

INTERCEDE



May every human life be protected in law and welcomed in love.

PRAY

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

REFLECT

The Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* overturned *Roe v. Wade*, ending the nearly fifty-year reign of nationwide abortion on demand. *Dobbs* returned the issue of abortion to the people's elected representatives at the federal and state levels. Since the *Dobbs* decision, many states have enacted strong legal protections for preborn children. Tragically, other states have drastically expanded abortion. In the most recent election, ten states featured ballot initiatives that would enshrine abortion in state constitutions, with seven of them voting in favor of abortion and overriding pro-life safeguards in the process.

Abortion is currently legal in more states than not. Continuing work is urgently needed to protect children, women, and families from the tragedy of abortion. At this critical moment, whether we reside in states with pro-life or pro-abortion policies, we are presented with opportunities and responsibilities to continue building a culture that welcomes, celebrates, and protects human life. Our prayer and action are essential to maintaining policies that protect life, where they exist, and preventing the spread of

policies that lead to more abortions. As we mark the solemn anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* this January, recalling the millions of lives that have been lost to abortion, may we recommit ourselves to the cause of life.

In addition to our efforts to protect human life in law, we must redouble our efforts to serve women facing unexpected or difficult pregnancies, offering them the compassionate support they need to lovingly welcome the gift of their children. We must do whatever we can in every sphere to ensure that life is welcomed, and mothers are supported.

ACT (choose one)

- Sign up to join Catholics across the country in praying for the end to all abortion during the *9 Days for Life* (9daysforlife.com) novena from January 16-24.
- Participate in a local, state, or national pro-life event during the month of January to advocate and pray for the protection of preborn life. (*Check with your parish and diocese for information about events in your area.*)
- Connect with your pastor to display pro-life materials in your parish. Visit our Respect Life Store (store.respectlife.org) for printed materials.
- Offer some other sacrifice or prayer that you feel called to do for this month's intention.

ONE STEP FURTHER

Learn more about how Catholics throughout the country are helping moms and children in need in this short video: bit.ly/wwmin. And get updates on state issues by signing up to receive information from your state Catholic conference or diocesan Respect Life office.



Get monthly prayer guides at:

respectlife.org/prayer-and-action