praying daily for the unborn and this landmark Supreme Court case. If you are already part of a weekly or monthly prayer group, please consider using this guide to pray together, using the day of the month that your group meets.

Each day begins with an attribute of God, our perfect and loving Father, and includes Holy Scripture amplifying that attribute. The recommended pattern of prayer follows what may be a familiar ACTS (adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication) order of prayer, simplified slightly by combining a time for praise and thanksgiving.

- Adoration, or praise, focuses on who God is and what we know about His character through the Bible.
- Confession is our response, acknowledging our sinfulness and need for God's forgiving love.
- Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on all that God has done in our lives and in the lives of those we love.
- Supplication, or intercession, concludes our prayer with a time to make requests for our needs and for the needs of others.

You are encouraged to add your own Bible verses and prayers as you progress through the month.

The New International Version (NIV) has been used along with a couple of prayers from the Book of Common Prayer (BCP). A word of profound gratitude for the inspiration provided by two books: *Daily ACTS* by Lalla Lee Campsen and *31 Days of Praise* by Ruth Myers.



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DAY 1: GOD IS OUR *Creator.*



Then God said, "Let us make man in Our image, in Our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. –Genesis 1:26-27

Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and His understanding no one can fathom. –Isaiah 40:28

For by Him (Jesus) all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him. –Colossians 1:16

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, Your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be. How precious to me are Your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! –Psalm 139:13-17

CONFESSION

Search me, O God, and know my heart. Try me and know my thoughts. And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting! –Psalm 139:23-24

SUPPLICATION

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we give You humble thanks for all Your goodness and kindness to us and to all whom You have made. We thank You for our creation, preservation, and the blessings of this life. We ask Your forgiveness for the many ways we have not honored You with our lips and in our lives. (Book of Common Prayer)

Give us new vision and new energy, we pray, to proclaim Your truth, especially Your magnificent creation displayed in the lives of babies, each of whom is unique and precious in Your sight. We pray that each one would also be precious to us.

We pray for a new dawn in our nation when all persons will recognize and celebrate the value of all life. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done...*

DAY 2: GOD IS *Love.*



How precious is Your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of Your wings. –Psalm 36:7

Put Your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with Him is full redemption. –Psalm 130:7

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgement, because in this world we are like him. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear... We love because He first loved us. –1 John 4:16-19

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in Him." –Lamentations 3:22-24

CONFESSION

You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy." But I say to you, "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have?" –Matthew 5:43-46

SUPPLICATION

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hope all things, endures all things. –1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Loving Father, grant us the grace to love as You love; to love the unlovable and even to love our enemies, by the power of Your Holy Spirit. We believe and hope all things because of the working of Your love in our hearts. Today we pray for all women who are pregnant, and for their babies in the womb. We thank You for the gift of life and ask You to give each expectant mother abounding love for the new life inside her. We pray especially for women who are alone, frightened, or discouraged, who may be contemplating abortion. Lord, please bring people around them to love and encourage them today.

We pray for a powerful awakening of love for the unborn in our land. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

DAY 3: GOD IS *Just.*

For the word of the Lord is right and true; He is faithful in all He does. The Lord loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of His unfailing love. –Psalm 33:4-5

For the Lord is righteous, He loves justice; the upright shall behold His face. –Psalm 11:7

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

I will praise you, O Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all Your wonders. I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing to Your name, O Most High. The Lord is known by His justice. –Psalm 9:1-2,16

I will proclaim the name of the Lord. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! He is the Rock, His works are perfect, and all His ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is He. –Deuteronomy 31:17

CONFESSION

When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood. Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause. –Isaiah 1:15-17

SUPPLICATION

O Lord, You are the One who has shown us what is good and what is required of us. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, empower our leaders, especially now the members of the Supreme Court, to *“act justly, and to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God.”* –Micah 6:8

We pray today for Justice Samuel Alito. We give thanks for His abiding faith in you, and in the teachings of Scripture and the Church. O Lord, grant him Your divine wisdom to discern what is just and merciful. Embolden and empower him with the ability to articulate, in a measured and clear manner, the truths he upholds. Protect him and his family from spiritual attacks during the *Dobbs* case.

We pray that he will continue to uphold the value of all human life. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

For more insight into how to pray for Justice Alito, please read his profile on page 33.

DAY 4: GOD IS *Trustworthy*. HIS WORD IS *True*.



For the word of the Lord is right and true; He is faithful in all He does. –Psalm 33:4

The works of His hands are faithful and just; all His precepts are trustworthy. –Psalm 111:17

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

I will give thanks to the Lord because of His righteousness and will sing praise to the name of the Lord Most High. –Psalm 7:17

Your promises have been thoroughly tested; Your law is true; Your statutes are forever right. –Psalm 119:140,142,144

CONFESSION

Yet You know me, O Lord; You see me and test my thoughts about You. –Jeremiah 12:3

My brothers and sisters, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring him back, remember this: whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save him from death and cover over a multitude of sins. –James 5:19-20

SUPPLICATION

In You our fathers put their trust; they trusted and You delivered them. They cried to You and were saved; in You they trusted and were not disappointed. –Psalm 22:4-5

God of all truth, we pray that You will turn our nation from error and sin. Teach us to love and obey Your eternal truths, that we may flourish in righteousness and grace. Today we pray for Attorney General Lynn Fitch of Mississippi. We thank You for her public service. We praise You for her courage and convictions demonstrated in the brief she and her office submitted in defense of Mississippi's ban on abortions after 15 weeks.

Lord, we ask You to protect her and to grant her Your favor during this important Supreme Court hearing. May her powerful words be taken to heart around the nation, exposing the lies that undergird the abortion agenda.

We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

Attorney General Fitch's profile and an introduction to her brief can be found on page 32. To read the entire brief, please visit dobbscase.com

DAY 5: GOD IS *Merciful.*

You are a gracious and merciful God. –Nehemiah 9:31

My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for He has been mindful of the humble state of His servant. His mercy extends to those who fear Him, from generation to generation. –Luke 1:46-48,50

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Praise be to the Lord, for He has heard my cry for mercy. The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to Him in song. –Psalm 28:6-7

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. –1 Peter 1:3

CONFESSION

Remember, O Lord, Your great mercy and love, for they are from old. Remember not the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways, according to Your love remember me, for You are good, O Lord. –Psalm 25:6-7

SUPPLICATION

Father God, may those in authority in our nation “be merciful, just as our Father is merciful”. –Luke 6:36

Remind each of us today that as we are shown mercy, so You desire that we temper justice with mercy, for “judgement without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful.” –James 2:13

O God, today we pray for all the attorneys who will present oral and written arguments in the *Dobbs* case. We thank You for all those who contributed amicus briefs supporting life, and we ask that You fill their hearts and minds with the truth and reality of Your creation, especially the creation of Your unborn children. Give each one, we pray, an awe-inspired respect for the sanctity of all of life. We pray that the legal arguments in all the written briefs and oral arguments will shine the light of truth on the preservation and protection of all human life.

Fill the hearts of all who respond with Your abounding mercy and grace. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

To read the amicus briefs, please visit dobbscase.com.

DAY 6: GOD IS THE *Giver of Life.*

In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. –John 1:4

*Jesus said, I am the bread of life; I am the living bread that came down from heaven.
–John 6:35,48,51*

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. –John 10:10

*I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies.
–John 11:25*

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

*For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
–Romans 6:23*

Yet, O Lord, You are our Father. We are the clay, You are the potter; we are all the work of Your hand. –Isaiah 64:8

CONFESSION

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him. Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. –John 3:16-18

SUPPLICATION

Father God, thank You for the gift of life, and for all the gifts You in Your goodness have given us. Today we pray for Justice Amy Coney Barrett. We thank You for her elevation to the Supreme Court and for her dedication to You, to her family, to her profession and to the Constitution. We ask that You continue to give her the strength to serve in her many capacities. We pray for her marriage and for her children. We ask that her role as a mother and justice would be an inspiration to women around the world.

Lord, give her Your wisdom, that she will speak and write in truth and will honor You with her words and opinions. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

For more insight into how to pray for Justice Barrett, please turn to page 34.

DAY 7: GOD IS *Patient.*



Do not forget this one thing, dear friends: with the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. Instead He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. –2 Peter 3:8-9

Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation. –2 Peter 3:15

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, is slow to anger and abounding in love and faithfulness. –Exodus 34:6

CONFESSION

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners – of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display His unlimited patience as an example to those who would believe in Him and receive eternal life. –1 Timothy 1:15-16

SUPPLICATION

O Lord, grant us patience to wait for Your perfect timing. Build in us the strength to persevere in prayer and good works, knowing that *"perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."* –James 1:4

It is difficult for us to be patient, especially when we know the lives of Your children are being ended prematurely. Help us to trust You and Your timing. Give us steadfast hearts to continue persevering on behalf of the unborn. Infuse us with Your Holy Spirit so that we may continue the work You have given us to do.

We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

DAY 8: GOD IS *Wise & All-Knowing.*

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. –Psalm 19:7

The Lord Almighty is wonderful in counsel and magnificent in wisdom. –Isaiah 28:29

The wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness. –James 3:17-18

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Who is wise? He will realize these things. Who is discerning: he will understand them. The ways of the Lord are right; the righteous walk in them, but the rebellious stumble in them. –Hosea 14:9

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable His judgments, and His paths beyond tracing out! Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been His counselor? –Romans 11:33-34

CONFESSION

Wash the evil from your heart and be saved. How long will you harbor wicked thoughts? –Jeremiah 4:14

This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in His presence whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and He knows everything. –1 John 3:19-20

SUPPLICATION

Who is wise among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. –James 3:13

Father, we ask that You pour out Your perfect wisdom on all nine of the Supreme Court Justices. Uphold them in their service and sustain them in their struggles. Please guide them into all truth and understanding, that they may serve our nation, and Your purposes, faithfully and in humility.

Give each of them, and us, we pray, a new vision for a culture of life. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

DAY 9: GOD IS *Holy* & *Pure*.

Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of His glory. –Isaiah 6:3

Your ways, O God, are holy. What God is so great as our God? You are the God who performs miracles; You display Your power among the peoples. With Your mighty arm You redeemed Your people. –Psalm 77:13-15

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Let them praise Your great and awesome name! He is holy. Exalt the Lord our God; worship at His footstool; He is holy. Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at His holy mountain; for the Lord our God is holy. –Psalm 99:3,5,9

CONFESSION

For this is what the high and lofty One says – He who lives forever, whose name is holy: I live in a high and holy place, but also with him who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite. –Isaiah 57:15

SUPPLICATION

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes. –Psalm 19:7-8

Holy God, we pray today for Justice Stephen Breyer. We give thanks for his life and his long service on the Supreme Court. We pray that the Jewish faith he was raised with, worshipping the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and his passion for liberty will stir up in him a reverence for the right to life – for the born and those yet to be born. Help him see the work of Your hands –Your children – as holy, valuable, and worthy of protection.

Give him an open and humble heart, we entreat You, that he will fairly weigh and analyze the merits of the *Dobbs* case. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

For more insight into how to pray for Justice Breyer, turn to page 35.

DAY 10: GOD IS OUR *Living Water.*



On that day, living water will flow out from Jerusalem, half to the eastern sea and half to the western sea, in summer and in winter. The Lord will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one Lord, and His name the only name. –Zechariah 14:8-9

Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked Him and He would have given you living water." "Sir," the woman said, "You have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can You get this living water?" Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." –John 4:10, 11, 13

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

On the last and greatest day of the feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Whoever believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." –John 7:37-38

"It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life." –Revelation 21:6

CONFESSION

Blessed is the person who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on His law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers. –Psalm 1:1-3

SUPPLICATION

If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing of the finger and malicious talk, and if you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday. The Lord will guide you always; He will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail. –Isaiah 58:9-11

Gracious Father, we ask that You refresh us with Your living water. Strengthen and sustain all those who serve You. Today we pray for the churches and communities of faith in our nation and their members who seek to love and serve their communities. We pray that they will uphold the dignity and value of human life, from conception to natural death. We pray that pastors, priests, and others would courageously speak up for "the least of these."

Help them not to shy away from difficult topics but rather to proclaim Your Truth. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

DAY 11: GOD IS *Eternal & Unchanging.*



Lord, You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or You brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God. –Psalm 90:1-2

In the beginning You laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain; they will all wear out like a garment. Like clothing You will change them and they will be discarded. But You remain the same and Your years will never end. –Psalm 102:25-27

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord, is the Rock eternal. –Isaiah 26:4

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen. –1 Timothy 1:17

CONFESSION

Don't be deceived, my dear children. Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. –James 1:16-17

SUPPLICATION

Your word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues through all generations; You established the earth, and it endures. Your laws endure to this day, for all things serve You. If Your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction. I will never forget Your precepts, for by them You have preserved my life. –Psalm 119:89-93

O Lord, Your word and Your laws are eternal, true and good. We pray today for all in authority in our states; for all governors and state legislators who create and administer laws that govern the people. We ask You to give them the wisdom and courage to enact laws that protect the sanctity of life. Grant them courage and clarity of mind to speak out and advocate for the well-being of women and children.

We pray the same for our leaders at the federal level. Give our president, vice president, members of the cabinet, and congress a spirit of humility and a reminder that America is one nation under God.

We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

DAY 12: GOD IS *Compassionate & Kind.*



Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. –Lamentations 3:22-23

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. –Psalm 34:18

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. The Lord is good to all; He has compassion on all He has made. All You have made will praise You, O Lord; Your saints will extol You. –Psalm 145:8-10

But You, O Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness. Turn to me and have mercy on me; grant Your strength to Your servant. –Psalm 86:15-16

CONFESSION

Do you show contempt for the riches of His kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance? –Romans 2:4

SUPPLICATION

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. –Colossians 3:12-13

Kind and gracious Lord, we pray today for all those who staff the US Supreme Court, and especially those who clerk for the Justices. Help each of them to "be kind and compassionate to others, forgiving others, just as in Christ God forgave them." –Ephesians 4:32

Give them the abundant wisdom and discernment that comes from Your hand. Fill them with Your love for others.

We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: Our Father...

DAY 13: GOD *Cares* FOR THE WEAK & POWERLESS.

The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and His understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. –Isaiah 40:28-31

The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down. –Psalm 145:14

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Jesus, knowing their thoughts, took a little child and had him stand beside Him. Then He said to them, “Whoever welcomes this little child in My name welcomes Me, and whoever welcomes Me welcomes the one who sent Me. For he who is least among you all – he is the greatest.” –Luke 9:47-48

CONFESSION

Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You something to drink? When did we see You a stranger and invite You in, or needing clothes and clothe You? When did we see You sick or in prison and go to visit You?” The King will reply, “I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for Me.” –Matthew 25:37-40

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world. –James 1:27

SUPPLICATION

He will defend the afflicted among the people and save the children of the needy; He will crush the oppressor. For He will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help. He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death. He will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in His sight. –Psalm 72:4,12-14

O Lord, You are a powerful defender of the weak and oppressed. We lift up all who work to rescue and defend those who have no one to help them. Today we pray for Justice Neil Gorsuch. Father, grant him discernment that he may apply his moral and legal convictions to the *Dobbs* case with great wisdom and grace. We pray also for the Gorsuch family, that their lives will be a model to our nation of fidelity and faithfulness.

We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

For more insight into how to pray for Justice Gorsuch, turn to page 36.

DAY 14: GOD GIVES *Joy.*

Splendor and majesty are before Him; strength and joy in His dwelling place.
–1 Chronicles 16:27

The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. –Psalm 126:3

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

You make known to me the path of life; You will fill me with joy in Your presence, with eternal pleasures at Your right hand. –Psalm 16:11

The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him, and He helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise Him. –Psalm 28:7

Sing joyfully to the Lord, you righteous, it is fitting for the upright to praise Him.
–Psalm 33:1

CONFESSION

When anxiety was great within me, Your consolation brought joy to my soul. –Psalm 94:19

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from Your presence or take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me. –Psalm 51:10-12

SUPPLICATION

His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master." –Matthew 25:21

God, we receive Your joy and acknowledge that our joy comes, not from our circumstances, but from Your eternal love. We pray today for all those who work and volunteer in pregnancy help centers nationwide. We pray that the joy of the Lord would radiate from each one and uplift every woman who enters their doors.

We pray that these pregnancy center workers will serve as Your good and faithful servants as they promote and protect the life of the unborn and their mothers. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

DAY 15: GOD IS *Mighty & Powerful.*

The Lord reigns, He is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed in majesty and is armed with strength. The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved. Mightier than the thunder of the great waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea – the Lord on high is mighty.
–Psalm 93:1,4

Christ received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to Him from the majestic glory saying, “This is my beloved Son, with Him I am well pleased.” –2 Peter 1:17

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are His. He changes times and seasons; He sets up kings and deposes them. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning. He reveals deep and hidden things; He knows what lies in darkness and light dwells within him. I thank and praise You, O God of my fathers: You have given me wisdom and power. –Daniel 2:20-23

And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
–Isaiah 9:6

CONFESSION

Say to God, “How awesome are Your deeds! So great is Your power that Your enemies cringe before You.” –Psalm 66:3

SUPPLICATION

The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation. Who among the gods is like You, O Lord? Who is like You – majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?
–Exodus 15:2,11

Father God, we praise You for Your power and majesty. Today we pray for Justice Elena Kagan. We pray that she will experience Your holiness and will work for Your glory during her time on the Supreme Court. We pray that You will enlighten her with Your truth and inspire her to write her opinions with discernment. In Your mercy, hear our prayers.

We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

For more insight into how to pray for Justice Kagan, turn to page 37.

DAY 16: GOD *Redeems.*



I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end He will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see Him with my own eyes – I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me! –Job 19:25-27

Our Redeemer – the Lord Almighty is His name – is the Holy One of Israel. –Isaiah 78:35

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the Lord say this – those He redeemed from the hand of the foe, those He gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south. –Psalm 107:1-3

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come. All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation. –2 Corinthians 5:17-18

CONFESSION

They remembered that God was their Rock, that God Most High was their Redeemer. –Psalm 78:35

SUPPLICATION

O God our King, by the resurrection of Your Son Jesus Christ, You conquered sin, put death to flight, and gave us the hope of everlasting life. Redeem all our days by this victory; forgive our sins, banish our fears, make us bold to praise You and to do Your will; and steel us to wait for the consummation of Your kingdom on the last Day; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Book of Common Prayer)

Redeem our nation, Lord. Help us to turn to You, to oppose that which is evil and to do that which is good. May the *Dobbs* case be a vehicle for our collective redemption, an opportunity to right the wrongs of our nation.

Help us to put our trust in You. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

DAY 17: GOD IS OUR *Father.*



Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. –Matthew 6:9-10

... You received the Spirit of sonship. And by Him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs – heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ. –Romans 8:15-17

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

"I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters," says the Lord Almighty. –2 Corinthians 6:18

Everyone who listens to the Father and learns from Him comes to Me. No one has seen the Father except the One who is from God; only He has seen the Father. I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life. –John 6:45-47

CONFESSION

"Abba, Father," Jesus said, "everything is possible for You. Take this cup from Me. Yet not what I will, but what You will." –Mark 14:36

SUPPLICATION

A father to the fatherless, defender of widows, is God in His holy dwelling. God sets the lonely in families. –Psalm 68:5-6

God, we thank You our perfect Father, for calling us Your beloved children. No matter the imperfections and deficits of our earthly fathers, we look to You as You demonstrate to Your children perfectly consistent love and trust. Today we pray for all fathers, and especially for those who are becoming fathers for the first time. Give each a desire to love and protect his child(ren), and to model faithfulness to his family.

We also ask that You embolden all men to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves and bless the men who bravely give voice to the voiceless.

Enable fathers to seek Your help when they falter, and to look to You for strength, guidance, and forgiveness. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

DAY 18: GOD *Shares our Suffering.*

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.
–Psalm 34:18

Shout for joy, O heavens; rejoice, O earth; burst into song, O mountains! For the Lord comforts His people and will have compassion on His afflicted ones. But Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me, the Lord has forgotten me.” Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you. See, I have engraved you on the palms of My hands. –Isaiah 49:13-16

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

I waited patiently for the Lord; He turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; He set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord. –Psalm 40:1-3

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. –1 Corinthians 1:3-4

CONFESSION

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. –Psalm 139:23-24

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces He was despised and we esteemed Him not. –Isaiah 53:3

SUPPLICATION

Father, today we pray for Justice Brett Kavanaugh. We give thanks for his Catholic upbringing and faith. We commend his life of public service and jurisprudence. Grant to him, we pray, continued strength and wisdom in his work on the Supreme Court. Equip him mentally, physically, and emotionally for the tasks before him. Protect his family from slander and discouragement.

Give him a strong voice and leadership as he reviews the *Dobbs* case. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

For more insight into how to pray for Justice Kavanaugh, turn to page 38.

DAY 19: GOD IS OUR *Healer.*



The Lord said, "If you listen carefully to the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in His eyes, if you pay attention to His commands and keep all His decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, who heals you."

–Exodus 15:26

Surely He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten by Him, and afflicted. But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed. –Isaiah 53:4-5

"But I will restore you to health and heal Your wounds," declares the Lord, "because you are called an outcast, Zion for whom no one cares." From them will come songs of thanksgiving and the sound of rejoicing. I will add to their numbers, and they will not be decreased; I will bring them honor, and they will not be disdained. –Jeremiah 30:17, 19

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits – who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. –Psalm 103:2-5

CONFESSION

And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. –James 5:15-16

SUPPLICATION

Father of all mercies, we bring to Your throne of grace women who have had abortions or who are contemplating having an abortion. We ask You to surround them with Your perfect love and protection. For those thinking about abortion today, please bring family, friends, or health workers to them to show them another path. We ask You to provide in every way – emotionally, financially, physically, and spiritually – for their well-being and for the well-being of their babies.

We pray for healing of the hearts of all who have had abortions. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

DAY 20: GOD *Forgives.*

Now may the Lord's strength be displayed, just as You have declared: "The Lord is slow to anger, abounding in love and forgiving sin and rebellion. Yet He does not leave the guilty unpunished; He punishes the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation." In accordance with Your great love, forgive the sin of these people, just as You have pardoned them from the time they left Egypt until now. –Numbers 14:17-19

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. –2 Chronicles 7:14

For God has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. –Colossians 1:13-14

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. –Colossians 3:12-14

CONFESSION

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. –1 John 1:9

Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. –Luke 11:4

SUPPLICATION

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I call to You all day long. Bring joy to Your servant, for to You O Lord, I lift up my soul. You are forgiving and good, O Lord, abounding in love to all who call to You. Hear my prayer, O Lord; listen to my cry for mercy. In the day of my trouble I will call to You, for You will answer me. –Psalm 86:3-7

Loving Father, today we pray for all persons involved in the abortion industry; for all doctors, nurses, case workers, and administrators who work at Planned Parenthood and all other abortion centers. We pray that Your word and Your truth will pierce their hearts. We pray for godly sorrow that leads to true repentance.

You promise forgiveness for all who come to You. We ask for mercy and Your gift of forgiveness for ourselves and for all who have sinned against You. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

DAY 21: GOD GIVES *Peace.*



The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace. –Numbers 6:24-26

You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in You. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord is the Rock eternal. –Isaiah 26:3-4

Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your heart be troubled and do not be afraid. –John 14:27

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition with thanksgiving present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. –Philippians 4:4-7

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you. –2 Thessalonians 3:16

CONFESSION

“There is no peace,” says the Lord, “for the wicked.” –Isaiah 48:22

SUPPLICATION

For He himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in His flesh the law, with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in Himself one new person out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which He put to death their hostility. He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. –Ephesians 2:14-17

We give thanks for the life of Chief Justice John Roberts. Use his legal acumen and leadership skills to enable him to bring a sense of clarity and truth to the legal standings of life and liberty. Embolden the chief justice to uphold the value of life.

We ask that You remind him of his love for his own children, and pray that their adoption would be an overwhelming reminder of the value of every life and the beauty of adoption over abortion. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

For more insight into how to pray for Chief Justice Roberts, turn to page 39.

DAY 22: GOD IS OUR *Refuge & Defender.*



The Lord is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life – of whom shall I be afraid? For in the day of trouble He will keep me safe in His dwelling; He will hide me in the shelter of His tabernacle and set me high upon a rock. –Psalm 27:1,5

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. –Psalm 46:1,11

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.” –Psalm 91:1-2

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

The eternal God is Your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. He will drive out your enemy before you. He is your shield and helper and your glorious sword. –Deuteronomy 33:27,29

But you are a shield around me, O Lord; you bestow glory on me and lift up my head. –Psalm 3:3

Yet the Redeemer is strong; the Lord Almighty is His name. He will vigorously defend their cause so that He may bring rest to their land. –Jeremiah 50:34

CONFESSION

When they cry out to the Lord because of their oppressors, He will send them a savior and defender, and He will rescue them. –Isaiah 19:20

SUPPLICATION

We pray today for all families who have adopted children, or who desire to adopt. We also pray for families who provide foster care for children who need refuge and a defender. Grant these families an abundance of love, endurance, patience and gentleness. We ask that You provide every spiritual, emotional and material resource they need to care for their children. May their homes become a sanctuary for Your children.

We pray also for all those who have cried out to You – for the babies who were never given the opportunity to take a breath and for their mothers who struggle with grief or regret over the decisions they made. We pray for the abortionists who have turned from their wicked ways – thank You for hearing their cries and giving them refuge.

For those who have not, we ask that You soften their hearts so they will recognize the value of Your children. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

DAY 23: GOD IS *Gentle & Humble.*

I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. –Matthew 11:29

He tends His flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in His arms and carries them close to His heart; He gently leads those that have young. –Isaiah 40:11

By the meekness and gentleness of Christ, I Paul appeal to you. –2 Corinthians 10:1

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, daughters of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. –Zechariah 9:9

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross. –Philippians 2:5-8

CONFESSION

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests but also to the interests of others. –Philippians 2:3-4

SUPPLICATION

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give a reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. –1 Peter 3:15-16

Today we intercede for all fostering and adoption agencies, public and private, in our nation. We give You thanks for each individual who labors to join children with loving families. Protect them, we pray, from interference and persecution for their mission. We pray that more families in our nation will open their homes and hearts to adopt a child in need of love.

May our culture embrace foster care and adoption as signs of Your hope and grace. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

DAY 24: GOD IS *Faithful.*

Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; He is the faithful God, keeping His covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love Him and keep His commands.

–Deuteronomy 7:9

For the word of the Lord is right and true; He is faithful in all He does. –Psalm 33:4

The Lord is faithful to all His promises and loving toward all He has made. The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down. –Psalm 145:13-14

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

I will sing of the Lord's great love forever; with my mouth I will make Your faithfulness known through all generations. –Psalm 89:1

Not to us, O Lord, not to us but to Your name be the glory, because of Your love and faithfulness. –Psalm 115:1

CONFESSION

O Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy; in Your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief. –Psalm 143:1

SUPPLICATION

Today we pray for Justice Sonia Sotomayor. We give thanks for her life, for the great strength and determination that have helped her overcome serious challenges in her life. May she work to protect Your precious children for Your glory, and may her Catholic upbringing become more meaningful to her during this season.

Confirm in her heart, loving Lord, the value of the family unit, the gift of motherhood, and the unbreakable bond between a child and her parents. We pray that Justice Sotomayor will *"walk before You faithfully and with wholehearted devotion to do what is good in Your eyes."*
–2 Kings 20:3

We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

For more insight into how to pray for Justice Sotomayor, turn to page 40.

DAY 25: GOD *Hears* OUR PRAYERS.



To the Lord I cry aloud, and He answers me from His holy hill. –Psalm 3:4

Save me, O God, by Your name; vindicate me by Your might. Hear my prayer, O God; listen to the words of my mouth. –Psalm 54:1-2

Listen to my prayer, O God, do not ignore my plea; hear me and answer me. Evening, morning and noon I cry out in distress, and He hears my voice. –Psalm 55:1-2,16-17

I tell You the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete. –John 16:23-24

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Praise be to the Lord, for He showed His wonderful love to me when I was in a besieged city. In my alarm I said, "I am cut off from Your sight!" Yet You heard my cry for mercy when I called to You for help. –Psalm 31:21-22

I love the Lord, for He heard my voice; He heard my cry for mercy. Because He turned His ear to me, I will call on Him as long as I live. –Psalm 116:1-2

CONFESSION

The Lord has heard my cry for mercy; the Lord accepts my prayer. –Psalm 6:9

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groans that word cannot express. And He who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will. –Romans 8:26-27

SUPPLICATION

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us – whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked of Him. –1 John 5:14-15

We lift up the prayer warriors across this country and the globe: men, women, and children who have been faithfully praying for life. Thank You for their dedication. We know You hear their prayers, and we trust Your purposes will be accomplished in Your perfect timing. We pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

DAY 26: GOD IS OUR *Good Shepherd.*



The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, He restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. –Psalm 23:1-3

He tends His flock like a shepherd. He gathers the lambs in His arms and carries them close to His heart; He gently leads those that have young. –Isaiah 40:11

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; for He is our God and we are the people of His pasture, the flock under His care. –Psalm 95:6-7

I am the Good Shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me – just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father – and I lay down my life for the sheep. –John 10:14-15

CONFESSION

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. –Isaiah 53:6

SUPPLICATION

May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen –Hebrews 13:20-21

We acknowledge our need for You, our Good Shepherd. We pray the *Dobbs* case will reveal how our laws and our society have gone astray, how we have been turning to our own ways instead of to You. Help us to lay down our selfishness and to depend on You.

Help us to turn to Your paths of righteousness. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

DAY 27: GOD IS *Hope.*

Show me Your ways, O Lord, teach me Your paths; guide me in Your truth and teach me, for You are God my Savior, and my hope is in You all day long. –Psalm 25:4-5

Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from Him. –Psalm 62:5

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

The Lord delights in those who fear Him, who put their hope in His unfailing love. –Psalm 147:11

And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit. –Romans 5:2-5

God has chosen to make known... the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. –Colossians 1:27

CONFESSION

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; in You I trust, O my God. Do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me. No one whose hope is in You will ever be put to shame. –Psalm 25:1-3

SUPPLICATION

O God our King, by the resurrection of Your Son Jesus Christ, You conquered sin, put death to flight, and gave us the hope of everlasting life. Redeem all our days by this victory; forgive our sins, banish our fears, make us bold to praise You and to do Your will; and steel us to wait for the consummation of Your kingdom on the last Day; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen (Book of Common Prayer)

We give You thanks today for Justice Clarence Thomas, for his long tenure on the Supreme Court, and for the help You gave him to overcome adversity in his early life. We commend to You the strength of his character and faith. We pray that he would not grow weary in doing good, that he would continue to be an advocate and defender for the voiceless. Grant him steadfast endurance against opposition and mean-spirited attacks.

We pray that the evidence of God's faithfulness in His life will serve as inspiration for many. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

For more insight into how to pray for Justice Thomas, turn to page 41.

DAY 28: GOD *Provides.*



I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to His voice, and hold fast to Him. For the Lord is your life, and He will give you many years in the land. – Deuteronomy 30:19-20

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?... I provide water in the desert and streams in the wasteland, to give drink to my people, my chosen, the people I formed for Myself that they may proclaim my praise. –Isaiah 43:19-21

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. –1 Timothy 6:17

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. –Ezekiel 36:26

But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. –Matthew 6:33

I (Jesus) give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. –John 10:28

CONFESSION

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. –Psalm 139:23-24

SUPPLICATION

May the Lord make you increase, both you and your children. May you be blessed by the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. The highest heavens belong to the Lord, but the earth He has given to man. –Psalm 115:14-16

Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from Him. –Psalm 127:3

Father God, help us as a nation to see children as a blessing from You. Please help us reject the notion that children are a burden and an inconvenience. Give us generous hearts to help women choose life. Give women contemplating abortion the support and the fortitude to choose life. Help them, and help us, see Mary, Jesus' mother – who unselfishly said yes to God though she was young – as a model of faith, generosity, and trust. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

DAY 29: GOD IS *Sovereign.*

Then I (King Nebuchadnezzar) praised the Most High; I honored and glorified Him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; His kingdom endures from generation to generation. All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as He pleases with the powers of heaven and peoples of the earth. No one can hold back His hand or say to Him, "What have You done?" –Daniel 4:34-35

God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, Whom no one has seen or can see. To Him be honor and might forever. Amen. –1 Timothy 6:15-16

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Praise be to you, O Lord, God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is Yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom; You are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from You; You are the ruler of all things. In Your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. Now, our God, we give You thanks, and praise Your glorious name. –1 Chronicles 29:10-13

CONFESSION

Most merciful God, we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your Holy Name. Amen. (Book of Common Prayer)

SUPPLICATION

Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; His greatness no one can fathom. One generation will commend Your works to another; they will tell of Your mighty acts. They will speak of the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and I will meditate on Your wonderful works. –Psalm 145:3-5

Father God, we exalt You for Your sovereignty. It is so easy for us to believe we are in control, when in fact, You are the one Who holds all things together. We trust in You *"all things work together for good,"* even incredibly hard things like abortion and grief.

We thank You for Your grace, and we surrender ourselves to You. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

DAY 30: GOD IS *Light.*

The Lord is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life – of whom shall I be afraid? –Psalm 27:1

O Lord my God, You are very great; You are clothed with splendor and majesty. He wraps himself in light as with a garment; He stretches out the heavens like a tent. –Psalm 104:1-2

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. The unfolding of Your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple. –Psalm 119:105,130

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. –Isaiah 9:2

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. –John 1:1-5

When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life. –John 8:12

CONFESSION

This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God. –John 3:19-21

SUPPLICATION

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let Your light shine before men, that they may see Your good deeds and praise Your Father in heaven. –Matthew 5:14-16

Father God, light of the world, we bring to Your throne of grace today all who work in the pro-life movement. We pray that those who are involved in protecting and defending life will shine brightly with Your compassion and truth. We pray that the darkness and lies abounding in our culture surrounding conception, pregnancy and birth will be exposed by Your light.

Give us the strength and grace to continue to advocate for the lives of those who cannot advocate for themselves. We ask this in Your Name and pray as You taught us: *Our Father...*

DAY 31: GOD IS *Victorious.*



Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die." –John 11:25-26

*He will swallow up death forever. The sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces; He will remove the disgrace of His people from all the earth. The Lord has spoken.
– Isaiah 25:8*

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him. –John 3:16-17

Death has been swallowed up in victory. "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God. He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. –1 Corinthians 15:54-57

CONFESSION

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love; according to Your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are proved right when You speak and justified when You judge. – Psalm 51:1-4

SUPPLICATION

The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed. As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. –Psalm 103:6,12

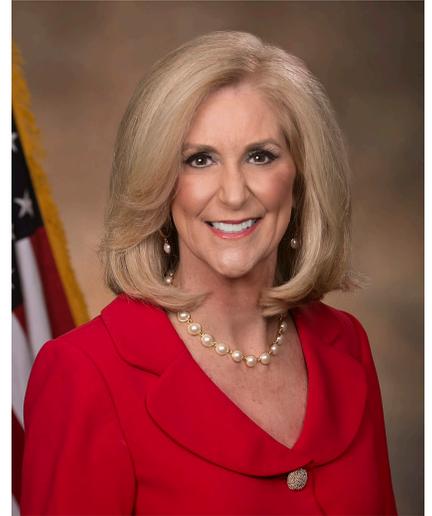
Heavenly Father, we thank You who pour out grace and forgiveness on all who come to You and ask. Today we ask that You pour out grace and mercy on our nation, on families, and particularly on defenseless children, both born and yet to be born. We entreat You to give the Supreme Court Justices courage and discernment to uphold the Mississippi law and to overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

We give You thanks and glory as we look forward to a new era in our land, a rebirth of love and protection for "the least of these" among us. We ask this boldly in Your Name, knowing that it is Your will that none should perish by abortion, as we pray: *Our Father...*

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH



Attorney General Fitch (59) was born and raised in Marshall County, Mississippi. She earned both her undergraduate degree and her Juris Doctorate at the University of Mississippi, beginning her legal career as a Special Assistant Attorney General at the Mississippi Attorney General's office when she was 23. She has more than 35 years of legal experience both in private practice and public service.



Before she was elected Attorney General, Fitch served as State Treasurer for eight years. On January 9, 2020, she was sworn in as Mississippi's 40th Attorney General, making history as the first woman to hold this office.

Fitch has three passions in life: her faith, her family and giving back to others. She and her family are members of Madison United Methodist Church. Fitch has three children: Mackenzie, Marye Will, and John Tucker. She has been active in her community, serving as a member of the boards of several charitable organizations.

The question the Supreme Court will address in the *Dobbs* late-term abortion case is whether all pre-viability prohibitions on elective abortion are unconstitutional. Attorney General Fitch's brief contends that:

- The Supreme Court should uphold the Mississippi law because a rational basis review (showing the state has a legitimate interest in having such a law) supports it.
- The Constitution does not protect a right to abortion or limit the states' authority to restrict abortion.
- The Court's abortion precedents, which subject abortion restrictions to heightened scrutiny, have inflicted severe damage on our nation, the court, and the law, as well as being both wrong and unworkable.
- At a minimum, it is time for the Supreme Court to reject the outdated viability standard, which shackles states to a view of facts that is decades out of date.

To read the full brief, please visit dobbscase.com

JUSTICE SAMUEL ALITO, JR.



Samuel Alito was born in 1950 in Trenton, New Jersey to Italian immigrant Samuel Alito, Sr. and Italian-American Rose Fradusco and grew up in a large and traditional Roman Catholic family. Justice Alito has strong ties to his family's religious and cultural background which influence the way he views social issues to this day. He studied in Italy, wrote his thesis on the Italian legal system, and then practiced law in his hometown of Trenton following his graduation from Yale Law School.



Both of his parents were teachers, his mother eventually becoming a school principal and his dad the director of research for the New Jersey Legislature. His parents' investment in education motivated his own academic success, leading him to graduate as his school's valedictorian and go on to earn multiple bachelor's and graduate degrees. His academic prowess was matched only by his discipline and dedication, as he enrolled in Princeton's ROTC program during his time there. After graduating as a second lieutenant with a military commission, Alito served both active and inactive duty in the U.S. Army Reserve from which he was honorably discharged as a captain in 1980.

He has been married to Martha-Ann for thirty-six years, and the couple have two children: a son, Philip, and a daughter, Laura. Alito met Martha at the library where she worked as a law clerk. The jury is still out on whether his frequent trips to the library were for law or love. Those who know Alito personally say his sarcastic humor is tempered by his mild-mannered demeanor. Even those who disagree with his views generally acknowledge his character.

Outside of law, Alito is passionate about his family and baseball. Combining the two, he coached his son's Little League team, reliving his own glory days as second baseman. His wife Martha is supportive of his love for baseball, and more specifically the Philadelphia Phillies, sending him to a Phillies baseball camp where he was able to take the field with the players. Alito is a "fan favorite" and even has a drink named after him at a local coffee shop near his hometown.

A devout Roman Catholic and a self-proclaimed "practical originalist," Justice Alito has gained a reputation for being the most consistently conservative judge on the bench. He is known for his conservative rulings on cases involving religious liberties, marriage, and abortion. He has been nicknamed "Scalito" for the similarity of his ideology to that of late Justice Antonin Scalia – both place tremendous value on the roles of freedom and tradition in the court.

JUSTICE AMY CONEY BARRETT



The newest member of the Supreme Court, Amy Coney Barrett (49), from New Orleans, Louisiana, is the eldest of seven children. Her father worked as an attorney for Shell Oil Company and was a deacon at St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Metairie, Louisiana. Her mother teaches high school French classes. Amy is of both French and Irish descent. Her Catholic faith was an integral part of her childhood, as her family was heavily involved in the life of their church, and she attended Catholic school from elementary to college.



With five younger sisters and one younger brother, Barrett naturally stepped into a maternal role from an early age. Her siblings looked up to her and often sought her counsel. Now she has a large family of her own. She and her husband, Jesse Barrett, met and fell in love while studying at the University of Notre Dame. Jesse shares his wife's passion for the law and served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the northern district of Indiana and then as a federal prosecutor. Amy is not shy about her love and admiration for her husband, claiming she "hit the jackpot" with Jesse. The couple is admired by many, not only for their legal expertise, but also for their genuine care for others.

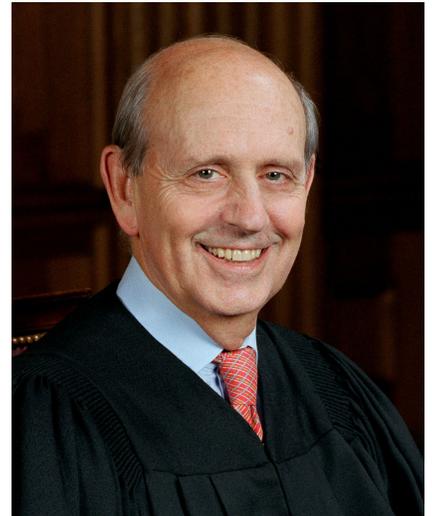
The Barretts have seven children, including one born with Down syndrome and two adopted from Haiti. One of their daughters was brought home to the United States at only fourteen months and weighing eleven pounds. They describe her as their "miracle daughter" because she was never expected to walk or speak normally. Today she is a track star and an outspoken young woman.

Amy Coney Barrett is a devout Catholic, whose strong convictions and beliefs caused great controversy during her confirmation hearings, as opponents claimed that her religious beliefs would prevent her from ruling fairly. In terms of judicial philosophy, Barrett is both a textualist and an originalist. She further breaks down her philosophy into two categories, or "core principles," as she calls them. The first is that the Constitution was fixed at the time of ratification, and the second is that the text has legal significance and authority in most circumstances. As a former clerk for the late Justice Scalia, her reverence for literal and historical interpretation of the text is not surprising. She shares Scalia's firm belief that the best way to interpret words in a text is by using their most natural meaning.

JUSTICE STEPHEN BREYER



Stephen Breyer was born in San Francisco, California in 1938. His great-grandparents were Romanian emigrants who settled in Cleveland, Ohio, where his father was born. Stephen and his younger brother, Charles, grew up in a middle-class Jewish home characterized by structure and submission to authority – he joined the Eagle Scouts and later spent eight years in the United States Army Reserve. Only on active duty for six months, he served in the Army’s Strategic Intelligence division earning the rank of Corporal.



Justice Breyer’s parents were both heavily involved in the life of their community. His mother worked in public service and his father worked as legal counsel for the San Francisco Board of Education. The focus on service during their formative years likely influenced the career paths of both Breyer boys: Stephen’s brother served as a federal judge in California’s northern district.

While his parents did not regularly enforce the religious practices of their Jewish faith, Breyer says his understanding of Judaism is still with him today, especially as he ponders issues of justice. When asked about Judaism in relation to social justice, he noted the shared goal of “creating a better world” as well as the connection to Tzedakah, the religious obligation to provide for those in need, often remembered during Yom Kippur.

Breyer and his wife Joanna have been married for fifty-four years. Joanna earned her degree as a psychologist from Harvard Medical School, specializing in care for children battling cancer. She spent twenty-five years counseling children and their families in various hospitals. The couple has three children: Chloe, Nell and Michael. The eldest, Chloe, serves as an Episcopal priest and is the executive director of Interfaith Center in New York.

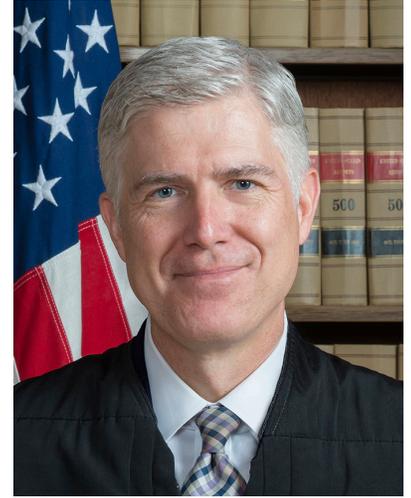
Justice Breyer is known as a pragmatic judge whose ideals stem from a predominately utilitarian perspective. He is outspoken about his belief in “popular participation in governmental decisions,” which he explains in his 2005 book, *Active Liberty: Interpreting Our Democratic Constitution*. He argues that the Constitution was structured to maximize the liberty of its citizens.

Justice Breyer often points out that “a judge’s loyalty is to the rule of law, not the political party that helped to secure his or her appointment.”

JUSTICE NEIL GORSUCH



Neil Gorsuch (53) was born into a family of lawyers: his grandfather and both parents practiced law in their home state of Colorado. During the Reagan Administration, when Gorsuch's mother became the first woman named as Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the family moved from their farm outside of Denver to Washington D.C. Two years later, after refusing to turn over subpoenaed documents, she resigned and his parents' marriage of eighteen years ended in divorce. Meanwhile, Gorsuch was becoming a rare yet robust conservative voice at his schools in Maryland and eventually on campus at Columbia University. Always a strong student, he was voted class president his senior year of high school and wrote for multiple school newspapers.



Justice Gorsuch met his British bride-to-be Louise while they were both studying at Oxford. After their marriage, the couple moved to his home state of Colorado where they raised their two daughters, Emma and Belinda, on their farm in the rural suburbs of Boulder. Louise raises horses, and the family owns chickens and goats. Justice Gorsuch loves the outdoors and spends most of his free time skiing, hunting and fishing.

Gorsuch was the first Protestant to join the bench since John Paul Stevens retired in 2010. Before marrying and moving back to Colorado where they attended an Episcopal Church, Gorsuch was raised Catholic, regularly attending weekly mass and Catholic preparatory schools. Louise was raised in the Church of England and the two were married in an Episcopal Church. Gorsuch often served as an usher on Sunday mornings while his daughters volunteered as acolytes.

Gorsuch is among the Constitutional originalists on the bench. He is a proponent of textualism and a stationary interpretation of the Constitution. Along with fellow Justice Clarence Thomas, he holds high regard for natural law jurisprudence. In his book *The Future of Assisted Suicide & Euthanasia*, Gorsuch argues the Constitution does not allow for physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia. His book also highlights the important roles the women in his life, namely his wife and daughters, play in encouraging and supporting him.

JUSTICE ELENA KAGAN

Born in New York City, Elena Kagan (61) grew up on Manhattan's Upper West Side with her parents and two brothers. She was a spirited and determined girl, who excelled in school from an early age. She attended an all-girls school, and sought to differentiate herself from the others as a "smart girl." She was inspired by her parents: her father was a lawyer and her mother was an elementary school teacher. Her parents' emphasis on education coupled with her keen interest in her father's work were what motivated Kagan to attend Harvard Law School.



Justice Kagan's love for academia is reflected not only in her educational achievements but also in her social life. Her friends recall that she would more likely be found discussing current events on the steps of The Met than attending a party. She spent the majority of her time reading up on the latest social movements, which influenced her decision to enter into public service. Her love for education was later displayed in her legal opinions. Though she has written the fewest opinions of the Supreme Court justices historically, when she does write them, her approach is similar to that of a classroom lecture.

She has never married, and is more apt to return home to visit family or to spend time with local friends from law school than to attend events in D.C. She socializes with the other justices and was known to join Justice Scalia for hunting trips. It is rumored that she never turns down a game of poker and a good cigar.

Kagan's Russian family has strong cultural and religious ties to Judaism, and she grew up attending Lincoln Square Synagogue. When she was of age, Kagan was determined to have a formal Bar Mitzvah like her brothers, putting her at odds with her Orthodox rabbi. Her first unofficial dissenting opinion was to the majority consensus that young women did not participate in the same rituals as young men. Her persistence and persuasive skills prevailed, and she enjoyed the first formal Bat Mitzvah performed in their synagogue. She now practices conservative Judaism.

Justice Kagan has always been proud of her independence and strength as a woman. Before her nomination to the Supreme Court, she was named the first female Solicitor General of the United States. As the only sitting justice without judicial experience, she brings a unique perspective and a largely pragmatic approach to the law.

JUSTICE BRETT KAVANAUGH



Originally from Washington D.C., Brett Kavanaugh (56) was born into a family of lawyers. As an only child, he had a unique relationship with his parents and was strongly influenced by their career aspirations. His mother, Martha Gamble Kavanaugh, served on the bench in the Maryland State Circuit Court for six years. His father, Everett Edward Kavanaugh, was also an attorney, who worked for over twenty years as the president of Cosmetic Toiletry and Fragrance Associates. Growing up, dinner conversations revolved around legal opinions and often ended with his mother practicing her closing statements.



Justice Kavanaugh attended private schools and was classmates with Neil Gorsuch. Like many of his colleagues, he attended Yale Law School where he was involved in rigorous academics and was a member of the basketball team as well as a fraternity.

During his service as staff secretary to President George W. Bush, Kavanaugh gained more than political and networking experience, he also met his wife, Ashley. As President Bush's personal secretary, Ashley developed a strong bond with the President and First Lady, who encouraged Brett and Ashley's relationship once they started dating. The couple was married in 2004, and they have two daughters: Liza and Margaret. Their family lives in Chevy Chase, Maryland where Justice Kavanaugh coached Liza and Margaret's basketball teams.

Raised as a devout Roman Catholic, Kavanaugh is involved in both his parish and local community, serving as a lector at the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament Church in Washington D.C. He is also involved in his church's outreach programs, often delivering meals to those experiencing homelessness, and he occasionally tutors at the Jesuit Academy in the District of Columbia. His involvement in both his church and community heavily influences his understanding of how law impacts people on a personal level. His faith is perhaps best reflected in the hearts of his children. During the Ford allegations, his ten-year-old daughter humbly suggested that the family respond by praying for Ford.

Kavanaugh describes his judicial philosophy as "straightforward." He is a firm believer in the independence of a judge and his or her responsibility to interpret and not make the law. According to Kavanaugh, the crown jewel of our constitutional republic is the separation of powers including an independent judiciary.

CHIEF JUSTICE JOHN ROBERTS, JR.



John G. Roberts, Jr. (66) is the second of four and only son to Rosemary and John G. Roberts, Sr. who raised their children in the heart of Indiana. He excelled in school from an early age, and it did not take long for others to realize his natural leadership abilities. He was involved in a variety of activities including the theatre arts and was nominated captain of his high school football team, not because he was the best athlete, but because he was the best leader. He graduated from Harvard magna cum laude in only three years. His tremendous work ethic went beyond schooling, as he worked long hours in a steel mill during summers to pay for his tuition. At the time of his nomination, Roberts was the youngest Supreme Court Justice since John Marshall.



His classmates recall his captivating and persuasive nature and his tremendous abilities in Latin classes where he often translated literature as well or better than his instructors. He never shied away from challenging himself further. On any application he submitted, he famously noted he would not settle for good, only the best.

Roberts attended Catholic schools growing up, and he developed a strong sense of family and a reverence for the flourishing of community.

Roberts and his wife Jane married in their late forties and adopted both of their children, Jack and Josie. They had been through a lengthy and challenging adoption process facing both international and legal complications. However, the longevity of their adoption process was met with the sweet blessing of not one, but two babies. The Roberts heard from two different adoption agencies a few weeks apart, receiving the second call on their flight home from a vacation in Canada celebrating the news of their first. They landed back home in the U.S. as parents of two.

Roberts was appointed Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court in 2005. He claims to have no overarching judicial philosophy, arguing that the absence of one provides a basis for faithfully interpreting the Constitution.

JUSTICE SONIA SOTOMAYOR



Sonia Sotomayor's parents moved their family from Puerto Rico to New York City in search of opportunity just before Sonia was born in 1954. They landed in the South Bronx where they lived in a housing project and her parents worked as a tool-and-die worker and a methadone clinic nurse. At the age of seven, Sotomayor was diagnosed with type one diabetes. Her father was an alcoholic and her mother worked long shifts, which left managing insulin intakes to Sonia herself. Just two years later, her father died of alcoholism, at which point, Sonia's mother's long hours turned into long weeks, working six days to provide for her children, Sonia and Juan. Almost immediately, Sotomayor noticed a change in her mother's ambition for her children, constantly emphasizing the importance of higher education and teaching them to speak English.



Despite these hardships, Sotomayor excelled academically, graduating as valedictorian of her high school class, and going on to earn a scholarship to and degree from Princeton University. She later earned her J.D. from Yale.

While she approached life and its challenges with optimistic ambition, she lived with the possibility that she may not live long. She felt it would be too risky to become pregnant and, if she were to adopt, she feared she might not live long enough to raise her children. Consequently, Sotomayor became an invested aunt and godmother. She was married to Kevin Noonan for seven years, but the couple divorced in 1983.

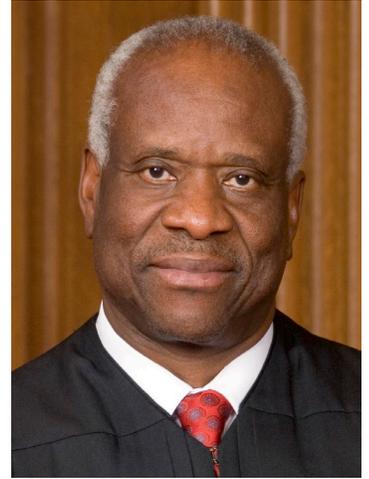
Justice Sotomayor grew up Roman Catholic, but her ties to Catholicism seem to be more cultural than spiritual. Unlike most of her fellow Catholic justices, Sotomayor does not regularly attend Mass or belong to a parish. That said, many friends and family members attribute her drive for social justice and passion for public service to her Catholic faith.

Sotomayor notes the tragic death of her father and her own diabetes diagnosis as formative moments in her life. She learned independence at an early age, deciding at the ripe age of ten that she wanted to become an attorney. She recognizes the roles hard work and determination played in her personal triumph over adversity.

In her opening statement during her confirmation hearings, she stated her judicial philosophy: "fidelity to the law." The task, she said, of a judge "is not to make law. It is to apply the law."

JUSTICE CLARENCE THOMAS

Clarence Thomas was born in Pin Point, Georgia in 1948. Both his parents were descendants of slaves, settling in a small community in Georgia founded after the Civil War. His father was a farm worker and his mother found domestic work to help support the family. When he was two years old, his father disappeared, leaving his mother to raise him, his brother, and his sister on her own. When he was nine, his family suffered a house fire that left them homeless. Struggling to provide financially, his mother sent the boys to Savannah to live with their grandparents. It was in that home that Thomas first experienced regular meals and living with indoor plumbing.



Thomas' grandparents instilled in their grandsons the importance of education and hard work. His grandfather became a true father figure, giving his grandsons guidance and wisdom, and famously reminding them to "never let the sun catch you in bed." Spending sunup to sundown working with his grandfather and brother on the farm taught Thomas to believe in self-reliance and hard work.

His grandfather also heavily influenced his aspirations, including his decision to pursue the priesthood. Thomas transferred from his high school to St. John Vianney Minor Seminary, where he studied theology. After graduating, he continued his seminary studies at Conception Abbey in Missouri, until the death of Martin Luther King, Jr. After overhearing a peer making fun of King's death, an outraged Thomas transferred to Holy Cross College, seeking both a degree and a platform for societal change.

Thomas' relationship with his grandfather took a dramatic turn when he dropped out of seminary and became a radical activist leading the black student union, a protest of the Vietnam War, and a campaign for civil rights. His grandfather kicked him out of his house and refused to continue paying for college. Ironically, Thomas' activism is what ultimately drew him back to his faith. One night, after dodging tear gas and running from police, he found himself on the steps of a church. Thomas promised God that if He were to remove the anger in his heart, he would never hate again.

The day after Thomas graduated from Holy Cross, he married his equally radical girlfriend, Kathy Ambus. During his second year at Yale Law School, he and Kathy had their son, Jamal. He went on to graduate with distinction from Yale, but his grandfather's refusal to attend his commencement was one of the hardest moments of his life. After ten years, Thomas' marriage ended in divorce in 1984. Three years later, he married Virginia Lamp, who was heavily involved in conservative politics: she worked for Congressman Dick Army and as a consultant for the Heritage Foundation. She eventually founded Liberty Central. The couple fostered Thomas' nephew, Mark Martin, Jr. who was previously living in the Savannah projects.

Justice Thomas is one of the Court's most unwavering "textualists" or "originalists." He reads the text of the Constitution today with the original public meaning it had at the time it became law. He is also an advocate of natural law – maintaining that knowledge of right and wrong is intrinsic and is not created by society or the courts.

THANK YOU FOR *praying* WITH US



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