



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

August 1, 2018

Dear Clergy,

I invite you and your parishioners to join me and Catholics nationwide in a weekly moment of prayer from early August to late September 2018 for the legal protection of human life.

As soon as Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy announced his retirement, pro-abortion groups began lobbying the U.S. Senate to reject any nominee who does not promise to endorse *Roe v. Wade*. We should certainly raise grave concerns about a confirmation process that is being grossly distorted by efforts to subject judicial nominees to a litmus test of support for abortion. And we must pray.

Each Friday, from August 3 to September 28, 2018, we'll have the opportunity to join in a nine-week effort of prayer, fasting and education that a change in the U.S. Supreme Court will move our nation closer to the day when every human being is protected in law and welcomed in life.

As part of the USCCB Call to Prayer, participants can receive weekly prayer reminders by text message or email. In addition to the current invitation to fast on Fridays, participants will be encouraged to pray one *Our Father*, *Hail Mary*, and *Glory Be* for this intention and will receive important facts about how *Roe* is not health care, is bad law, and fails women.

Please encourage your parishioners to sign up at www.usccb.org/pray for this and the continuing Call to Prayer initiatives. Sample bulletin/pulpit announcements are included below.

Please also consider sharing the intention, graphics, and facts about *Roe* in your parish bulletin, on your website, and in other parish communications throughout this nine-week period. These resources will be posted at <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/take-action-now/call-to-prayer/legal-protection-of-human-life.cfm>.

May our Lady of Guadalupe intercede for the healing of our nation and our people from decades of abortion on demand. Thank you for your continued, prayerful leadership.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul D. Sirba".

Most Reverend Paul D. Sirba
Bishop of Duluth