



December 2017

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we begin the season of Advent, we remember the birth of the Christ Child and the hope of redemption and new life that He brings to us. We recall the threats that He with Mary and Joseph faced having to flee to Egypt to find refuge from the evil King Herod. We recall also the precious gift of each human life born in our day and the threats that they face, the most basic one the threat to their very coming to birth. Very soon after Christmas, we come to the anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* decision which realized this threat. We gather to pray in gratitude for the precious gift of life, to march to give public witness to our faith, and to work to uphold and protect the dignity of each human life in the womb and in every stage until death. I hope you will join Bishop Edward Burns and me on **Saturday, January 20, 2018** for the **Roe Memorial Mass** at the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe and the **North Texas March for Life**.

Together, we will memorialize the 45th anniversary of the tragic *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court decision that has led to the death of millions of children and the traumatic heartbreak of countless parents. While this anniversary is marked with great sadness, it is also an opportunity to witness to the beauty of life.

The theme of the 2018 Roe Memorial is “One small step for her, one giant leap for LIFE!” It speaks to the hopeful first step of each child only made possible through our openness to the gift of life. I invite you and your family to a full day of events celebrating this gift on January 20th, including:

- **Youth for Life Rally** beginning at 8:30 a.m. at St. Jude Chapel in downtown Dallas,
- **Peaceful Prayer** from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. outside Dallas abortion facilities,
- **Procession of Roses** at 10:00 a.m. at Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe,
- **Roe Memorial Mass** at 10:30 a.m. at Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe, and
- **North Texas March for Life** at 12:30 p.m. from Cathedral to rally at federal courthouse.

For more information about these events, please visit prolifedallas.org/roe or contact the Catholic Pro-Life Committee at 972-267-LIFE (5433).

Together, let us begin 2018 with a leap forward in faith – praying, marching and witnessing to the sanctity of life. May God bless you!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Greg Kelly".

Most Reverend Greg Kelly, VG
Auxiliary Bishop of Dallas