



**For Immediate Release**

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## Abby Johnson to speak at annual Prayer for Life Day, includes lobbying and rally at the Capitol

Catholic Charities Social Justice Consortium and other local pro-life organizations will host the annual Prayer for Life Day, Tues., Feb. 8 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 601 Grand Ave. in Des Moines. Keynote speaker Abby Johnson and lobbying training will be from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. followed by lobbying at the State Capital at 1 p.m. and the annual Prayer Rally at 3 p.m.

Keynote speaker Abby Johnson, former Planned Parenthood director turned pro-life advocate, will share her personal story and testimony about her transformation.

Reservations for the morning speakers are required by calling 515-244-1012 or by e-mail at [iowa@iowaRTL.org](mailto:iowa@iowaRTL.org).

Those attending the Prayer for Life Day are also encouraged to stay for the annual Legislative Mass on Feb. 8 at 6 p.m. at St. Ambrose Cathedral, 607 High St. in Des Moines. The four bishops of Iowa will celebrate Mass and Bishop Richard Pates of Des Moines will be the homilist.

Catholic Charities' Social Justice Consortium promotes the social justice mission of the Catholic Church. Guided by Bishop Richard Pates, the group's mission is to work toward a comprehensive and consistent ethic of life for the pursuit of the common good. Initiatives include Respect Life, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Charities' USA Poverty Campaign, JustFaith ministries, Domestic Violence/Sexual Abuse Advocacy, Justice for Newcomers and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness and Response. For more information about the Respect Life initiative, contact Wendy Solawetz at 515-237-5082.

*"Guided by the teachings of the Catholic Church, we serve all people in need with compassion and competence, advocate for justice, and encourage all people of good will to share in these efforts."*