



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

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September 30, 2014

Dear Father,

It is difficult to believe another year has passed and the Archdiocese of San Francisco is beginning its outreach for the *11th Annual Walk for Life West Coast* on January 24, 2015. The dramatic growth of the *Walk for Life* confirms that it fills a need in our community and in human hearts; a need to reach out and protect the weakest among us---not only babies in the womb, but also vulnerable mothers and fathers who wrongly believe that abortion is their only viable choice. The tens of thousands of people who walk the streets of San Francisco each year on *Walk for Life* Saturday are a visual reminder of how many people want to help. The Walk's growth and the enthusiasm that surrounds it prove that our pro-life, pro-family message continues to resonate with our culture. It fills the void secular society creates when it excludes God, virtue and an understanding of the profound dignity of human life. The Walk's fastest growing demographic is students, young people and young families, who understand the harm the culture of abortion has inflicted on society.

Again this year I enthusiastically invite you and your parish family to join me on Saturday, January 24, 2015 at the *Walk for Life West Coast* in the heart of San Francisco. Consider sponsoring a bus to the Walk or bringing a banner to identify your parish or school. The program starts at San Francisco's Civic Center Plaza at 11:00 AM with an Information Faire, followed by the speakers' program at 12:30 PM, and the two-mile Walk down Market Street at 1:30 PM. We conclude with a celebration of life on the waterfront at Justin Herman Plaza/Ferry Building.

The morning of the *Walk for Life*, I will celebrate Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Assumption at 9:30 AM to ask Our Lord's blessing on all who will participate in the Walk, as well as all who will witness, and perhaps ridicule, our peaceful and prayerful procession. I invite all archdiocesan and religious-order priests to join me and my brother bishops from around the state in concelebrating this beautiful and joyful Mass.

Thank you for your continued support of the *Walk for Life West Coast*. Please join us again this year to proclaim to the world that we are a people of life!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend Salvatore J. Cordileone
Archbishop of San Francisco