



## Culturae Vitae

March 2015

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<http://www.kofc.org/>  
<http://www.louisianakc.org/>

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### PRELIMINARIES

#### COUNCIL CULTURE OF LIFE CHAIR COUPLES WANTED!

We want to encourage each council in the state to name a chair couple and allow them to contribute to the council's activities. If you have not done so, please send us the contact information for your council chair couple. A form has been created to facilitate this and it can be found on the State KC web site:

<http://www.louisianakc.org/programs/cultureoflife/>

Please send the filled-out form to us by mail or email at [smistretta2@cox.net](mailto:smistretta2@cox.net).

#### KCLS CULTURE OF LIFE PRESENTATION

Were you unable to attend KCLS this year? If not, then you can view the PowerPoint presentation given by the State Culture of Life Chair Couple. It is available on the state KC web site:

<http://www.louisianakc.org/programs/cultureoflife/>

This presentation provides an overview of the main Culture of Life issues. We hope that the content will provide a good starting point for further study. Also, we hope that you will be motivated to publically defend the Church's teaching on these Culture of Life issues. Please contact us if you have questions or need more information.

### WHAT IS A CULTURE OF LIFE?

Culture is the way in which men and women in a community mold or shape a particular way of relating to nature, to each other and to God, thus establishing a typical style of human coexistence.

One of the primary values of the Culture of Life is respect for human life from its beginning at conception until its natural end. When a culture is capable of protecting and encouraging this vision of mankind through its political, social, economic and legal structures, it can be called a culture of life.

Building such a culture not only requires collaboration of society's leaders, but it is also a duty and a right of all Christians.

### SHARE WHAT YOUR COUNCIL IS DOING TO BUILD A CULTURE OF LIFE

We want this monthly newsletter to be an opportunity for councils to share the good work that they are doing to build a Culture of Life. Please send an email telling us what your council is doing and send us pictures. Email us at [smistretta2@cox.net](mailto:smistretta2@cox.net). We want your council highlighted in the next issue!

### CULTURE OF LIFE SURVEY RESULTS ARE AVAILABLE

The results of a recent survey of Culture of Life chair couples is now available on the state KC web site:

<http://www.louisianakc.org/programs/cultureoflife/>

### FREE MATERIALS FROM SUPREME

The Supreme Council has a number of Culture of Life materials to aid you. All of these are free of charge except for the shipping. A list of materials can be found at the website:

[http://www.kofc.org/un/en/prolife/programs/support\\_materials.html](http://www.kofc.org/un/en/prolife/programs/support_materials.html)

Contact the Supreme Council Supply Department to order the material. Note that some of the materials are in electronic form that can be downloaded immediately. You can email your questions or other requests for materials to [William.obrien@kofc.org](mailto:William.obrien@kofc.org).

## CULTURE OF LIFE RESOURCES

### FREE ON-LINE BOOK

By Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

I want to make you aware of an opportunity to receive a free book on abortion. Below is the information from **The Manhattan Declaration** about this book (<http://manhattandeclaration.org>):



Manhattan Declaration partners with a faith-based organization dedicated to the promotion of a Christian worldview to offer exclusive opportunities to our signers or promote worthwhile efforts. In return, they support our ongoing efforts to promote life, marriage and religious liberty. We hope you appreciate the opportunity to learn about these coalition partners.

Since 2009 when we started Online for Life to save babies from abortion, I've heard a consistent, resounding question from pastors, friends, and even non-believers: "Why is abortion not the church's highest priority?"

Proverbs 24 commands us to "deliver those who are being taken away to death, and those who are staggering to slaughter, Oh hold them back!" Yet abortion remains eerily absent from the list of church priorities in America.

I wrote my new book, **Deliver Us From Abortion**, to help uncover the reality of abortion in the church, examine what the Bible really says about it, and show how God has empowered the church to end this unspeakable tragedy.

I want you to have this book, for free. Click here to get it now:

<http://www.prolife.org/deliver-us-from-abortion-md/>

I hope it inspires and empowers you to realize their role in ending abortion. We can't be silent about this issue any more.

Get your free eBook version of **Deliver Us From Abortion**.

Blessings,  
Brian Fisher  
Co-Founder and President, Online for Life



### ON-LINE RESOURCES FROM THE USCCB

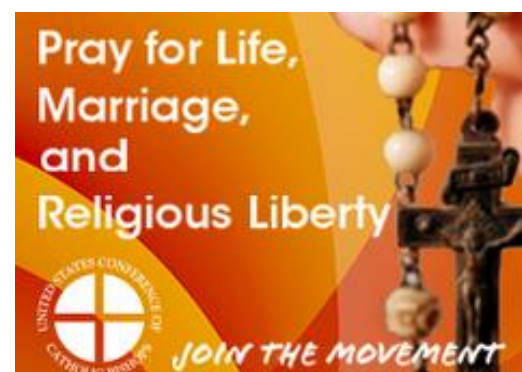
By Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

The USCCB has a web page dedicated to Pro-life activities: <http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/>

You can find pro-life literature and timely fact sheets. Topics include: Post-Abortion Healing, Abortion, Conscience Protection, Contraception, Euthanasia, Stem Cell Research, IVF/Reproductive Technology, and Prayers. Please take some time to go to the web site and share these resources with your council.



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF  
CATHOLIC BISHOPS



**CULTURE OF LIFE STORIES****REFLECTIONS OF AN ARCHBISHOP**

By John Hauler (Council 9016)

This article was taken from the pages of the New Orleans Herald newspaper, January 31, 2015:

According to Archbishop Aymond of New Orleans, the 2015 March for Life in Washington D.C. was incredible with the amount of energy displayed by the thousands and thousands of young people who participated. From Louisiana alone, more than two thousand young people took part in a bold, courageous and a vocal pro-life stance. On Wednesday morning January 21st following a Tuesday night arrival, Mass was celebrated and the Louisiana group then gathered to hear pro-life talks, pray and socialize. They then went to an abortion facility praying both for the women considering abortion as well as for those performing abortions. Prayers were also offered in front of the White House. After dinner an evening of praise and worship took place with about nine thousand young people in attendance.

Thursday morning of January 22nd began with Mass and then the march itself which lasted from noon until about 2:30 PM. The Archbishop was impressed with the thousands upon thousands of young people standing up for life. The marchers then went to the Congressional Office Building where they heard talks from our Louisiana Congressional delegation reaffirming to these young people that our congressmen want to have open communication with them. Following supper Thursday night, they returned to their hotel for an evening of praise and worship.

Archbishop Aymond believes that when Roe vs Wade became law in 1973 the attitude towards human life was changed. He also believes that this generation will be the one to bring us back from this culture of death to a culture of life. This generation will be a voice for the voiceless.

During this week of the march, conversation touched on all aspects of pro-life cause. When abortion is justified then any assault on human life is justified. The conversation then shifted to caring for people with disabilities and to the dangers posed by

euthanasia, eliminating the death penalty and the horror of human trafficking. The young people take these issues very seriously.

At a different time and circumstances, a youngster reading about the holocaust would be disturbed that such things took place. He hopes that enough people will read about it and learn from it so that such things will not happen again. It is unfortunate that he does not realize that such things are happening today. Hitler was responsible for the death of 6 million people in six years. Today the abortionists and those who support them are responsible for the deaths of over 56 million people in forty-two years. Yes, it is happening today, right now, with no signs of stopping. Some inroads have been made and are still being made, but, if the culture of life is to sustain itself, then it must gather a stronger, younger and more energetic audience. This is why we are here. We are here to provide leadership and support for those who come behind us. Life is already short, so let us not allow it to be cut off entirely for those not yet allowed to take their first breath.

**BABY SHOWER COLLECTION DRIVE**

By Arline Mistretta (Council 3743)

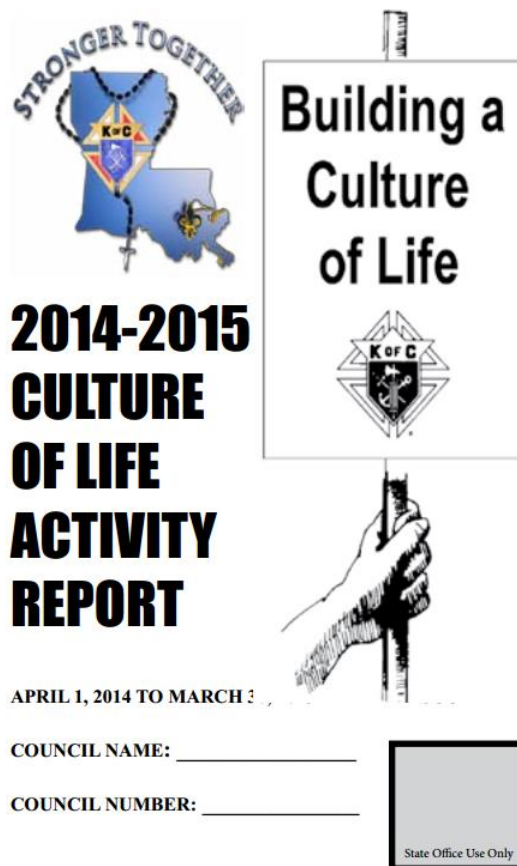
In our continuing efforts to promote a culture of life and support those who choose life, we will be collecting items needed to help new mothers in caring for their babies. We are asking all councils to consider holding a baby shower collection drive in their churches or councils and bring the items collected to the state convention in May. There will be a Culture of Life table at the convention where donations can be dropped off. Monetary donations will also be accepted. Donations will be distributed to Baton Rouge crisis pregnancy centers. Please see the attached flyer for more details.



GRADING FORMS DUE SOON

By Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

The deadline to turn in your Culture of Life activity grading form is April 5, 2015. We encourage all councils to fill out the grading form and send it to the State Culture of Life Chair Couple. This year, the forms can be submitted electronically. Please take advantage of this new option to make the process easier. It is important to document our activities to build a Culture of Life. The more activity demonstrated, the more resources will be available to do even more. If you have any questions about filling out the form, please just let us know.



**STRONGER TOGETHER**

**Building a Culture of Life**

**2014-2015 CULTURE OF LIFE ACTIVITY REPORT**

APRIL 1, 2014 TO MARCH 31, 2015

COUNCIL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNCIL NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

State Office Use Only

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Each month, we would like to highlight council Culture of Life activities. Please send us a brief description of your event and pictures of the event to share with other Culture of Life chair couples. We want to share successful events with others so that they can also conduct effective programs. We also welcome opinion articles from chair couples.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUSAT MARCH FOR LIFE

By LeRoy Brandow (Council 14614)

As Culture of Life Director for Council 14614, I took a bus trip in January from Metairie to Washington, D.C. to participate in the March for Life. While there, I distributed prayer cards to help prevent abortions and Rosaries from our Rosary Guild at Most Holy Trinity.

This was his third time attending this annual event, and I really get energized by all the youths participating in the march and talking with people from all over that have the same values. I also enjoy visiting with brother knights. It renews my belief that we will end abortion. Below is a picture of me in D. C. in front of Constitution Hall before the March for Life.



My wife, Ellen, along with several brother knights, their wives and fellow parishioners rode a bus from our Church to Baton Rouge to participate in the Louisiana Life March. Below is a picture from the prayer gathering at the end of the march in Baton Rouge.





### COUNCIL PRAYS AT ABORTION FACILITY

by Tom Guanella (Council 4873)

In the cold winter weather, members of council 4873 are praying for an end to abortion outside the abortion facility in Bossier City. The council is also supporting the upcoming Bishop Duca's pro-life banquet on March 11<sup>th</sup>.



### A LOCAL MARCH FOR LIFE

By Voorhies and Betty Short (Council 7557)

On Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, Knights of Columbus Council 7557 sponsored Pro-life Walk in Broussard. The event began with a presentation by Dr. Daminan Cudihiy inside Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church. The talk was folled by a blessing by Frather Paul Bienvenu, Father Bill Ruskoski, and Father Keith Landry. The participants marched through Broussard to St. Joseph Church and then returned to the Parish Life Center where a Rosary for Life was prayed.









## AMERICAN HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL OPEN HOUSE

By Allen Kliebert (Council 10613)

The Culture of Life Committee for the KC council at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Baton Rouge sponsored an open house on Jan 31, 2015 at the American Holocaust Memorial in Baton Rouge: <http://www.cpforlife.org/#!memorial-entrance/c9y0>.

This facility was the former Delta abortion clinic that performed over 30,000 abortions between 1986 and 1994. Now, the site serves to educate the public about abortion and to help pregnant women in need.

The open house is held in observance of the anniversary of the January 1973 Supreme Court decision Roe v. Wade which along with the simultaneous Court ruling Doe v Bolton made abortion legal throughout all nine months of gestation.

Tours were available which describe what took place in the various rooms, and literature was available. Two videos were available for viewing. One was an ultrasound showing an unborn child in the womb from about 8 weeks to 20 weeks. It showed the baby's growth, movements, features, etc. The video clearly demonstrates that the unborn in the womb is truly a human being.

The second video was an actual abortion and was an eye opening experience for those that viewed it. It showed the depth of the evil in people who have the ability to dismember other humans. Much discussion took place afterwards. All agreed that if such a video was seen by others, particularly the younger generation, they too would step up and help fight against abortion. The discussion then turned to how we can best inform the younger generation of the horrors that take during an abortion. All agreed that the best place to show such a video is in the high schools, but we realized in today's society that would never be allowed. Once people see an actual abortion they might be inclined to vote for pro-life officials and laws. At noon, the group said a rosary and held further discussions.



## COUNCIL RAISES MONEY FOR CENTER

by Kevin Gauthier (Council 14657)

Council 14657 raised \$2,000 to support the Lily of the Valley ministry in Alexandria. Lily of the Valley Ministries is a non-profit organization that provides an alternative to abortion for mothers of unborn children. The organization provides spiritual, emotional and substantive support to those who are blessed with the gift of motherhood, but are not well-prepared. You can find more information at: [www.lilyofthevalleyministries.com/](http://www.lilyofthevalleyministries.com/).



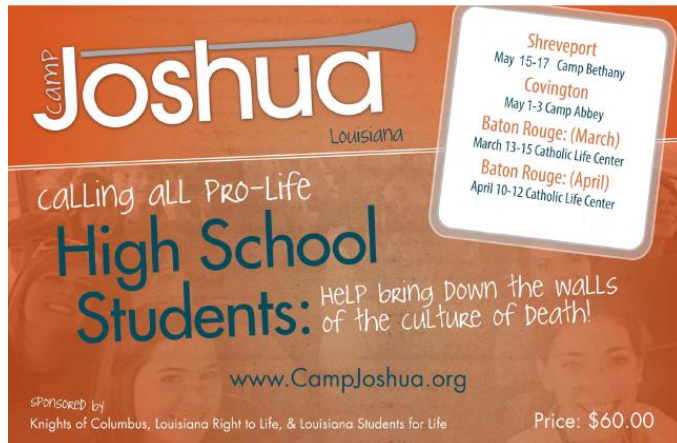
## FEBRUARY PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES

by Michael & Catherine Abbate (Council 9623)

Council 9623 had a number of pro-life activities in the month of February. The Culture of Life chair couple organized a World Marriage Day for their parish. The council also organized a week of prayer to end abortion in our country and around the world in their adoration chapel. The couple organized a "Baby Shower for the Unborn Children" with the middle school students. All the gifts were given to the Battered Women's Home on West 5<sup>th</sup> street in Laplace and the Women's New Life Center in Metairie. On February 17<sup>th</sup>, the chair couple attended the service at noon at 4636 South Claiborne Avenue in New Orleans, site of the proposed Planned Parenthood facility.

**UPCOMING ACTIVITIES****CAMP JOSHUA**

Camp Joshua is an action-packed weekend training high school students to be pro-life leaders of today. The camp features dynamic speakers and hands-on experience. Attendees will make new friends from around the state and connect with pro-life leaders.



The following is the list of dates and locations for the camp:

Shreveport, May 15-17<sup>th</sup> at Camp Bethany  
 Covington, May 1-3<sup>rd</sup> at Camp Abbey  
 Baton Rouge, March 13-15<sup>th</sup> at the CLC  
 Baton Rouge, April 10-12<sup>th</sup> at the CLC

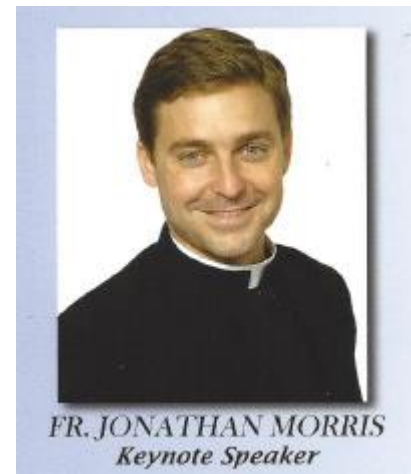
The camp is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Louisiana Right to Life, and Louisiana Students for Life. The cost to attend is \$60 per student. For more information, go to [www.CampJoshua.org](http://www.CampJoshua.org).

**PRO-LIFE BANQUET**

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual Bishop Michael Duca's Pro-life Banquet will be held on March 11, 2015 at the Bossier Civic Center (620 Benton Road, Bossier City, LA). Fr. Jonathan Morris will be the keynote speaker. Fr. Jonathan is a priest of the Diocese of New York, and he is the Program Director of the The Catholic Channel and Fox News Analysis. He is also an accomplished author.

Tickets can be purchased for \$60 each, and a table of 8 costs \$500. More information can be found at [www.dioshpt.org](http://www.dioshpt.org) (click on "Pro-life Ministry").

For sponsorship contact:  
[prolifedioshreveport@dioshpt.org](mailto:prolifedioshreveport@dioshpt.org).

**PREGNANCY PROBLEM CENTER  
FUNDRAISER EVENT**

The Pregnancy Problem Center is having their 4th Annual Gala on Thursday, March 12th from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM at Boudreaux's on Government Street in Baton Rouge. The theme of the event is "Celebrating Our Bundles of Joy!" This is primary fundraiser for the Pregnancy Problem Center which is celebrating 24 years of dedicated professionals providing compassionate and practical assistance, counseling, and education to women experiencing unplanned pregnancies. Contact Frances Broussard (924-1400, [pregnancyproblem@bellsouth.net](mailto:pregnancyproblem@bellsouth.net)) for more information or to purchase tickets. For more information about the work of the center visit: <http://www.pregnancyproblemcenterbr.com/>.





### BOWTIES FOR BABIES

On Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 10 PM, Louisiana Right to Life will hold Bowties for Babies: A Southern Style Soiree Benefiting Life. This is an annual fundraiser for the Advertise for Life project that reaches women in crisis pregnancies through targeted on-line advertising that connects them with one of the state's pregnancy resource centers. In 2014, the project generated 849 pregnancy help phone calls to the crisis pregnancy hotline.

The event will be held at the Old State Capitol in Baton Rouge and feature live jazz music, delicious food and drinks, a silent auction, and more. Plans for the event are still in the works. You can register for the event using the following [link](#). The money raised will be used to support Louisiana Right to Life's Advertise for Life Campaign.



### NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE CONVENTION

NRL Convention 2015 will be held in New Orleans July 9, 10, and 11, 2015. The convention will take place at the New Orleans Marriott located at 555 Canal Street in the French Quarter. Guest speakers include Dr. George Delgado, M.D., F.A.A.F.P., is the medical director of Culture of Life Family Health Care and a regional medical director with The Elizabeth Hospice, Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal, and John McCormack, Senior Writer at *The Weekly Standard*.

Please save the date and spread the word for this awesome opportunity to be a part of the national movement to stand for life!

More information can be found on-line at: <http://nrlconvention.com/>



### EDUCATION CORNER

#### BOOK RECOMMENDATION

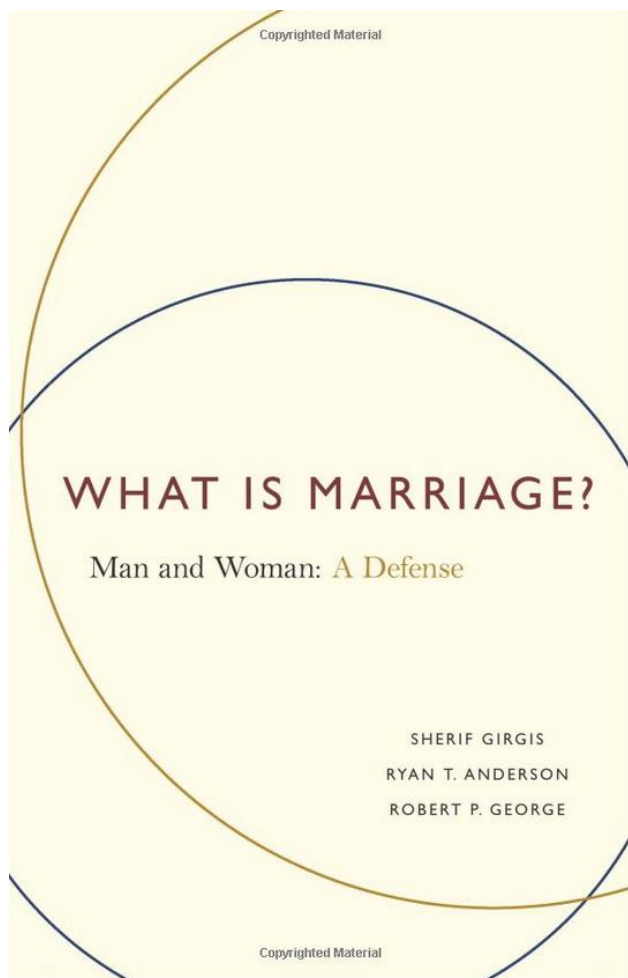
Our society has lost its way in a short period of time. In all of human history, the definition of marriage was never really questioned. That definition was grounded in our human nature. A re-education is needed.

To help with this re-education effort, I recommend the book: **What is Marriage? (Man and Woman: A Defense)** by Sherif Girgis, Ryan T. Anderson, and Robert P. George. The book helps us clearly understand the fundamental truths of marriage that all people of good will can accept.

What is marriage? The authors say: “Marriage is, of its essence, a comprehensive union: a union of will (by consent) and body (by sexual union); inherently ordered to procreation and thus the broad sharing of family life; and calling for permanent and exclusive commitment, whatever the spouses’ preferences.”

The book covers a broad array of related topics in less than 100 pages. The chapters cover problems with current efforts to redefine marriage, explain the basis for a comprehensive union, why the government is involved in marriage, what harm could come from redefining marriage, and issues of justice and equality.

Honestly, it is difficult to defend marriage today. However, this book can provide you with the information you need to do it well. I highly recommend it.



## INTERNET ARTICLES OF INTEREST

A great commentary on the pro-life movement from Fr. Richard John Neuhaus:

<http://www.firstthings.com/web-exclusives/2013/01/we-shall-not-weary-we-shall-not-rest>

A commentary on the “Seamless Garment”:

<http://m.ncregister.com/blog/jimmy-akin/intellectual-dishonesty-and-the-seamless-garment-argument/#.VPCmzOEsMdt>

A death penalty news story:

<http://m.ncregister.com/daily-news/archbishop-chaput-applauds-penn.-governor-for-death-penalty-halt/#.VPCtjOEsMdt>

An article on creating three parent children:

<http://www.cultureoflife.org/e-brief/it-ethical-create-babies-three-dna-sources-absolutely-not>

An article on Alabama and the redefinition of marriage:

<http://m.ncregister.com/daily-news/alabamas-judicial-process-becomes-a-marriage-battleground/#.VPCujuEsMdt>

The results of a new poll on abortion:

<http://liveactionnews.org/new-poll-shows-most-americans-would-ban-abortion-after-the-first-trimester/>

An article on the health effects of hormonal contraception:

<http://liveactionnews.org/hormonal-birth-control-doubles-risk-of-brain-tumor-study-shows/>

An attack on religious freedom in the nation’s capital:

[http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/could-two-new-laws-suffocate-the-catholic-church-in-dc-89556/?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+catholicnewsagency%2Fdailynews+%28CNA+Daily+News%29&utm\\_term=daily+news#noredirect](http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/could-two-new-laws-suffocate-the-catholic-church-in-dc-89556/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+catholicnewsagency%2Fdailynews+%28CNA+Daily+News%29&utm_term=daily+news#noredirect)

A commentary on the President’s comments at the National Prayer Breakfast:

<http://www.cultureoflife.org/blog/no-one-expects-spanish-inquisition>



A great YouTube video on Natural Family Planning:  
<http://youtu.be/wixyH9LoJP8>

Watch out for population control:  
<http://www.firstthings.com/blogs/firstthoughts/2015/01/save-the-earth-dont-give-birth>

A good commentary on “same-sex marriage”:  
<http://www.crisismagazine.com/2015/totalitarianism-sex-marriage>

Pope Francis and “same-sex marriage”:  
<http://www.crisismagazine.com/2015/pope-francis-prepares-shock-liberals-sex-marriage>

A news article on the impact of “same-sex marriage” and religious freedom:  
<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/colorados-contentious-confections/>

See what studies say about the traditional family:  
<http://www.aleteia.org/en/society/article/351-studies-from-13-nations-prove-benefits-of-households-with-a-dad-a-mom-and-their-kids-5798145510342656>

Find out about the connection between Girl Scouts and Planned Parenthood:  
<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/girl-scout-cookies-now-that-i-know-no-thank-you/>

An article about forced sterilizations in the U. K.:  
<http://www.ncregister.com/blog/matthew-archbold/uk-mother-of-six-could-be-sterilized/>

The euthanasia threat grows:  
<https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/breaking-canadas-top-court-rules-doctors-can-help-kill-patients>

A man was caught on tape destroying pro-life signs:  
<http://liveactionnews.org/caught-on-tape-angry-man-steals-and-destroys-pro-life-signs/>

Euthanasia in Canada:  
<http://m.ncregister.com/daily-news/euthanasia-coming-to-canada/#.VPC-K-EsMdt>

This is an amazing video of the Alabama’s Chief Justice Roy Moore, giving CNN’s host of “New Day” Chris Cuomo a lesson in the law:

<https://www.thomasmore.org/alabama-chief-justice-roy-moore-epic-25-minute-interview-gay-marriage/>

Congressional action is needed on abortion. Here is how to do it:

<http://www.crisismagazine.com/2015/getting-republicans-take-abortion-seriously>

More disturbing developments:

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/legislation-would-let-doctors-help-terminally-ill-patients-end-their-lives-1424138141>

A good commentary on physician-assisted suicide in Canada:

<http://www.crisismagazine.com/2015/physician-assisted-suicide-spiritual-suicide>

More must be done to end abortion:

<http://www.crisismagazine.com/2015/pro-life-legislation-enough>

A pastor’s thoughts on life:

<http://www.truthandcharityforum.org/the-chance-to-live-a-life/>

What may happen to Catholic doctors?:

<http://www.firstthings.com/web-exclusives/2015/02/the-coming-of-medical-martyrdom>

A short article on married life:

<http://m.ncregister.com/site/article/be-fruitful-responsibly/#.VPDPieEsMdt>

### THE BELLARMINE FORUM

The Bellarmine Forum is a nonprofit public charity incorporated in 1965. It is an independent organization of lay persons that have banded together to promote and defend the Catholic faith handed down as sound doctrines and right thinking of the deposit of faith.

They publish a quarterly magazine. Right now, this year's issues are dedicated to "Building a Culture of Life." Please check out their website: [www.bellarmineforum.org](http://www.bellarmineforum.org) for more information.



### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"[T]he pro-life position is often misunderstood as neither showing compassion to mothers nor caring about the children after they are born. This is unfortunate. ... Those who see a lack of compassion from pro-lifers may not be aware of the many resources and compassionate care available to women facing unplanned pregnancies. ... [Crisis pregnancy] centers exist to provide warm and caring

environments for mothers and families who find themselves with an unexpected pregnancy."

Taken from: **Life Issues Forum: Racing Toward a Culture of Life** ([www.bit.ly/RacingToward](http://www.bit.ly/RacingToward)) by Mary Prentis, USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities.

### PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Prayer at the Planned Parenthood facility:

Holy Mary, Mother of God, we humbly ask that you use the power granted to you by the Holy Trinity and bring about the closing of this Planned Parenthood facility.

We ask you, oh Mother of Mercy, to ask your Son to have mercy on the preborn babies whose lives are ended either directly at this facility or by products sold to their mothers here.

We also implore you, "who destroys heresies and crushes demons," to protect the teenagers who are lured to this facility and led into lives of sin. Remove this place of evil from their lives and grant them the graces to reject Satan and to live lives of purity and chastity.

Oh Virgin Most Pure, in honor of your inestimable purity, we pray,

(Recite the "Hail Mary" prayer three times)

Amen.

