



Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

3211 FOURTH STREET NE • WASHINGTON DC 20017-1194

202-541-3070 • FAX 202-541-3054 • EMAIL PROLIFE@USCCB.ORG • WEB WWW.USCCB.ORG/PROLIFE

January 7, 2021

Your Eminence/Excellency:

I write to share with you several Respect Life opportunities and updates pertaining to the annual [Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children](#) and the various January events related to the *Roe v. Wade* anniversary.

First, I would like to draw your attention to Respect Life January [parish action guide](#) and the [leader resources](#) for *9 Days for Life*. These links direct to many simple, ready-to-use resources like intercessions, homily helps, graphics, and action ideas.

Also, as Most Reverend Michael C. Barber, S.J., Chairman for Catholic Education, and I shared with you earlier, there are a couple opportunities for Catholic schools across the country to join virtually together in solidarity for human life. Information on the USCCB's *9 Days for Life* novena (January 21-29) and the livestream of the March for Life rally (January 29) can be found at <https://bit.ly/january-virtual-2021>, along with additional Respect Life resources for a Catholic school setting.

Next, there are some important changes to this year's [National Prayer Vigil for Life](#), taking place January 28-29. While many thousands typically attend the vigil in person each year, the Basilica will not be open to the public for most of the 2021 vigil due to current D.C. government COVID-19 restrictions. As we had mentioned before, there is sadly no capacity this year for concelebrating priests or bishops.

The vigil will begin on Thursday, January 28 with a live broadcast of the Rosary at 8:00 PM, followed by the Opening Mass and the first in a series of back-to-back Holy Hours, throughout the night, led by bishops from various dioceses around the country. These will be live-streamed and shared on the USCCB's website. The vigil will conclude with an 8:00 AM Closing Mass on Friday, January 29, and is the only part of the vigil open to public attendance. Please note that only up to 200 people will be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no registration, concelebration, or special admittance for clergy or religious.

I want to thank my brother bishops who are offering Holy Hours during the National Prayer Vigil for Life, as well as those who are offering other live-streamed prayer events during the [9 Days for Life](#) novena. If you would like to offer a Holy Hour in conjunction with the National Prayer Vigil for Life, please contact Kimberly Baker (kbaker@usccb.org). If you would like the USCCB to [list](#) a live-streamed prayer event taking place January 21-29, please contact Anne McGuire (amcguire@usccb.org).

Fraternally yours in Jesus, the Lord of Life,

Most Reverend Joseph F. Naumann
Archbishop of Kansas City, Kansas
Chairman
U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops
Committee on Pro-Life Activities