



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO  
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

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ONE PETER YORKE WAY, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94109-6602 (415) 614-5500

January 31, 2017

Dear Father,

Recently the Annual Walk for Life West Coast was held here in San Francisco. It is estimated that approximately 50,000 people peacefully and prayerfully walked the streets of San Francisco in defense of life, especially the right to life of the unborn. Ours, and similar walks, are held in various parts of the country each year. It reminds us that the scourge of abortion continues to affect our country more than ever, harming many people, especially women. Each year I have participated in the Walk and am edified and encouraged to see so many people, especially young people, come on to our streets to show that they are unashamedly pro-life.

Once the Walk for Life is over, many of those who participated in it continue to work in apostolates and movements that try to bring an end to abortion in our country. One such group is 40 Days for Life. For the past number of years the members of this group have been gathering to pray at various locations in both San Francisco and San Mateo counties. Made up of individuals from various faith backgrounds, they believe that through their witness, prayer and sacrifice, they can help bring an end to abortion.

I am writing to ask that you and your parish would help support this very positive pro-life endeavor. During Lent, 40 Days for Life will keep peaceful vigil outside local abortion facilities to pray for an end to abortion. Experience shows us that many blessings and graces come from the witness of this movement and that lives are saved and turned around. As well as supporting 40 Days for Life with your presence, I ask that you would inform your parishioners about the movement's existence. Their ministry forms a very important part of our Catholic faith and the Church's social teaching. Please consider placing information in your parish bulletin and website. Thank you for your attention to this request.

For further information, please contact our Office of Human Life and Dignity at 415-614-5533 or [evansv@sfarchdiocese.org](mailto:evansv@sfarchdiocese.org).

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Salvatore J. Cordileone  
Archbishop of San Francisco