

RESOLUTION NO. 13
ROE v. WADE -
TOLLING THE BELL AND LOWERING THE FLAG TO HALF-STAFF

(AMENDED, BUT NOT ADOPTED)

WHEREAS, there have been approximately 1.5 million surgical abortions per year in the United States which translates to approximately 50 million surgical abortions between 1973 and 2009.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Columbus ask local bishops across the nation to annually request the local pastors to toll the bells at their churches on the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision. On January 22, the bell would toll one time for each million surgical abortions performed since the Supreme Court's tragic mistake of Roe v. Wade in 1973.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the toll would begin at the best appropriate time within each parish.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Columbus ask local bishops across the nation to annually request the local pastors and principals of Catholic schools to lower the flag to half-staff in remembrance of the sad and tragic decision of Roe v. Wade. For Catholic schools, if the anniversary of Roe v. Wade falls on a non-school day, the flag be lowered to half-staff on the school day closest to the anniversary.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the reason for the tolling of the bells and the lowering of the flag be explained to the students of the Catholic schools and to members of the Catholic Church congregations either from the pulpit and/or through the church bulletin.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Columbus should ascertain within three weeks of the request of each local bishop as to whether the local bishop will participate. If a bishop chooses not to participate or fails to respond for that year, the local councils within that diocese will step forward and promote this prolife activity with their local pastors.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is strongly suggested that a rosary be said led by the Knights of Columbus at the church during the toll.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that after passage of this resolution, that the same be presented to the Annual Meeting of the 2009 Supreme Convention of the Knights of Columbus for submission and action by the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus.

Submitted by: Council #1734 (Dyersville)