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Catholic Bishops Announce Nationwide Prayer Vigil for Life

[National](#) | Rachel Quackenbush | Nov 26, 2024 | 11:38AM | Washington, DC



Catholics across the country are invited to participate in the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)'s National Prayer Vigil for Life, scheduled for January 23-24, 2025.

The vigil, organized by the USCCB's Committee on Pro-Life Activities, involves praying for an end to abortion and the rebuilding of a culture of life in the wake of the Supreme Court's 2022 decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson*, which overturned *Roe v. Wade* and allowed the states to decide their abortion policies.

"I enthusiastically invite Catholics from all around the country to join me in-person or virtually, in praying for an end to abortion and building up a culture of life," Bishop Daniel E. Thomas of Toledo, the committee's chairman, said in a November 22 [press release](#).

The National Prayer Vigil for Life is hosted by the USCCB's Pro-Life Secretariat, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, and The Catholic University of America's Office of Campus Ministry in Washington, D.C.

"Together, we must pray to change hearts and build a culture of life as we advocate for the most vulnerable," Bishop Thomas said. "I look forward to opening our Vigil with Holy Mass together with many other bishops, hundreds of priests, consecrated religious, seminarians, and many thousands of pilgrims."

The Vigil begins on the eve of the [March for Life](#), which marks the anniversary of the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision. **Bishop Thomas will celebrate the opening Mass at 5 p.m. January 23** at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Following the Mass, there will be a Eucharistic procession, leading into the National Holy Hour for Life, which will include the recitation of the Rosary and Benediction.

Bishop Robert J. Brennan of Brooklyn will celebrate the closing Mass at 8 a.m. January 24.

The opening Mass and Holy Hour will be livestreamed on the Basilica's website (<https://www.nationalshrine.org/>)

LifeNews Note: Rachel Quackenbush writes for CatholicVote, [where this column originally appeared](#).