

From David Bereit, National Campaign Director, 40 Days for Life

Thank you.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you!!

Your prayers combined with those of people throughout America -- and around the globe -- have made a world of difference over these 40 Days for Life.

When I logged onto my computer and began to read the hundreds of e-mail messages reporting victories from across the nation, a wave of emotions swept over me: joy, relief, excitement, peace, thanksgiving.

Together we have witnessed God accomplishing amazing miracles through His people.

As you read these, remember the words of Matthew 19:26 -- "With God all things are possible."

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE:

We have been blessed with an amazing campaign. Area pregnancy help centers reported that from the onset of the campaign, there were immediate increases in the daily number of women being seen -- as many as three times the average number for a given day! We have verified stories of women, sitting in their cars in the parking lot of abortion mills, deciding at the last moment to give life to their child instead. The solidarity that has grown in the Knoxville believing community has been astounding and has produced a momentum that will continue past the 40 Days with a whole new cadre of pro-life workers. This campaign has saved lives, transformed hearts, created a solidarity of effort for the Gospel of life previously not seen and blessed us with a renewed prophet mission to promote the culture of life.

NEW YORK, NEW YORK:

The Queens side-by-side abortion mills begged us to end our campaign last week. One lady manager said "I thought this 40 Days thing was over already. YOU ARE KILLING OUR BUSINESS! We have high rent to pay upstairs." The 2nd mill's manager came out, the same day, carrying a page of newspaper abortion ads, and pointing to the many other abortion mill ads besides their own, she said "Why don't you pick on one of these other places for a change!" This is the best testimony I can send you, and the highest compliments we have received. God has blessed us with many new helpers, and some crosses too, but he has blessed us most with many real lives and souls saved in the NYC 40 Days for Life.

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA:

During 40 Days for Life here in Indianapolis our local state-of-the-art Planned Parenthood abortion facility closed on at least two of their busiest abortion Saturdays. Sidewalk counselors believe that the number of abortion decreased from an average of 20 a day to as few as 5 a day. We have had a number of saves, and are still counting. We have had people stop and ask us why we are there which gives us the chance to share our Christian witness. We have mobilized new warriors as well as reactivated others. We have brought together different pro-life groups in our community, Catholic and Protestant and hope to continue fostering these relationship.

CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA:

In all my years of ministering at the prisons and in front of the abortion clinic I have never encountered an event like this. It has been a great honor to serve Yahweh for the last 40 days. The greatest blessings was having the walls that divide denominations and races torn down to be unified as the body of Christ Jesus for one cause. Charleston is rooted deeply in its traditions. Now there is a renewal to the body of

Christ. Yahweh has saved 65 babies during this campaign that we were able to count. Only He knows just how many were saved. So to Yahweh and His son Jesus be given all the glory and the honor that is due.

ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA:

About 225 people joined us at the site. Praying from 8am to 8pm = 480 hours of prayer. About 23 churches got involved. The most important thing that 40 Days has done is to SAVE a Life. On the first Wednesday, while three women prayed, one gray Jeep Cherokee drove in to Planned Parenthood. A young woman was driving. She sat in her car in front of PP, the escort walked up to her car and then stopped. The woman put her head down and just sat there. She would look up at the building and then look down. She did this for about 15 minutes. The women prayed hard for her to change her mind. When they finished their prayer the young woman started up her car and drove away. She paused in the driveway to smile at the women praying. I can only wonder 9 months from now when that mother looks at her little baby and smiles will she also think of the smile she gave the women praying for her. Its all worth it -- just for that one life.

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON:

We've seen greater unity and growth within the local pro-life community. Many have told us their hearts were moved by our presence. Bridges are being built between communities that have never communicated before for the purpose of building the greater pro-life community!

BUFFALO, NEW YORK:

Our biggest blessing has been the 300 plus people who came out to the clinic to pray, the relationships that have formed and the dozens of babies who were saved, those we know about and those we don't. Our last night we were finally able to go round the clock... that was hard! Every day was a new lesson. It was exciting that Father Pavone and Randall Terry both came to our vigil. It was fantastic for me to do this for my first Pro-life activity. (Really) The national team was indispensable and I always felt like I could do anything with their help.

SALEM/KEIZER, OREGON:

The best things that happened at 40 Days for Life were:

- * A woman who had been forced to have 2 abortions as a teen by her parents who kept placing her in the hands of a rapist, came to our site by accident looking for a beauty parlor and found healing through the prayers of the vigil volunteers
- * We also had two articles in two different newspapers one Catholic and one secular
- * We had our Bishop come pray and 50 lay people showed up to join with him in prayer at the Planned Parenthood site in Salem.
- * We are still small in numbers, but big in hope and faith.
- * We had a closing Mass on Sunday and a Jericho walk.

NORWICH, CONNECTICUT:

The greatest blessings were the documented save of a baby and woman, the women who have personally told me they will be returning to the Sacraments or felt a new found freedom after hearing my witness (all due to the Holy Spirit's promptings), the priests that allowed me to speak every weekend at the Masses during the 40 days, the hundreds of prayer vigil participants that prayed outside Planned Parenthood with us over the past 40 days -- 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (amazing!), the many newcomers to pro-life ministry that have never participated in a prayer vigil like this before, the movie Bella coming to southeast CT during the 40 days that touched many lives, and the women who put their testimonies in writing for the first time. We have much to be thankful for and will continue the good

fight on the Thursdays and Saturdays that PP performs abortions on an ongoing basis. We'd also like to move the 40 days effort to other dioceses in CT. With God's guidance and future blessings, more will unfold. We pray we do HIS will here in CT!!!

COLUMBUS, OHIO:

Greater unity and exchange with some people of various churches. I think another blessing is that despite weakened people from the sacrifices of prayer and fasting, people are encouraged by this heroic effort because it helps assure us that the beginning of the turning point is probably really at hand.

AMARILLO, TEXAS:

The biggest blessing for us is simply this... The people who never joined us on the sidewalk for prayers once a week on Saturday mornings, are:

NOW -- joining us everyday! They want to know why we have to stop at 40 days! It has been an event of a life time because ...

NOW -- they understand what we've been telling them all along for years.

NOW -- they want to help save lives,

NOW -- they are thinking of creative ways to help the mothers experiencing an unplanned pregnancy.

NOW -- they are coming forward to talk about how abortion touched their lives.

This 40 days campaign has brought healing to us in ways I never imagined. I know in my heart we not only helped heal each other but others who saw us on the sidewalk too! God is so good! Praise His Holy Name!

TOLEDO, OHIO:

Blessings...how do you qualify them? To have the opportunity to use my skills to serve the Lord; meeting so many other like-minded people; being able to evangelize to others not only about the abortion issue but about God as well. Those are some personal blessings. For our 40 Days in general, knowing that at least 3 women chose life for their babies; having over 300 people participate in our prayer outside the abortion center -- many for the first time; friendships formed and a spirit of hope renewed within the pro-life movement; just holding a 40 Days for Life in Toledo when so many said it couldn't be done -- these we would count among our biggest blessings.

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA:

One of the key victories of the 40 days for Life in Charlotte occurred throughout the day today and continued through 12:01 am, the 40th day. There were more new people that came out to pray today than any other day throughout the vigil. Mostly young people, they came from different denominations, backgrounds, and ministries yet they all had one common goal -- to pray to the Lord for an end to abortion. Our hope had been for many to flood the grounds today. About 2:00pm they began to come until finally at 11:30 pm the grounds were covered. As we all sang and prayed the Lord's Prayer in a circle holding hands, we remembered our prayer as leaders for the Charlotte vigil: "Unity and Harmony." Early this morning, as the 40th day began, this was answered. We stand in awe of what the Lord accomplished during this 40 days in Charlotte, North Carolina.

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE:

Just received news of another save at the clinic yesterday (Saturday) a.m. -- a Hispanic couple "parked their car, talked, and left," telling the vigil keepers they had decided to keep their baby. Another Hispanic couple decided to keep their baby after receiving materials in Spanish. Who knows how many other babies and mothers were spared the tragedy of abortion during these 40 days? The many people who faithfully prayed outside the clinic in fair and foul weather was a testament to the grace of God touching so many people's hearts.

GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA:

150 people participated in our ending Candlelight Vigil. At least 5 women did not go through with an abortion. We had people that stopped by talking about their past experience with abortion. They talked about how they regret their choice. Two abortion workers expressed interest in finding another job and a doctor at our local hospital said he would look at their resumes. Our community is rallied and committed to continuing until the doors of our abortion clinic are closed. We who prayed outside the abortion clinic have been forever changed. God be praised.

WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA:

Our blessings include: two known babies saved, plus over 300 people who came out to pray at Planned Parenthood -- many for the first time and for some it was the first pro-life activity they ever did. But I was most amazed at the number of people who just came with out actually committing to a schedule.

EVERETT, WASHINGTON:

In the very first week of our campaign, we saw 3 women turn from having an abortion, and the first one happened within the first 2 Planned Parenthood business hours on the first day of the campaign! These were the only known turnarounds, but we believe this was God's way of showing us that His hand was on this campaign so that we would have the encouragement needed to endure the rest of the campaign, even when we couldn't see the impact we were having. God also gave us plenty of opportunities to share our faith and directly refer women to pregnancy help resources and post abortion counseling. The best blessing of all is the transformation that is taking place within the hearts of the 40 Days for Life participants, a renewed commitment to ending abortion, and all of the new people God has brought together, who are not going to stop until we end abortion. We plan to continue to hold vigil, train new sidewalk counselors, and help out our local pregnancy centers to be able to meet the needs of women troubled with their pregnancies. And we believe that we are on the verge of uniting several pro-life ministries (some existing, some new) to work hand in hand. We believe this has been orchestrated by God, and 40 Days for Life was the key to unlocking the door to what God has in store for Everett, WA.

AKRON, OHIO:

40 Days for Life was exactly the kick-start that our community needed to get motivated to pray at the abortion clinics. Many more people are now involved and do not want to stop with day 40! At our closing rally, attendees signed up to pray at least one hour per month. And to our great joy and encouragement, there were at least 2 lives saved that we know of. Praise God!

For more, go to <http://www.40daysforlife.com/about.cfm?selected=history2007>

Thank you again for all your participation in 40 Days for Life!
David Bereit
National Campaign Director
40 Days for Life