



WHAT IS LIFE CHAIN?

Life Chain is a peaceful and silent witness to the injustice of abortion and the harm it inflicts on women and the community at large. It is a simple but powerful reminder to our fellow citizens of the sanctity of human life and our duty to defend the weakest members of our society.

The very first Life Chain was held in 1987 by a small pro-life group called Please Let Me Live Inc. in Yuba City, California and consisted of 2,500 people. The annual event grew by leaps and bounds in the following years, with Canada holding its first Life Chain in 1990, and almost 1,000,000 participating across North America in 1992. Last year, there were over 250 Life Chains in Canada and over 15,000 are estimated to have participated from coast to coast.

This year, we will be marking 30 years of Life Chain in Canada. Most Life Chains will be held on **Sunday, October 4th**. Please determine the location and time of your nearest Life Chain by visiting: www.campaignlifecoalition.com/life-chain.

On the day of the event, those participating in Life Chain will stand at various predetermined intersections in silent prayer, holding non-graphic signs with slogans like, “Abortion kills children,” “Abortion hurts women,” “Adoption, the loving option,” and “Life, the first inalienable right.” The signs are distributed and collected by a local organizer at each intersection. This organizer will orient Life Chain participants, and will talk to any police or media that may wish to cover the event.

We will likely see a lower turnout this year due to COVID-19. While local Life Chain organizers are being encouraged to follow all local health and safety measures, especially to space out participants, some individuals will understandably prefer not to participate this time around. Nonetheless, with the efforts of conscientious Life Chain organizers and supportive pastors in nearby churches, local Life Chains can still be successful and worthwhile. Not only will participants pull on the consciences of those who pass by, but they themselves could be spurred to become more involved in the pro-life movement year-round.

Please contact your local organizer if you have any questions or concerns. Alternatively, you may contact the 2020 Life Chain Canada Committee (416-204-9749, lifechain@campaignlifecoalition.com).



SAMPLE BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT

Life Chain is an annual prayerful and peaceful witness to the sanctity of human life and the injustice of abortion. Participants hold non-graphic signs with messages such as “Life, the first inalienable right” and “Abortion kills children” at hundreds of locations across North America for one hour. Provided you are healthy and have not recently travelled out-of-country or had contact with someone who may have COVID-19, please join us this year at <insert intersection> on <insert date and time>. Please rest assured that participants will be physically distanced and organizers will be following all local COVID-19 protocols.

SAMPLE PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENT

Life Chain is an annual pro-life event which provides participants a prayerful and peaceful way to witness to the injustice of abortion and the sanctity of all human life. As Psalm 139:13-14 says, “For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.”

Provided you are healthy and have not recently travelled out-of-country or had contact with someone who may have COVID-19, please come out on <insert time and date> at <insert intersection> to pray silently for an hour for an end to abortion. Participants will be holding non-graphic signs with messages like, “Abortion kills children” or “Abortion hurts women.” Please rest assured that participants will be physically distanced and organizers will be following all local COVID-19 protocols. The pandemic hasn’t slowed the killing of preborn children, so it’s important that we persevere in our witness.



LIFE CHAIN CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Commit to being peaceful. Do not physically interfere with counter-protesters or passers-by and do not jostle for position if they block your Life Chain signs.
2. Avoid casual talk, frivolity, and arguments. Life Chain is a SILENT prayer vigil.
3. Refer media, police, or business owners who want information to the organizer. Notify the organizer of any misconduct from counter-protesters or passers-by, so that he/she can handle it appropriately and ensure it is recorded.
4. Please arrive promptly, accounting for the time required for parking/positioning. Stand on the sidewalk, facing traffic with your sign, ensuring you do not block pedestrians, driveways, or drivers' sightlines.
5. Please take care of your signs and RETURN them to the organizer for future Life Chains.
6. Please do NOT display other signs, or distribute material other than that which is provided, unless the organizer permits you to do so.
7. Watch your small children at all times.
8. Please bring hand sanitizer and a mask or face covering and use as needed.
9. Please maintain a 2-metre distance from fellow Life Chain participants and passersby at all times.
10. Please follow all instructions from your local Life Chain organizer, especially ones pertaining to local COVID-19 protocols.
11. Please DO NOT attend Life Chain if you:
 - a. are feeling ill or have (or suspect you have) COVID-19
 - b. have had close contact with someone in the past 14 days who is ill or is suspected to have COVID-19
 - c. have travelled out-of-country in the past 14 days
 - d. are worried about the risk to your own health or the health of someone in your social circle