

Archbishop O'Brien to commemorate anniversary of Haiti earthquake with Jan. 12 Mass at cathedral

Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien will celebrate 5:30 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen in Homeland Jan. 12, the one-year anniversary of earthquake that devastated Haiti.

The Mass will be part of a national commemoration instituted by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, who, according to a Jan. 6 news release, invite U.S. Catholics to stand in prayerful solidarity with the people of Haiti.

"Haiti and its people still very much need our prayers and solidarity," said Archbishop Wenski, chairman of the Special Advisory Group for Haiti at the USCCB, in the release. "As we approach the anniversary of the earthquake in Haiti, we join together with parishes, Catholic schools, youth groups, colleges and universities from across the country to remember the tragic events of that fateful afternoon and to respond in a faith-filled way."

According to the release, Catholics are invited to pray and reflect for nine days using the Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of the Americas. The novena starts on the evening of the anniversary, Jan. 12, and culminates with the celebration of Mass the weekend of January 22-23, official date for the National Collection for Latin America, including Haiti and all of the Caribbean.

In addition to the novena, other catechetical and reflection resources, including didactical materials from Catholic Relief Services, have been collected at a special website, <https://www.usccb.org/haiti/one-year-later.shtml>, under the title "One Year Later: Pray and Walk With our Sisters and Brothers in Haiti."

The novena and other updates and information related to Haiti can be found at

<https://www.usccb.org/haiti/>.