



DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

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

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

December 6, 2021

Dear Friends in Christ:

January 22nd, 2022 marks the 49th anniversary of the lamentable 1973 U.S. Supreme Court Decision, Roe v. Wade. Recognizing the tragedy of legalized abortion still gripping our nation, I designate Friday, January 21st, as a Diocesan Day of Reparation.

The Catholic Faithful and all people of goodwill are encouraged to observe this Day of Reparation with prayers for the legal protection of human life, works of mercy, and penance for the persistent violations of human dignity by the practice of abortion. In the activities of January, I would like all the faithful to emphasize the importance of prayer within our ministry.

I ask the clergy and laity to join me in offering a Mass of Reparation on Friday, January 21, 2022, at 12:05 pm at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Sacramento. It will be live-streamed on the Diocese of Sacramento Facebook page.

I ask my brother priests and deacons to pray and preach for a merciful end to abortion as well as a renewed promotion of the Gospel of Life on the weekend of January 15-16. Encourage all parishioners to observe the January 21st Diocesan Day of Reparation.

The USCCB has prepared a variety of homily notes, intercessions, and other resources to assist in observing the sad anniversary of Roe v. Wade in an appropriate manner. Please review them at: www.usccb.org/committees/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/january-22-day-of-prayer.

The continuing Pandemic requires us to be responsible and safe. Parishes can rent buses for the annual Walk for Life in San Francisco on Saturday, January 22nd. San Francisco has stricter COVID-19 regulations. I ask that each parish be mindful of the Covid-19 regulations in the local county. Everyone is encouraged to wear a mask for their own safety as well as the safety of others. Diocese of Sacramento/Protect Every Life masks are available from the Respect Life office.

The Offices of Family & Faith Formation and Youth & Young Adult Ministry will provide the following local Respect Life activities in January. Information can be found on our website at: <https://www.scd.org/protecteverylife>.

- **January 12-20th - The Diocesan Pro-Life Eucharistic Adoration Novena** will be led by different parishes each day. This will be an opportunity to unite our pro-life efforts with the saving work of Jesus in the Eucharist. May Jesus, “the Bread of Life” (Jn. 6.35), help us nourish the world with the gospel of life. Each day will focus on a specific pro-life theme.
- **January 20th** - A gathering for young adults called “**Into the Mix**” focused on pro-life issues.
- **January 21st - Respect Life Mass** at Cathedral Blessed Sacrament

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