January

RESPECT LIFE OBSERVANCES/EVENTS

COVID-19 CONSIDERATIONS and ADAPTATIONS

Despite restrictions in some areas of the country to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the January Action Guide and 9 Days for Life remain adaptable to current challenges and circumstances. Designed primarily as a digital prayer effort, the annual, nationwide novena 9 Days for Life can help unite Catholics across the country in praying for the protection of human life.

The majority of resources can be used in either virtual or in-person settings. For example, the sample pulpit announcements and homily notes can be shared with your pastor for inclusion during both publicly attended and live-streamed Masses. Sample intercessions can still be included during the Prayer of the Faithful. You might consider incorporating some of promotional graphics for 9 Days for Life in emails, newsletters, digital or print bulletins, and on parish websites. For easy social media content, you can also share posts from USCCB Respect Life's Facebook (USCCB Respect Life) and Twitter (@usccbprolife) accounts before and during the novena.

As always, please be sure to follow all local policies and procedures of your parish and diocese, and obtain whatever permission is needed.

A full listing of leader resources is available at respectlife.org/action-guides.

iStock.com/nevodka; iStock.com/TatianaDavidova. Photos used with permission. All rights reserved.
Copyright © 2020, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C. All rights reserved.

IDEAS FOR USING INTERCESSIONS

- Share with your pastor as options for the Prayer of the Faithful during live-streamed (and publicly-attended) Masses.
- Include one intention each week of January in parish emails and/or text messages.
- Post one intention on your parish website and social media accounts each week.
- Send to members of your parish prayer ministry group and your parish pro-life ministry group, asking them to pray for the weekly intercessions.
- Include the weekly intercession in the parish bulletin, whether print or digital.

IDEAS FOR USING HOMILY HELPS

- Share with your pastor so he can incorporate Respect Life themes in his messages or homilies to the parish.
- Use as the basis for a talk or a discussion in a socially distanced or virtual ministry or faith-sharing group.

IDEAS FOR USING GRAPHICS

- Include promotional graphics in parish emails, newsletters, or bulletins, and encourage parishioners to sign up for the novena at 9daysforlife.com.
- During the novena, share each daily intention posted by USCCB Respect Life's Facebook and Twitter accounts in parish groups and on social media accounts.
- Include ads for 9 Days for Life on your parish website, linking to the sign-up page, www.9daysforlife.com.