

## INTERCEDE



## PRAY

*Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be*

## REFLECT

The Supreme Court's recent decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* ended the nearly fifty-year nationwide reign of abortion on demand that was ushered in by *Roe v. Wade* in 1973. In this monumental legal victory, the Supreme Court rightly concluded that there is nothing in the Constitution's text, history, American legal tradition, or the Court's precedents that prevents the government from protecting preborn children in the womb from the violence of abortion. *Dobbs* returned the issue of abortion to the people's elected representatives at the federal and state levels; therefore, continuing work is needed in the coming months and years to protect children, women, and families from the tragedy of abortion.

The overturning of *Roe* is a long-awaited answer to prayer. And for those of us who have prayed for this moment to arrive, it is the time for a renewal and rededication of our efforts to build a culture of life and a civilization of love. Now is a critical moment to advocate for pro-life laws and policies, especially at the state and local levels. While it will take time for the *Dobbs* decision to play out, abortion is

legal in more states than not, with many working to expand and enshrine abortion protections. In addition to our efforts to protect human life in law, we must also redouble our efforts to serve women facing unexpected or difficult pregnancies, offering them the compassionate support they need to lovingly welcome the gift of their children. We must recommit ourselves to doing whatever we can in every sphere to ensure the flourishing of both mothers and their children throughout life's journey.

## ACT (choose one)

- Sign up to join Catholics across the country in praying for the end to all abortion during the 9 Days for Life ([9daysforlife.com](https://9daysforlife.com)) novena from January 19-27.
- Participate in a local, state, or national pro-life event during the month of January to advocate and pray for the protection of preborn life. (*Check with your parish and diocese for information about events in your area.*)
- Offer some other sacrifice or prayer that you feel called to do for this month's intention.

## ONE STEP FURTHER

Learn more about how Catholics can respond to *Dobbs* in "Building a Culture of Life in a Post-Roe World" ([bit.ly/post-roeworld](https://bit.ly/post-roeworld)). Stay informed about key federal legislation and the voting records of your elected representatives by visiting [humanlifeaction.org](https://humanlifeaction.org) and [usccb.org/prolife](https://usccb.org/prolife). Get updates on state issues by signing up to receive information from your state Catholic conference or diocesan Respect Life office.

