

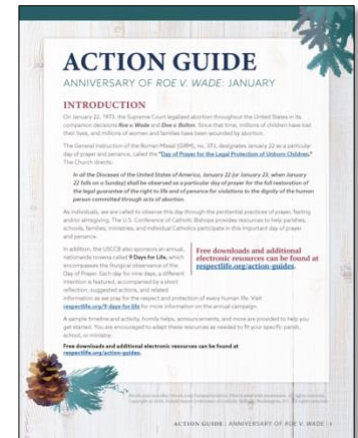
WORD OF LIFE: JANUARY 2021

Recommended dates are provided, but you are welcome to use these materials at any time!

FEATURED THIS MONTH...

- **Parish Action Guide: Anniversary of *Roe v. Wade***

On January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court legalized abortion throughout the United States in its companion decisions *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*. Since that time, millions of children have lost their lives and millions of women and families have been wounded by abortion. Our [January Action Guide](#) is available to help parishes, schools, and ministries highlight the sacredness of human life and pray for the protection of unborn children.



- **[Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children](#)**
(January 22, 2021)

The Catholic bishops of the United States have designated January 22 as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the “**Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children.**” The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), no. 373, directs:

In all the Dioceses of the United States of America, January 22 (or January 23, when January 22 falls on a Sunday) shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion.

[Choices of Readings for Mass](#) and other resources are available online in the [January Action Guide](#) (above).

- **[9 Days for Life](#)**
(January 21 – 29, 2021)

9 Days for Life is a novena for the protection of human life. Each day’s intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Participants can receive the novena by subscribing to daily emails or text messages. (A printable version is also available online.)

[Leaders’ resources](#) are available for download, including graphics, sample announcements, and novena printables. Sign up for the novena at www.9daysforlife.com.



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WORD OF LIFE – January 2021

Intercessions for Life

January 1st

May friends and families of women
with difficult pregnancies
provide loving, life-affirming support
for both mother and child;

We pray to the Lord:

**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of
God**

January 3rd

On this Feast of the Epiphany,
may we be given the grace
to always see in others
the face of Christ our Savior;

We pray to the Lord:

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 10th

For all Christians:

May we live out our baptismal call
to proclaim the Gospel of God's love
and the dignity of every human life;

We pray to the Lord:

The Baptism of the Lord

January 17th

For public servants and elected officials:

May God grant them the humility, wisdom,
and courage to defend all human life;

We pray to the Lord:

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 22nd

For the legal protection of unborn children
and for loving support for their mothers
before and after their births;

We pray to the Lord:

**Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection
of Unborn Children**

January 24th

For those suffering after abortion:

May they know that the Lord desires to bring healing,
and turn to Him for His mercy and peace;

We pray to the Lord:

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 31st

For the times we are afraid to welcome life:

May the Lord fill our hearts with confidence in His loving care
and provide for every need;

We pray to the Lord:

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Bulletin Quotes

January 3rd

“Through the Incarnation and birth of Christ, God reveals to us the dignity of all human life. Human life, as a gift of God, is sacred and inviolable. The Son of God has united himself with every human being and desires for us to share eternal life with him... Each of us is made in the image and likeness of God, and we reflect his glory in the world.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
“*The Gospel of Life: A Brief Summary*”



[Download](#) | [Read Online](#)

January 10th

“When we encounter Christ, experience his love, and deepen our relationship with him, we become more aware of our own worth and that of others. His love for each person is cause for great joy, and growing understanding of this priceless treasure motivates us to share his love with others. Our lives are often changed by the witness of others; so too, others’ lives may be changed by our witness and authentic friendship with them.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
“How to Build a Culture of Life” (respectlife.org/culture-of-life)

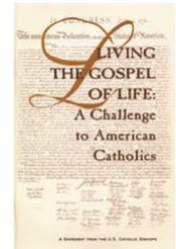


[Order](#) | [Download](#)

January 17th

“There is such a wide spectrum of issues involving the protection of human life and the promotion of human dignity. Good people frequently disagree on which problems to address, which policies to adopt and how best to apply them. But for citizens and elected officials alike, the basic principle is simple: *We must begin with a commitment never to intentionally kill, or collude in the killing, of any innocent human life, no matter how broken, unformed, disabled or desperate that life may seem.* In other words, the choice of certain ways of acting is *always and radically incompatible* with the love of God and the dignity of the human person created in His image.”

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
“Living the Gospel of Life,” © 1998 USCCB.



[Order](#) | [Read Online](#)

January 24th

“Many people know someone personally who is suffering because of an abortion. If a friend confided in you tomorrow that she had an abortion, would you be able to respond in a way that brings her closer to healing? ... Even a woman who doesn’t go to church or think of herself as religious can be afraid that God will never forgive her for having an abortion. She should know that God loves and forgives those who are sorrowful. He wants to comfort them and give them his peace.

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
“How to Talk to a Friend Who’s Had an Abortion”



[Order](#) | [Read Online](#)

January 31st

“Walk with each other. Do not be afraid to embrace God’s gift of life. Whatever storms or trials we face, we are not alone. He is with us. ‘Behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age’ (Matthew 28:20).”

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USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
Respect Life Reflection: Be Not Afraid (respectlife.org/be-not-afraid)



[Order](#) | [Read Online](#)

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Bulletin Art

You are welcome to use these and other downloadable images from the online [Respect Life image gallery](#), provided they are not altered in any way, other than the size. Thank you!

Sunday, January 10, 2021



- [Flyer \(multiple dimensions\)](#)

Sunday, January 17, 2021



- [Graphics \(multiple dimensions\)](#)

Sunday, January 31, 2021



- [Graphic](#)
- [Reflection](#)

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