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500 march to protest Roe v. Wade

By Josh Brodesky

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About 500 people gathered Downtown Saturday morning at St. Augustine Cathedral for the annual March for Life, which protests the Roe v. Wade decision that legalized abortion 34 years ago Monday.

The march, which ended at Holy Hope Cemetery about four miles to the north, was preceded by a Mass in which participants asked God for a reversal of the U.S. Supreme Court decision.

"One of the core values of our faith tradition is the valuing of all human life," said Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas of the Catholic Diocese of Tucson. "I think people get confused between freedom of choice and the value of life."

As the march began Downtown, the scene was quiet and there were no counterdemonstrations.

"We came out here because we believe in this fight for the rights for these children," said Leticia Contreras, 16 and a student at Pueblo High School who was with her mother, Maria. "They don't have a voice."

Besides protesting the ruling, Kicanas said abortion opponents need to commit to assisting women who are considering abortion.

"The church has to be speaking for programs that will assist women in the times of these decisions," he said.

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