

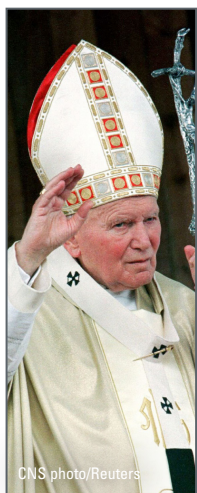
Prayer for Life

*In honor of Respect Life Month (October),
consider adding this prayer to your daily routine.*

Father and maker of all,
you adorn all creation
with splendor and beauty,
and fashion human lives
in your image and likeness.
Awaken in every heart
reverence for the work of your hands,
and renew among your people
a readiness to nurture and sustain
your precious gift of life.
Grant this through our Lord
Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in
the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God forever and ever.
Amen



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CNS photo/Reuters

St. John Paul II | DATES: 1920-2005 FEAST DAY — OCTOBER 22

When this popular pope died, crowds in St. Peter's Square chanted "santo subito" ("sainthood now"). The Vatican heard, and the sainthood cause for the jet-setting pontiff who helped bring down European communism was put on the fast track; he was beatified in 2011. A strong admirer of St. Faustina and her dedication to Divine Mercy, John Paul II was canonized on Divine Mercy Sunday 2014 by Pope Francis. A Pole and former actor shaped by World War II and the Cold War, Cardinal Karol Wojtyla of Krakow (John Paul II) was the first non-Italian pope in 455 years. In his 26-year pontificate, he evangelized on trips to 129 countries, upheld traditional church doctrine against dissent, connected with the world's youth, established World Youth Day, and named more than 450 new saints. He also modeled Christian values by forgiving his would-be assassin and living an increasingly frail old age in public.