



NINE DAYS OF PRAYER, PENANCE, & PILGRIMAGE

January 19-27, 2013

Marking the 40th Anniversary of Roe v. Wade



Day 9: Sunday, January 27, 2013

Intercession:

For repentance, healing and peace, in every heart and every nation.

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

Acts of Reparation (choose one):

- Spend quality time with a family member or friend; ask them if they would like to help out at a local charity with you.
- Say three Hail Mary's for your parish priest. Without our priests, we could not have the sacraments.
- Make a "quiet hour" today, turning off all electronic devices (cell phone, iPod, computer, television, radio, video game system) and retreat to your room.

Reflection:

Today is the memorial of St. Angela Merici, foundress of the religious community now known as the Ursuline nuns. Living in northern Italy in the early 1500s, she was moved by the needs of young girls in the community, who were poor and uneducated. She responded to the girls' needs by educating them in the Gospel. Her example reminds us that to share Christ with those in need is to share news of great joy. "...for today is holy to our LORD. Do not be saddened this day, for rejoicing in the LORD must be your strength!" (Nehemiah 8:10) We hear these words proclaimed in today's first reading. The message of the Gospel of Life is one of great joy! Our call to live this Gospel is not marked with sadness and despair, but with hope, expectation and exuberant joy. "It is up to you, young followers of Christ, to show the world that faith brings happiness and a joy which is true, full and enduring.... The Gospel is the "good news" that God loves us and that each of us is important to him. Show the world that this is true!" (Pope Benedict XVI, *Message for the 27th World Youth Day*, March 15, 2012).

Did you know?

Pope Benedict XVI [recently linked respect for life with peace](#): *"The path to the attainment of the common good and to peace is above all that of respect for human life in all its many aspects, beginning with its conception, through its development and up to its natural end. True peacemakers, then, are those who love, defend and promote human life in all its dimensions, personal, communitarian and transcendent. Life in its fullness is the height of peace. Anyone who loves peace cannot tolerate attacks and crimes against life."* It's up to you—through your prayers and actions—to help create a culture of life and peace. May God bless you for your dedication and sacrifices for life!

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E-MAIL MESSAGES DURING THE NOVENA, OR TEXT "9DAYS" TO 99000.

www.usccb.org/prolife