

Marking the 39th anniversary of Roe vs. Wade, the U.S. Supreme Court decision to legalize abortion, with prayer

This year's USCCB Respect Life Parish Program includes once again a Liturgical Guide which may be viewed on-line (<http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/2011/upload/liturgy-guide-2011.pdf>).

Included in the Liturgical Guide are suggestions for *Preaching for Life* for both January 22 and 23 (see below liturgical details for the days) together with *Intercessions for Life*.

General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) and Proper Calendar for the United States

Mass For Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life – The Congregation has confirmed the Mass in Thanksgiving for the Gift of Human Life, now renamed the Mass For Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life, which may be used on occasions to celebrate the dignity of human life. GIRM no. 373 has been altered to allow this Mass to be said also **on January 22 (or January 23, when January 22 falls on a Sunday), the day of penance for abortion.**

The relevant change reads: “The liturgical celebrations for this day may be the “*Mass For Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life*” (no. 48/1 of the Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions), celebrated with white vestments, or the “*Mass For the Preservation of Peace and Justice*” (no. 30 of the Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions), celebrated with violet vestments.”