

## *A Prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life*

Dearest St. Joseph,  
at the word of an angel,  
you lovingly took Mary into your home.  
As God's humble servant, you guided  
the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem,  
welcomed Jesus as your own son  
in the shelter of a manger,  
and fled far from your homeland  
for the safety of both Mother and Child.

We praise God that as their faithful protector,  
you never hesitated to sacrifice  
for those entrusted to you.  
May your example inspire us also  
to welcome, cherish, and safeguard  
God's most precious gift of life.

Help us to faithfully commit ourselves  
to the service and defense of human life  
—especially where it is  
vulnerable or threatened.  
Obtain for us the grace  
to do the will of God in all things.  
Amen.