



Update Mass Bulletin Announcements

Conception:

At the moment of conception, a unique human person was created--me! Remarkably, even though just a single cell, I already have the entire blueprint that will define my eye and hair color, adult height, and aptitude for math, art, and sports. All that is required now is nourishment, a safe home in which to live and grow, and a loving family. *"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you." Jeremiah 1:5*

Month 1:

I have been very active the past month. I am 10,000 times larger than I was at conception. My eyes and nose are starting to form and I already have arm buds and leg buds. After three weeks I had the building blocks for my brain, spinal cord, and nervous system. My heart started beating before that and is now pumping blood through my own circulatory system, and my blood type may already be different from my mother's. Thank you for the prayers that the Lord of Life might help her give me the most precious gift of all - - the gift of life. *"Surely I was sinful at birth...sinful from the time my mother conceived me."--David*

Month 2:

I am making great progress. I have already developed all of my external features and internal organs. My brain started functioning after six weeks. With an ultrasonic stethoscope, you can hear my heartbeat. Baby-teeth buds were present at 6 1/2 weeks and I can suck my thumb and swallow. After the eighth week, I will continue to grow but everything I need to survive after birth is already present. Thank you for your prayers, Mom is probably just finding out about me. Pray, pray, pray. *"All the days of his life have been planned out by God before any have come to be." Psalm 139:16*

Month 3:

I am quite active. Even though my mother cannot feel me yet, I can kick and flip around in my safe little world. I can move my eyes but my eyelids are closed. My cartilage is changing to bone. I can suck my thumb and I hiccup when I swallow amniotic fluid. I am now three inches long and can hear outside noises. I can close my fingers around an object and I can squint, frown and smile. I am starting to react to my environment and although I can already feel sensations like pain I really hope things stay the same--quiet, peaceful, and warm. *"His mother Mary...was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit...[the angel said] 'what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit'" Matthew 1:18-20*

Month 4:

Well, I now weigh six ounces and mom can feel my movements. I have fingernails, eyelashes, and my own unique fingerprints, which will remain the same for the rest of my life. My taste buds are working and my sense of hearing is developing. I have soft hair all over my body. I can touch my hand to my face and grasp my feet. Basically, there will be no major new developments from here on. I just need nourishment, protection, and love...and prayers. *"It is a poverty to decide that a child must die so that you may live as you wish." Mother Teresa*

Month 5:

Half-way there and just over one pound! If born today, I would have a chance of surviving... with lots of help, of course. Your prayers have helped my mother with her pregnancy and helped her seek the support she needs the past few months since she learned about me. *"See now that I myself am He! There is no god besides me. I put to death and I bring to life, I have wounded and I will heal, and no one can deliver out of my hand" Deuteronomy 32:39*

Month 6:

I am developing quite beautifully now. At 1 1/2 to 2 pounds and 12 inches long, I am twice as big as I was last month. I am sitting up most of the time to accommodate the final movement of all my internal organs. From 26 weeks, babies exhibit a whole range of typical baby behavior and moods, including scratching, smiling, crying, hiccupping, and sucking. Babies born prematurely at this time have a very good chance of surviving. Don't forget to pray for my mother and me.

"The values of Christianity are unalterably opposed to the modern secular culture of choice." Pope John Paul II

Month 7:

We are in the home stretch! I now weigh about three pounds and I can use four of my senses--seeing, hearing, tasting, and touching. My eyelids can now open and close and I can look around and respond to light. I also have a grip that is strong enough to support my body weight with one hand.

"I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants, by loving the LORD your God, by obeying His voice, and by holding fast to Him; for this is your life and the length of your days, that you may live in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them." Deut. 30:15-20

Month 8:

Now I am finishing my development and concentrating on gaining weight. I am probably starting to make my mother uncomfortable with my size. For some time now I have recognized my mother's voice. In a short time, I will be born. On behalf of mom and me, thank you for your prayers for the past eight months. It has not been easy, but your prayers have given her the grace she needed to make the right choices.

"The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord." Cor. 15:56-58

Month 9:

Congratulations, I am here--7 1/2 pounds and 20 inches long! As you know though, my birth was not the beginning of my life. My life began nine months ago when my parents contributed the genetic materials to form this unique human being. At that miraculous moment I also received my soul from God making me an immortal being. God's plan for me is to live my life on earth then join Him in my heavenly home forever. Thank you on behalf of all babies and their mothers for your loving prayers that helped to bring us to birth *"so that they might have life and have it to the full!"* (John 10:10)