



40 DAYS FOR LIFE

THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION

40 Days for Life is a worldwide simultaneous prayer vigil which takes place outside local abortion centres with the intention of saving lives and bringing about the end of abortion through prayerful, peaceful witness.

HOW IT WORKS

The 40 Days for Life vigil in 2020 is

Wednesday 26 February to Sunday 5 April

(Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday).

Vigil hours are determined by the leader of the local 40 Days for Life vigil and may be different from city to city.

Each hour of peaceful vigil outside the abortion centre needs to be covered by at least two, and preferably three, prayer volunteers who sign up for a specific time.

Registering the hour(s) you intend to be present is important as it lets the vigil co-ordinator know if enough people will be present throughout the day.

Please call the contact person as soon as you can if you are unable to make the hour you signed up for so they can arrange someone else to cover that prayer hour.

You are not expected to be at the vigil site alone. If you turn up to the vigil site and no-one else is there, please call the contact person. You may stay if you wish, but can also return to your car until someone else arrives.

ENGAGING WITH THE PUBLIC

You do not have to speak with the public. Only trained side-walk counsellors should approach women.

However, be a peaceful, polite and kind presence on the street. Do smile and say hello to the public as they walk past, most especially if they make eye contact with you. You will leave a lasting impression.

If a member of the public genuinely wants to chat, have one person from the group move off to the side with them and listen to what they have to say. This allows the rest of the group to continue in prayer while acknowledging the dignity of the person in front of us.

COMPONENTS OF THE VIGIL

- **Prayer and fasting** for an end to abortion and for all those involved and impacted - babies, mothers, fathers, workers, etc.
- **Peaceful vigil** outside a local abortion centre.
- **Community outreach** through a visible presence and providing information about foetal development, abortion, alternatives, and after abortion healing programmes.

HOW CAN MY CHURCH OR GROUP PARTICIPATE?

Thank you for wanting to participate in the 40 Days for Life vigil. You are welcome to choose to come as a large group for one hour or more, however, please consider spreading your group out over a number of hours.

Committing to filling all the hours of one day (or a half day) makes good use of your larger numbers. If you have 36 people in your group willing to participate for one hour you can fill a 12 hour day with 3 people on each hour. **Note:** 36 babies die from abortion every day in NZ.

WHAT ARE THE NZ RESULTS?

6 babies have been saved from abortion through 40 Days for Life vigils in New Zealand.

In the United States, Planned Parenthood has stated that when people are praying outside an abortion centre the percentage of women who do not keep their appointment is as high as 75%. Even if the number of no-shows is smaller in New Zealand we can be sure our prayers and presence is truly saving lives.

**You may be her last sign of hope and her first sign of mercy.
Find out more at fli.org.nz/40daysforlife**