

Dear Friends, this Newsletter is being sent to you courtesy of the St. Raymond's Respect Life Committee



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January 2013 – March For Life Edition
St. Raymond's Respects Life
Newsletter

*The newsletter of the Respect Life Committee of St.
Raymond's Parish
Springfield, VA*

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40th Annual March for Life on Monday, January 25, 2013



March for Life – January 25th

US Bishops Call for Prayer and

Fasting around 40th anniversary of Roe v Wade

March for Life 2013! Join St. Raymond's parish in being part of the estimated 400,000+ who will descend upon Washington DC in what is being reported as the largest March for Life ever. Just today I received a report that Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, has hired a 7th bus to transport over 350 student on a 48-hour round trip to attend the March. There are still seats available on the buses. Join us for Mass at 10:00 a.m. and then the trip to the March. We will return to the parish in late afternoon and be greeted by a chili supper provided by the Women of St. Raymond's. The sign-up sheets are in the narthex of the church and available any time that the Church is open.

Parishioners attending the March! Sign up in the narthex for your seat on a bus. We will leave following 10:30 Mass and return to St. Raymond's around 4:30...in time for the chili dinner! For more info, contact Liz Hilderbrand at hildebrandseven@cox.net.

All High School and Middle School Students are welcome on a first come, first serve basis to attend the Verizon Center Youth mass followed by the March for Life with St. Raymond's Youth Group. RSVP to reserve your free Verizon Center Ticket. For more info, contact Kristin Smith, Director of the Youth Apostolate, straycyo@gmail.com or (703-440-0535 x 21.

Parishioners Offering Prayer Support join us for the 10:30 Mass followed by adoration until 3:00 p.m. Special prayers for life will be offered. For more info, contact Diane Spinelli at dispinelli@yahoo.com.

Parishioners Who want a Friday Evening Meal Out: The WSRP is hosting a chili supper following the March. Please bring your favorite dish in a crock pot to the parish hall beginning at 3:30 p.m. We need set up and clean up...many hands make light work! Call Pam Rinn for more information at (703) 690-4420 or prinn@verizon.net.

Read [Father DeCelles' homily from the March for Life weekend - 2012](#)

U.S. Bishops call for 'nine days of prayer, penance and pilgrimage' surrounding on 40th anniversary of Roe v. Wade

WASHINGTON—The U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities urges Catholics nationwide to participate in Nine Days of Prayer, Penance and Pilgrimage, January 19-27, marking the 40th anniversary of Roe v. Wade. The intentions for these nine days will be for healing and conversion, for elected officials who support abortion and for all people whose lives have been forever changed by an abortion.

"The bishops recognize that prayer is the foundation of all our efforts on behalf of human life," said Tom Grenchik, executive director of the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). "These nine days of focused prayer and sacrifice are a great opportunity for people across the nation to unite their voices in prayer to God. Through this prayer campaign, I hope that many will be blessed with a new spirit of faith and encouragement in their pro-life efforts."

Key events during the Nine Days are the National Prayer Vigil for Life, January 24-25 (<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/resources/index.cfm>), and the Rally and March for Life, January 25 (<http://www.marchforlife.org>), all being held in Washington.

A youth video contest is open to middle and high school students, who are invited to submit a 30-60-second video that should be recorded while participating in activities surrounding the 40th anniversary of Roe v. Wade. Details of the contest are available at www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/video-contest-for-high-school-age-pilgrims.cfm. Also, young adults are encouraged to use their Facebook profile pictures to support the sanctity of life. Details are available at www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/upload/Pro-Life-Profiles-Flyer.pdf.

USCCB will also feature guest bloggers the week of January 22 providing their personal pro-life testimonials at <http://usccbmedia.blogspot.com>.

Each day's novena content includes an intercession, brief prayers and a reflection, daily suggestions for concrete acts of prayer, penance and charity, and a powerful abortion-related myth/reality fact. People can sign up to receive the novena daily by email by visiting www.usccb.org/9days, or by text message by texting "9days" to 99000. The novena will also be posted daily on "People of Life," the USCCB Pro-Life Secretariat's Facebook page, and tweeted from "USCCB" on Twitter.

Additional activities may be sponsored by local parishes and/or dioceses. Suggestions include a special Mass or holy hour with a Blessing of Pro-Life Pilgrims for those traveling to distant Masses, rallies, marches, and other events marking the Roe anniversary, a "40 Hours Devotion" or a Holy Hour for Life, including a "Prayer Service for Forgiveness and Healing," and a closing "Holy Hour for Reparation and Healing." Prayer resources and program models for these suggested activities are available at www.usccb.org/9days.