



Dear Parishioners,

This weekend begins the "9 Days for Life" novena that our American bishops have asked us to pray January 18-26. We will be praying it after each of the Masses during this time. Of course, it can be prayed at home as well. There are booklets in the entry area of the church that you can take home to use. As I announced last weekend, on Sunday, January 26, following the 9:00 a.m. Mass, our Knights of Columbus Council is sponsoring a special Rosary, which all parishioners are encouraged to join in, as their way of participating in the Knights' "Day of Prayer for the Unborn Child" initiative. Also, thank you for your support of the Knights' "One Rose, One Life" campaign, which benefits pro-life organizations in Nebraska. As January 22 this week is the 41st anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion, it is imperative that we implore God to pour forth the graces necessary for conversion of our nation to the Gospel of Life. Another praiseworthy pro-life event this week is the State Walk for Life in Lincoln this coming Saturday, January 25, that begins at 10:00 AM on the west side of the Capitol building and is preceded by a 9:00 AM Mass at St. Mary's Church across the street from the Capitol at 14th and K streets.

This week also is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity which is observed from January 18-25. One of the prayers from the Vatican website for Christian unity that we can pray during this time is the following:

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you". Regard not our

sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly city, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and forever. Amen.

There are various prayers that can be found at the following website:

[http://www.vatican.va/roman\\_curia/pontifical\\_councils/chrstuni/weeks-prayer-doc/rc\\_pc\\_chrstuni\\_doc\\_20130528\\_week-prayer-2014\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/pontifical_councils/chrstuni/weeks-prayer-doc/rc_pc_chrstuni_doc_20130528_week-prayer-2014_en.html)

Have a blessed and grace-filled week.

God bless you, Fr. Gutowski

*Mass Intentions for the Week*

**JAN. 20 THRU JAN. 26**

Monday	Pat Hanley
Tuesday	Fr. Ralph Librea
Wednesday	Stella Buras
Thursday	Donie Adams
Friday	George & Eileen Erhart
Saturday	Bill Urbanski
Sunday	People of St. Joseph



**ANNUAL VALENTINE LUNCHEON**

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

WEDNESDAY FEB. 5, 12:30 P.M

COST \$5.00

RESERVATIONS BY SUNDAY FEB. 2

402-253-2270

SPRINGFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH