



Relationship with GOD

More than Just SUNDAY

Roe v. Wade on the Brink?



Ben Nguyen

Many of our faithful remember Ben Nguyen, the former Chancellor for the Diocese of La Crosse, who now works for the Diocese of Corpus Christi in Texas. I'm delighted to say that Ben is coming to La Crosse as the keynote speaker for our

Diocesan Gospel of Life Celebration on Tuesday, Oct. 23 at Blessed Sacrament Parish. Bishop Callahan will preside at the *Mass for Giving Thanks for the Gift of Human Life* at 6:00 pm and Ben's talk, "Roe v. Wade on the Brink?" will follow at 7:00 pm.

Ben will talk about the 1973 Supreme Court ruling *Roe v. Wade*, which has been in the news almost daily since the Supreme Court nomination of Brett Kavanaugh. There is a sense that the addition of Kavanaugh to the high court might lead to the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*. Of course that prospect fills pro-lifers with hope and abortion rights activists with dread.

But what do most people really know about *Roe v. Wade*, beyond the fact that it legalized abortion in all 50 states? As a civil and canon lawyer, and as a teacher with a knack for boiling things down for the average person, Ben will address the following and more:

- How does *Roe v. Wade* square with the Constitution?
- How did the Court justify it?
- Where has that decision led?
- What would happen if *Roe v. Wade* were overturned?
- What's the biggest takeaway from all this for a Catholic?

Wherever you are in the diocese, you will be blessed if you can make it on Oct. 23. I know Ben well, as he taught for years in our Lay Formation Institute and Deacon Formation Program. He is one of the most gifted teachers we have ever had. And his background in law and his love of the Church will make this a special evening.



Norma McCorvey (Jane Roe)

It is a striking fact that even many legal experts who support abortion believe *Roe v. Wade* was poorly reasoned in light of the Constitution. But in the midst of the heated national debate, can we as Catholics, who support the sanctity of every human life, explain why?

We need to pray, we need to advocate on behalf of life, and we need to *be informed*. I hope to see you on Oct. 23.

Visit www.diolc.org/respect-life for more information and a flyer on the Oct. 23 Gospel of Life Celebration.

Christopher Ruff
Director of the Office for
Ministries and Social Concerns

CELEBRATING
150 YEARS
BUILDING UPON A TRADITION
OF CATHOLIC FAITH



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