

WORD OF LIFE: JANUARY 2017 SPECIAL EDITION!

PLEASE NOTE:

January 23: Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), no. 373, designates January 22* (also the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*) as a particular day of prayer and penance in Dioceses of the United States of America, called the “[Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children](#).”

[Multiple resources](#) to assist with this observance are available online: choices of readings for Mass, homily helps, intercessions, and other pro-life prayer materials.

Because January 22 falls on a Sunday this year, the designated observance for 2017 is **Monday, January 23.*

9 Days for Life 2017: Saturday, January 21 – Sunday, January 29

Do you have 99 seconds?
[Watch](#) on YouTube!



[9 Days for Life](#) is the U.S. bishops’ annual period of *prayer and action* focused on cherishing the gift of every person's life.

While the overarching intention of the centerpiece novena is the end to abortion, each day focuses on a different aspect of respecting each other's God-given dignity.

Download or sign up to receive the novena any of four ways: free mobile app, text message, email, or social media.

[Quick, easy-to-use tools](#) can help you share 9 Days for Life, whatever your available time or budget!



For more information, click the buttons above.

See More: www.9daysforlife.com

View, download, and order the 2016-2017 Respect Life Program materials! www.usccb.org/respectlife

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Intercessions for Life: January 23, 2017* Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

*Note: Because January 22 falls on a Sunday in 2017,
the designated observance for 2017 is Monday, January 23.

For unborn children:

May they be lovingly welcomed into this world
by family, friends, and the local community;
We pray to the Lord

For expectant mothers whose hearts are
troubled:

May they receive helpful, loving support
for themselves and their babies;
We pray to the Lord:

For those grieving after abortion:

May they know God's limitless mercy
and seek help through the Church's
post-abortion healing ministry;
We pray to the Lord:

For expectant mothers
placing their children for adoption:

May they receive loving support
as they walk this journey;
We pray to the Lord:

For those working in post-abortion healing
ministries:

May God's mercy radiate through them
as they provide love and support to those
grieving after abortion;
We pray to the Lord:

For families whose unborn child
is not expected to live long:
May they find strength and peace
in the support of others;
We pray to the Lord:

For medical professionals who
work against human life:
May they find renewed reverence for God's
gift of life
and treat all people with life-affirming respect;
We pray to the Lord:

For all couples facing unexpected pregnancies:
May the Lord give them peace, hope,
and love for their child and each other;
We pray to the Lord:

For those who working to build a culture
that welcomes and respects all human life:
May God help them bring his love and mercy
to those in need;
We pray to the Lord:

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Intercessions for Life

January 1st

**The Octave Day of Christmas
Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**

For all mothers of newborn children:
May they receive encouragement and support
in welcoming and celebrating this new life;
We pray to the Lord:

January 8th

The Epiphany of the Lord

For our national and local leaders:
May they follow the example of the Three Kings
by seeking God and serving him and his people,
especially the poor and outcast;
We pray to the Lord:

January 15th

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

For the world:
May we build a culture that embraces
every man, woman, and child as priceless
and that never treats any of them as a burden;
We pray to the Lord:

January 22th

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

For unborn children:
May each one be welcomed
as the good and sacred gift
he or she is;
We pray to the Lord:

January 29th

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For children awaiting adoption:
May they be welcomed
into loving families;
We pray to the Lord:

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Bulletin Briefs

Recommended dates are provided, but you are welcome to use these quotes at any time.

Sunday, January 1, 2017

“Perhaps one of your friends has become pregnant unexpectedly. . . . Your support might be the only support she receives. Even if we never know how, the smallest things we do can change someone’s life.”

— “10 Ways to Support Her When She’s Unexpectedly Expecting”
USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities (www.goo.gl/e60H2Z)

Sunday, January 8, 2017

“To be actively pro-life is to contribute to the renewal of society through the promotion of the common good. It is impossible to further the common good without acknowledging and defending the right to life, upon which all the other inalienable rights of individuals are founded and from which they develop.”

— Pope Saint John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae*, 101.
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(www.goo.gl/jsTMI8)

Sunday, January 15, 2017

“[God] comes to assist us in our weakness. And his help consists in helping us accept his presence and closeness to us. Day after day, touched by his compassion, we also can become compassionate towards others.”

— Pope Francis, *Misericordiae vultus*, www.goo.gl/uwk5e4
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Sunday, January 22, 2017

“From each tiny child waiting to be born, to individuals nearing death, all are precious and deserve our care and protection. . . . Let’s ask God to make us channels of his loving mercy.”

— Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan, Chairman
USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities
2016 Respect Life Month Statement (www.goo.gl/Wiugsn)

Sunday, January 29, 2017

“For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, ‘Abba, Father!’”

— [Romans 8:15](#), NABRE © 2010 CCD. Used with permission.

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Bulletin Art

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Sunday, January 15, 2017

(Download: www.goo.gl/GXW4Fg / Companion article: www.goo.gl/fvSEYp)



Sunday, January 22, 2017

(Download: www.goo.gl/pAj301 / Companion article: www.goo.gl/e60H2Z)



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