**Word of Life: February 2021**

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

**Featured this Month…**

**February 7–14, 2021: National Marriage Week**

**Sunday, February 14, 2021: World Marriage Day**


The upcoming observances of National Marriage Week (February 7-14, 2021) and World Marriage Day (Sunday, February 14, 2021) are opportunities to focus on building a culture of life and love by supporting and promoting marriage and the family.

The USCCB Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth offers many resources. The theme for 2021 is “**To Have, To Hold, To Honor**.”

* [Resources](https://www.usccb.org/topics/marriage-and-family-life-ministries/national-marriage-week)
* [Ideas/Events for Individuals](https://www.foryourmarriage.org/celebrate-national-marriage-week)

 **Related Respect Life Resources**

[Seven Considerations while Navigating Infertility](https://www.respectlife.org/navigating-infertility)

[Married Love and the Gift of Life](http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/love-and-sexuality/married-love-and-the-gift-of-life.cfm)

[Healing within Marriage from an Abortion](https://www.respectlife.org/healing-in-marriage)

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**Intercessions for Life**

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| **February 7th** For the sick, especially those nearing life’s end:May they be cared for with tenderness and compassionas they prepare to enter eternal life; *We pray to the Lord*:  | **Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time** |
| **February 14th** For all married couples: That they may witness to the generous love of God, through openness to new lifeby joyfully welcoming the gift of children; *We pray to the Lord:* | **Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time** |
| **February 17th** For the times we have violated or neglected the sanctity of human life:May we repent, receive the Lord’s mercy, and return to Him with our whole heart; *We pray to the Lord:* | **Ash Wednesday** |
| **February 21st** May all who have participated in abortionand doubt in the Lord’s mercy know He desires to grant pardon and peacein the Sacrament of Reconciliation;*We pray to the Lord:* | **First Sunday of Lent** |
| **February 28th** May every human person, from conception to natural death, be recognized as precious and belovedin the eyes of the Lord;*We pray to the Lord:* | **Second Sunday of Lent** |

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**Bulletin Quotes**

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| **February 7th** “A society is all the more human to the degree that it cares effectively for its most frail and suffering members, in a spirit of fraternal love. Let us strive to achieve this goal, so that no one will feel alone, excluded or abandoned.”Pope Francis, Message for the 29th World Day of the Sick 2021© 2020, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved. | Index[Read Online](http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/sick/documents/papa-francesco_20201220_giornata-malato.html) |
| **February 14th** “Married love differs from any other love in the world. By its nature, the love of husband and wife is so complete, so ordered to a lifetime of communion with God and each other, that it is open to creating a new human being they will love and care for together.”USCCB, *Married Love and the Gift of Life* |  [Order](http://store.usccb.org/married-love-and-the-gift-of-life-p/5-787.htm) [| Read Online](https://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/love-and-sexuality/married-love-and-the-gift-of-life)  |
| **February 21st** “Abortion affects countless marriages more than many people recognize. But there is no doubt that God will bring great healing to those who trust in his infinite mercy. If a past abortion can be acknowledged and addressed, a married couple can make great strides in experiencing even more fully God’s design that ‘the two shall become one’ (Mt 19:5).”USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities “Healing within Marriage from an Abortion”[respectlife.org/healing-in-marriage](https://www.respectlife.org/healing-in-marriage)  | [Order](http://store.usccb.org/product-p/c1441.htm) | [Download](https://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/2014/upload/Healing-within-a-Marriage-from-an-Abortion-RLP2014-Bulletin.pdf) |
| **February 28th** “The essence of our identity is that we are created in God's image and likeness and loved by Him. Nothing can diminish the priceless worth of any human life. Every person is **cherished**.”USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life ActivitiesRespect Life Reflection: Cherished, Chosen, Sent[usccb.org/cherished-chosen-sent-reflection](https://www.usccb.org/cherished-chosen-sent-reflection)  |  [Order](http://store.usccb.org/2018-2019-rlp-flyer-p/c1806.htm) [| Download](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/2018/2018-19-respect-life-reflection.cfm)  |

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**Bulletin Art**

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

**Sunday, February 14, 2021**

[Download](https://www.foryourmarriage.org/2021-national-marriage-week-social-media-kit/national-marriage-week_2021_social-media_r1_facebook5/)

**Sunday, February 28, 2021**

Download: [English](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/upload/rlp-18-meme-cherished.jpg) | [Spanish](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/upload/rlp-18-cherished-sp-500x500-jpg.png)

