



# 2023 Life Chain Church Package

LIFE CHAIN CANADA

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## WHAT IS LIFE CHAIN?

Life Chain is a prayerful witness to the sanctity of all human life. This peaceful and silent demonstration brings awareness to the ongoing injustice of abortion and the harm it inflicts on mothers, fathers, and the community at large. It is a simple but powerful reminder to our fellow citizens of 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 event grew by leaps and bounds in the following years—with almost 1,000,000 participants in 1992. Campaign Life Coalition brought Life Chain to Canada in 1990, and this event has continued every year since. It has saved lives, connected post-abortive parents to healing, and introduced countless individuals to the pro-life movement; for many, Life Chain is their first foray into pro-life activism. In 2022, almost 300 communities, representing all ten provinces and one territory, participated in Life Chain and over 10,000 Canadian pro-lifers are estimated to have participated from coast to coast.



As usual, this year, Life Chain will be held on the first Sunday of October - **October 1, 2023**.

Please determine the location and time of your nearest Life Chain by visiting:

[www.campaignlifecoalition.com/life-chain](http://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 and space out Life Chain participants, and will talk to law enforcement and any media that may wish to cover the event.

Please contact your local organizer if you have any questions or concerns. Alternatively, you may contact the 2023 Life Chain Canada Committee (1-800-730-5358,

[lifecanada@campaignlifecoalition.com](mailto:lifecanada@campaignlifecoalition.com)).



## **SAMPLE ANNOUNCEMENT #1**

Life Chain is a prayerful and peaceful witness to the sanctity of human life and the evil of abortion. Participants pray and 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. Please join us at <insert intersection> on <insert date and time>. This is a family-friendly event appropriate for people of all ages and backgrounds and a unique opportunity to provide our neighbours a much-needed message of love, hope, and truth. As Our Lord asked of His disciples: “Could you not watch one hour with me?” (Mk 14:37)

## **SAMPLE ANNOUNCEMENT #2**

Life Chain is an annual pro-life event that raises awareness about the injustice of abortion and the inherent dignity of every human being. Please join us this year at <insert intersection> on <insert date and time>. The organizer will greet you and your fellow attendees and provide you non-graphic signs with messages like “Abortion kills children,” “Abortion hurts women,” “Life, the first inalienable right,” and “Adoption, the loving option.” You are asked to spread out along the sidewalk and to pray silently for the hour. For more information, you may visit: [campaignlifecoalition.com/life-chain](http://campaignlifecoalition.com/life-chain).

## **SAMPLE ANNOUNCEMENT #3**

You are invited to be a part of an important pro-life witness on <insert date and time> at <insert location>. At this location and hundreds of others across North America, we will form a “Life Chain,” bearing signs with messages like “Abortion kills children” and “Adoption, the loving option” and praying silently for the hour. Everyone is welcome to peacefully, publicly, and safely call upon our community to protect human life from conception to natural death. Simply show up and follow the directives of the local organizer. Let’s advocate for the innocent; as Christ Himself reminds us, “Whatever you do to the least of these, you do to me” (Mt 25:40).

## **SAMPLE ANNOUNCEMENT #4**

Proverbs 31:8 gives us courage in our convictions to “speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.” Take part in Christ’s great commission! Join us at <insert intersection> on <insert date and time> to participate in Life Chain, an annual pro-life event demanding an end to the killing of the preborn in Canada. Be a voice for the voiceless! Visit Campaign Life Coalition’s website—[www.campaignlifecoalition.com](http://www.campaignlifecoalition.com)—for more information.



# 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.