



# Office of Advocacy & Justice

"The direct duty to work for a just ordering of society is proper to the lay faithful." Pope Benedict XVI

## Statement of the Catholic Bishops of Florida on the 40th Anniversary of Roe v. Wade January 22, 2013

It is with deep sorrow and regret that we mark this 40th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision by the United States Supreme Court. This Supreme Court decision denied American citizens the legal authority to protect the basic rights of an entire class of human beings effectively making abortions lawful at any time before birth. [Read more.](#)



## US Bishops urge Catholics to Pray for the defense of Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty in 2013



In this Year of Faith, the Catholic Bishops of the United States have called for a nationwide effort to advance a movement for Life, Marriage, and Religious Liberty through prayer, penance, and sacrifice. Catholics across the nation are being encouraged to pray for rebuilding a culture favorable to life and marriage and for increased protections of religious liberty. [Read more.](#)

## Save the Date! Prayer Service for Christian Unity January 25, 2013

**Theme:** "What Does God Require of Us?" (cf. Micah 6: 6-8)

**Friday, January 25, 2013 - 10:30 am-11:30 am**

Reception immediately following

Cathedral Church of St. Luke

Vice Episcopal Cathedral of St. Luke

130 N. Magnolia Ave. in downtown

Orlando

R.S.V.P. to Alejandro Luciano,

407-246-4819

[advocacyjustice@orlandodiocese.org](mailto:advocacyjustice@orlandodiocese.org),

by January 18, 2013



## Join us at the March for Life, St. Augustine! January 19, 2013



**Keynote Speaker:**  
**Mark Houck**  
**The King's Men**  
**"Building men in the mold leader, protector, and provider."**

**Other speakers include:**  
**Bishop Felipe Estévez**  
**Pastor Bill Montgomery**  
**And others...**

More information [here](#). To register please call: 407-246-4819 or email us at [advocacyjustice@orlandodiocese.org](mailto:advocacyjustice@orlandodiocese.org)

## Calendar of Events 2013

January:

**5: Helpers' Mass and Rosary Procession, St. Augustine in Casselberry, 9am**

**12: Journey to Justice Retreat 9:15am, Sacred Heart New Smyrna Beach**

**17: Interfaith Prayer Service for Peace, St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church in Winter Park 7pm**

**19: March for Life, St. Augustine, FL**

**25: Prayer Service for Christian Unity St. Luke's Episcopal Cathedral, 10:30am**

February:

**2: Helpers' Mass and Rosary Procession, Holy Family 8:30am**

**16: Journey to Justice Retreat Our Lady of Lourdes, Daytona Beach, 9:15am**

## National Migration Week, January 6-12

National Migration Week will be observed in dioceses around the country January 6-12. This year's theme, "We are Strangers No Longer: Our Journey of Hope Continues," includes a postcard campaign that calls for comprehensive immigration reform.

Click picture for more info.



## You're Invited! Interfaith Prayer Service for Peace

**Theme: 'God of Life: Lead Us to Justice and Peace'**

**Thursday, January 17, 2013**

7pm - 8pm Reception immediately following

**St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church**

**526 Park Ave. N.**

**Winter Park**

**R.S.V.P. to Alejandro Luciano, 407-246-4819**

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Must reads!

The new "Rite for the Blessing of a Child in the Womb" was crafted to support parents awaiting the birth of their child, to encourage parish prayers for -- and recognition of -- the precious gift of the child in the womb...[Read more.](#)

What do Catholic women really believe about the Church's teachings on contraception? A new study reveals the hopes-and challenges-in transmitting the Church's teachings on such an important subject. [Read study here.](#)

## Pope Benedict's Prayer Intentions for January

**General:** That in this *Year of Faith* Christians may deepen their knowledge of the mystery of Christ and witness joyfully to the gift of faith in him.

**Missionary:** That the Christian communities of the Middle East, often discriminated against, may receive from the Holy Spirit the strength of fidelity and perseverance.

