**Word of Life: January 2018**

*Recommended dates are provided, but you are welcome to use these materials at any time!*

**9 Days for Life: January 18-26, 2018**[www.9daysforlife.com](http://www.9daysforlife.com)

*[](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/nine-days-of-prayer-penance-and-pilgrimage.cfm)9 Days for Life* is a “digital pilgrimage” of prayer and action focused on cherishing the gift of every person's life. A multi-faceted novena highlighting a different intention each day provides reflections, bonus information, and suggested actions.

Sign up to receive the novena through a free app, daily emails, or daily text messages. Visit [www.9daysforlife.com](http://www.9daysforlife.com) to sign up and for information on how else you can get involved!

**#9DaysforLife #OurPrayersMatter**

**Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children: January 22, 2018**

* [Description](http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/resources/january-22-day-of-prayer.cfm)
* [Leaders’ Resources](http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/resources/january-22-day-of-prayer-leader-resources.cfm) (includes choices of readings for Mass, homily notes, intercessions, and more)

**9 Days for Life** [**Leaders’ Toolkit**](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/9-days-for-life-resources-for-leaders.cfm)

* [Bulletin Insert](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/upload/flyer-2-9-days-for-life-2018-english-color.pdf)
* [Pulpit/Bulletin Announcements](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/9-days-for-life-announcements.cfm)
* [Novena](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/9-days-for-life-pray.cfm)
* [Graphics](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/9days-promotional-graphics.cfm)
* [Leaders’ Guide for Ministry to Young People](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/9-days-for-life-leaders-guide-for-ministry-to-young-people.cfm)
* More!

[](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/upload/flyer-2-9-days-for-life-2018-english-color.pdf)

**Word of Life – January 2018**

**Intercessions for Life**

**January 1st The Octave Day of Christmas**

May every expectant mother **Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary,**

encounter loving support **the Mother of God**

as she awaits the birth of her child;

*We pray to the Lord:*

**January 7th The Epiphany of the Lord**

For the times we are afraid to welcome life:  
May the Lord fill our hearts with  
confidence in His loving care  
and provide for every need;  
*We pray to the Lord:*

**January 14th Second Sunday of Ordinary Time**

For all people:  
May God grant us courage to embrace  
his precious gift of life,  
even in the most difficult of circumstances;  
*We pray to the Lord:*

**January 21st Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

For public servants:  
May God grant them the humility, wisdom,  
and courage to defend all human life;  
*We pray to the Lord:*

**January 22nd** **Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection**

For unborn children in danger of abortion: **of Unborn Children**

May they be given the chance to live

the life God has planned for them;

*We pray to the Lord:*

**January 28th Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

For those who feel alone in their grief  
following an abortion:  
May they deeply experience  
the Lord's mercy and healing;  
*We pray to the Lord:*

**Word of Life – December 2017**

**Bulletin Quotes**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **January 1st**  “To women with an unplanned pregnancy, Maya says, ‘This is survivable. Have hope.’”  USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  “Accompanying Expectant Mothers Considering Adoption,” [www.goo.gl/srj6L3](http://www.goo.gl/srj6L3) | [Order](http://store.usccb.org/Expectant-Mothers-Considering-Adoption-p/c1646.htm) [Download](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/2016/respect-life-program-2016-articles.cfm#accompanying) |
| **January 7th**  “Heavenly Father, thank you for the precious gift of life. Help us to  cherish and protect this gift, even in the midst of fear, pain, and  suffering. … Grant us the humility to accept help when we are in need,  and teach us to be merciful to all.”  USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  “Every Life is Worth Living” Prayer Card, <https://goo.gl/iF9daj> | [Order](https://store.usccb.org/product-p/c1512.htm) [Download](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/upload/Prayer-Card-RLP-2015-Eng-2.pdf) |
| **January 14th**  “Pray with a multi-faceted novena that includes a new intention, brief reflection, bonus information, and suggested actions each day. Sign up now & participate Thursday, January 18 – Friday, January 26: [9daysforlife.com](http://www.9daysforlife.com)”  USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  [www.9daysforlife.com](http://www.9daysforlife.com) | [Learn more!](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/nine-days-of-prayer-penance-and-pilgrimage.cfm) |
| **January 21st**  “When a woman is facing a difficult pregnancy, the reaction of the first person she tells tends to set the tone for her decision-making. How do we respond in a loving way that is life-affirming for both her and her baby?” Find out in “What to Do When a Friend is Considering Abortion: [www.bit.ly/friend-considering-abortion](http://www.bit.ly/friend-considering-abortion).  USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  “What to Do When a Friend Is Considering Abortion”  [www.bit.ly/friend-considering-abortion](http://www.bit.ly/friend-considering-abortion) | [Order](http://store.usccb.org/What-to-Do-When-a-Friend-is-Considering-Abortion-p/c1741.htm) [Download](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/2017/respect-life-program-2017-articles.cfm#what) |
| **January 28th**  If a friend confided in you tomorrow that she had an abortion, would you be able to respond in a way that brings her closer to healing? Learn what to do and say in “How to Talk to a Friend Who’s Had an Abortion”: [www.bit.ly/friend-had-abortion](http://www.bit.ly/friend-had-abortion).  USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  “How to Talk to a Friend Who’s Had an Abortion” | [Order](http://store.usccb.org/product-p/c0120.htm) |

**Word of Life - January 2018**

**Bulletin Art**

*You are welcome to use these and other downloadable images from the online* [**Respect Life image gallery**](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/respect-life-image-gallery.cfm)*, provided they are not altered in any way, other than the size. Thank you!*

**Sunday, January 1st, 2018**

***Be sure to visit the 9 Days for Life*** [**leaders’ toolkit**](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/9-days-for-life-resources-for-leaders.cfm)***!***

**Featuring “**[**Living out Christmas in the New Year**](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/living-out-christmas-in-the-new-year.cfm)**”**

* Download Text: [English](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/upload/Living-out-Christmas-in-the-New-Year-9-Days-for-Life-2018.docx) | [Spanish](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/upload/Living-out-Christmas-in-the-New-Year-9-Days-for-Life-2018-Spanish.docx)
* Download Image: [English](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/upload/new-years-reflection-9-days.jpg) | [Spanish](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/upload/new-years-reflection-9-days-spanish.jpg)

[](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/living-out-christmas-in-the-new-year.cfm)

**Sunday, January 14th, 2018**

**Featuring “9 Days for Life”**

* Bulletin Insert: [Color](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/upload/flyer-2-9-days-for-life-2018-english-color.pdf) | [Grayscale](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/upload/9-days-for-life-8-5x11-ad-2018-english-grayscale.pdf)
* Download Image: [English](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/upload/small-square-9-days-for-life-2018.jpg) | [Spanish](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/upload/square-9-days-for-life-2018-spanish.jpg)

[](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/upload/small-square-9-days-for-life-2018.jpg)