



## DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

2110 Broadway • Sacramento, California 95818 • 916/733-0200 • Fax 916/733-0215

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

December 5, 2017

Dear Friends in Christ:

January 22, 2018 marks the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the lamentable 1973 U.S. Supreme Court Decision, Roe v. Wade. In prayerful observance, I designate January 22, 2018 as a Diocesan Day of Reparation.

I ask our clergy and laity to join me in cooperating with God's merciful grace in these ways:

January 20/21: clergy are asked to 1) pray and preach for a merciful end to abortion and a revived promotion of the gospel of life, and 2) encourage all to observe the January 22 Diocesan Day of Reparation.

January 22: all are asked to observe this Day of Reparation through fasting, prayer, penance and works of mercy.

January 22: all are invited to attend the 12:10 p.m. Cathedral Mass and priests are invited to concelebrate with me.

January 22/23: middle and high school students are invited to attend the Choose Life educational program in either Sacramento (1/22) or Yuba City (1/23)

January 27: all are encouraged to participate in the Walk for Life West Coast in San Francisco.

Further details about these and other related events are attached.

The USCCB has prepared a variety of homily notes, intercessions and other helpful resources to assist in observing the anniversary of Roe v. Wade. Please review them at:

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/resources/january-22-day-of-prayer-leader-resources.cfm>

May our prayers, acts of penance, public witness and works of charity on these days help restore a culture of life and a civilization of love to our country so marred by the Court decision of Roe v. Wade. May the intercession of our Blessed Mother Mary bring us into fuller communion with the merciful mission of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Respectfully,

+Jaime Soto  
Bishop of Sacramento



**Diocese of Sacramento**  
**Guidelines & Events in Remembrance of**  
**45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Roe v. Wade**



**Saturday / Sunday, January 20 / 21, 2018**

- Clergy are asked to 1) pray and preach for a merciful end to abortion and a revived promotion of the gospel of life, and 2) encourage all to observe the January 22 Diocesan Day of Reparation

**Monday, January 22, 2018**

Diocesan Day of Reparation

- All clergy and laity are asked to observe as a day of fasting, prayer, penance, and works of charity. For those able to fast, it is recommended that they limit themselves to one full meal. Those choosing to abstain may refrain from eating either meat or anything normally consumed as part of their daily routine.
- Works of charity are particularly encouraged: helping at food distribution centers, visiting the sick or imprisoned, and assisting at shelters for women and families in need.

Masses

- Priests are asked to offer their Masses for an end to abortion, using either 48/1 (Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life), 30A (For the Preservation of Peace and Justice) or 38A or B (For the Forgiveness of Sins).
- All are invited to attend the 12:10 p.m Cathedral Mass. Priests are encouraged to concelebrate this Mass with Bishop Soto. Please bring an alb and violet stole.

Choose Life program for youth (Cathedral)

- Middle and high school youth from our Catholic schools are invited to attend the Choose Life educational program at the Cathedral from 10 a.m. to noon on the *morning* of January 22. Contact Diocesan School Dept. for more information, 916-733-0110
- Middle and high school youth leaders who are not able to attend the morning Choose Life program are welcomed to attend the *evening* version of the program at the Cathedral from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Contact Steve Patton for more information: [spatton@scd.org](mailto:spatton@scd.org), 916-733-0133

**Tuesday, January 23, 2018**

- Choose Life program for youth (St. Isidore, Yuba City). Repeat of 1/22 morning and evening programs at Cathedral

**Saturday, January 27, 2018**

- All are encouraged to participate in the January 21 Walk for Life West Coast in San Francisco. More information about schedules, speakers, travel and related events can be found at [www.walkforlifewc.com](http://www.walkforlifewc.com)

**Sunday, January 28, 2018**

- High school and college students are invited to Students for Life of America's West Coast National Conference at St. Mary Cathedral in San Francisco on Sunday, January 22: <http://sflalive.org>