



Culturae Vitae

August 2015

Volume 2 Number 8

<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.

KCLS CULTURE OF LIFE PRESENTATIONS

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

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

The 2014 presentation provides an overview of the main Culture of Life issues. The 2015 presentation provides specific guidance on the activity grading form.

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. We want your council highlighted in the next issue!

CULTURE OF LIFE SURVEY RESULTS FROM 2014 ARE AVAILABLE

The results a 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

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.

CULTURE OF LIFE RESOURCES**CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT HELP
FROM THE USCCB**

By Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has provided an easy way for you to be aware of important legislative activity and take timely action to make your views known to Congress. They call it the USCCB Action Center.

“The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Office of Government Relations (OGR) welcomes you to the USCCB Action Center. Public advocacy from the Catholic community is a civic responsibility that serves the common good, and we hope this platform assists in your own commitment to advance justice in defense of the dignity of every human life. Here at the USCCB Action Center you can take action immediately on a variety of the issues areas of interest to you by joining our advocate network, communicating with your elected officials and finding out more about targeted efforts including our Justice for Immigrants Campaign.”

Key areas of attention include:

- Religious Liberty
- Marriage and Family
- Catholic Education
- Justice, Peace, and Human Development
- Migration and Refugees
- Communications

You can sign-up to get email alerts. To learn more, go to: <http://cqrcengage.com/catholicbishops/home>.



Action Alert

BLACK CATHOLICS UNITED FOR LIFE

It is a sad fact that abortion harms the black community more than any other in the United States. According to 2010 census data, African Americans make up 12.6% of the U.S. population, but the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reports that black women accounted for 35.4% of all abortions in 2009. In part, this is the legacy of Eugenicist Margaret Sanger, founder of Planned Parenthood.

The National Black Catholic Apostolate for Life is an “all about life” from the moment of conception to the natural end of life apostolate. The National Black Catholic Apostolate for Life (NBCAL) is a ministry committed to pray, proclaim, educate and stand boldly for an end to abortion, all acts of violence and evil, and all injustice that destroys the sacredness of human life. The Eucharist, the Sacrament of the Body and Blood, Soul, and Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ is the center, source, and vitality of the National Black Catholic Apostolate for Life. NBCAL is supported by all the major National Black Catholic organizations in the United States.

Visit their web site at:

<http://www.blackcatholicsforlife.org> to learn more about how you can support this apostolate.



KC ULTRASOUND INITIATIVE

By Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

Is your council interested in providing an ultrasound machine for a local pregnancy center? If so, there is a program and resources from the Knights of Columbus available to help you successfully do just that: <http://www.kofc.org/un/en/prolife/ultrasound/>.

The Supreme web site provides overview and guidelines documents. There are also two forms that must be submitted to determine if your situation qualifies for this program: 1) Diocesan evaluation (form 9884) and 2) Application to Supreme (form 4886).

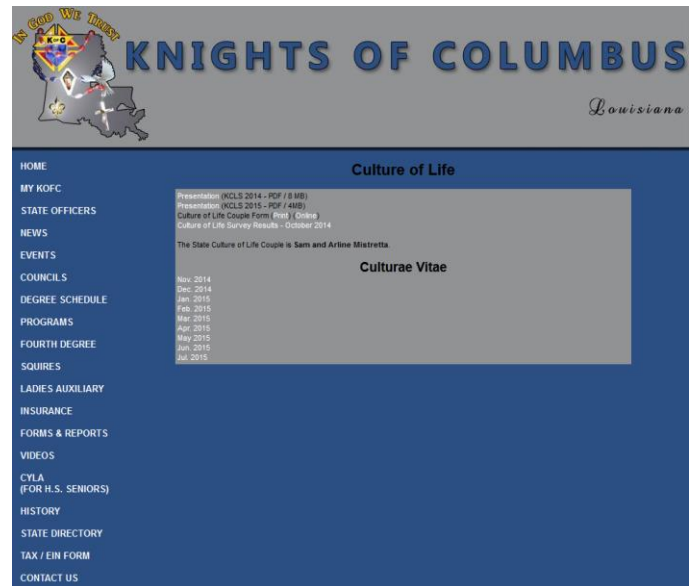
Your State Culture of Life Chair Couple is ready to assist your council in participating in this program. Please contact Sam Mistretta (225-975-1501 or smistretta2@cox.net).

CULTURE OF LIFE NEWSLETTERS ARE NOW ON THE STATE WEB SITE

By Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

Thanks to the work of Webmaster Brandon Hendricks, anyone can now access any previous issues of our *Culturae Vitae* newsletters on the State KC web site: [link](#).

This will make it easier for you to share this information with others and utilize the information in your pro-life activities. The newsletter also provides helpful information and ideas to enable your council to receive 100 points in Culture of Life.

YOUR FIRST STOP FOR PRO-LIFE RESOURCES IN LOUISIANA

By Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

Louisiana is one of the more pro-life states in the union. That is no accident, and continuous efforts are needed to avoid losing ground in our Culture of Death. While the attacks on the human person are global, we should start our efforts locally. There is no better place to look for help than Louisiana Right to Life (<http://www.prolifelouisiana.org/>). Their web site includes a number of helpful resources and their staff is ready to help you. I encourage all councils to contact Louisiana Right to Life and find out how they can help you build a Culture of Life in your community.

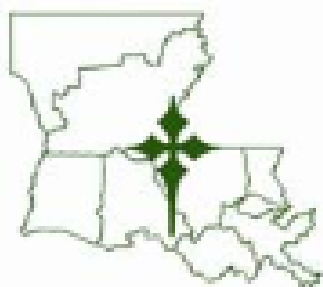


LA BISHOPS MAKE A STATEMENT ON SURROGACY ISSUE

The Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops (LCCB) seeks to articulate the Catholic Church's teaching on the issue of surrogacy in light of legislation proposed during last year's legislative session as well as what is before the Louisiana Legislature presently. The Church is clear and consistent in her teaching that surrogacy, in any form, is to be opposed as an immoral means to create a family. The desire to have a child is both natural and good. We recognize that issues of infertility can be incredibly sensitive and personal. While acknowledging this reality, it is important to realize that pursuing all means in the effort to create a child presents moral and ethical concerns and that a child is truly a gift to be given as opposed to a right to attain.

Surrogacy arrangements commercialize and objectify women relegating them to a utilitarian purpose. The Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith spoke to this point in *Donum Vitae* as it stated that surrogacy is contrary to the dignity of persons. Surrogacy diminishes the dignity of women in that it grossly focuses on what women can produce as opposed to the entire worth and being of who women have been created to be. In addition, surrogacy fails to acknowledge the uniqueness of the mother-child relationship to the detriment of women from a physical, psychological, and spiritual level.

To finish reading the rest of their statement or to read the statement as a whole, [click here](#).



CULTURE OF LIFE STORIES

OUR CHANGING SOCIETY

By Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

The tragic shooting at a Lafayette movie theater and the horrific callousness revealed in the undercover video of Planned Parenthood abortionists are just the most recent news stories that show that something is terribly wrong with our society. For the former, the solution promoted by the news media (i.e. the elite) is increased gun control. For the latter, the proposed solution is legal abortion with absolutely no restrictions, no guilt, and no discussion.

Commenting on the recent Planned Parenthood revelations, Syndicated columnist Cal Thomas said: "The reason no one should be shocked by any of this is because it is the inevitable outcome when moral boundaries are removed. If we are living in an impersonal universe; if we are evolutionary accidents not endowed with certain rights by our Creator; if we are no greater moral value than a hamburger; and if human value is to be assigned by the courts, then we are all potentially at risk of extermination should we become inconvenient or too expensive to sustain."

The elites have great power in our country and they want more power. As Lord Acton stated: "All power tends to corrupt; absolute power corrupts absolutely." These people want total control over everyone else, but more than anything else they want sexual license. But, something is standing in the way. The overarching goal of those in power is to eliminate all vestiges of Judeo-Christian morality from our society. And, they have nearly succeeded. We now live in a post-Christian world, call it neo-pagan if you will.

The founders of our country knew something very important that many people today do not. George Washington stated in his farewell address: "Let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion." John Adams went even further: "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

In my judgment, many of our societal problems are the result of a systematic attack on the family, on

marriage. The government is trying to replace parents. This is particularly evident in the public schools where it is commonplace for lesson content to be forced on students regardless of the parents' wishes. The government also wants to neuter the free exercise of religion. School administrations often reject all forms of Christian identity but embrace gender ideology.

What happens when the majority of citizens come from broken families? What happens when fathers abandon their children and the mother? What happens when the law teaches that a mother or a father is optional? What happens when we reduce freedom of religion to freedom of worship. Watch the nightly news to find out.

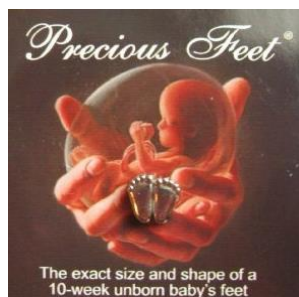
POWER OF THE PIN

By John Hauler (Council 9016)

At no time in your life does more growth and change take place than in the first nine months of your life before birth. Around 1970, Dr. Russell Sacco became aware of the highly developed human characteristics of pre-born infants. His photo of the perfectly formed feet of a ten week unborn child was published worldwide. In 1974, that photo was the inspiration for the "Precious Feet" lapel pin, identical in size and shape to an unborn baby's feet at just ten weeks.

Millions of people use these pins to demonstrate the humanity of the unborn. These pins can and should be worn anywhere and everywhere. They spark conversations about the unborn. I have been asked many times "What are you wearing?" That question leads to a positive dialogue about the plight of the unborn. It is easy to do and does not hurt. Try it.

(Note: Most of these remarks are taken from the Heritage House '76 Precious Feet pamphlet that accompanies the pins.)



KEEP UP THE PRESSURE

By John Hauler (Council 9016)

Planned Parenthood is suffering setbacks at this particular moment. However, they can easily bounce back because of the amount of resources they have and the forgetfulness and apathy of the American people. They receive NO negative reports from the news media unless forced upon them. They have the backing of most of Congress and the President. They will lie low until the "bad news" goes away then come back in full force again.

The lack of news coverage is not helpful. Therefore, we as pro-lifers must get as many letters and emails to our Congressmen to let them know not only that we appreciate their pro-life stance, but, insist on them pushing the pro-life cause as much as possible. Our Congressmen need to know that we are with them. After all, they are in constant contact with lobbyists and colleagues who are pushing them in the wrong direction.

Every Knight of Columbus who calls himself a Christian should write letters to their Congressmen and state legislators as well and do it as often as possible. Politicians want to hear from their constituents and we need to have them listen to us. The only way to have that done is to constantly get in touch with them. The best way is to bombard their mail boxes with polite, positive and informative mail.

BABIES OR PUPPIES?

By John Hauler (Council 9016)

As reported in the July 18, 2015 Clarion Herald paper of the Archdiocese of New Orleans: "At the very successful National Right to Life Convention recently held in New Orleans, Carol Tobias, the President of the National Right to Life Committee, offered a jarring but apt analysis of a society's moral compass gone haywire. Imagine the outcry, she suggested, if some organization built a facility whose sole purpose was to dismember defenseless puppies." Human life does not have the value of animals. This has been the case since the 1973 Supreme Court decision. The tide is turning in our favor. It can just as easy turn back. We must continue to pray and work to change the hearts of the people who, right now, just do not care to hear

anything that will interfere with their lifestyle. The key point is: we cannot win if we do not try. Persistence trumps apathy every time.

SPACE ALIENS OR BABIES?

By John Hauler (Council 9016)

As reported on July 20th, cosmologist Steven Hawking is part of a group contributing 100 million dollars towards accelerating the discovery of advanced alien life. One hundred million dollars for alien life and some “doctors” cannot find life in the womb!

After watching this story on the news, a commercial from the SPCA comes on the TV asking for help to save animals. Yet ABC, NBC, CBS and CNN refuse to show any bad publicity of Planned Parenthood (PP), such as the undercover video of the expose’ of PP selling aborted body parts. Around the same time, a government official confirmed that President Obama will not agree to cut off funding of PP over the expose’ even while seven states call for an investigation of the organization.

A Rasmussen poll reveals that one in four Americans are perfectly fine with exploiting aborted babies. In that same survey, 53 percent view Planned Parenthood favorably; 37 percent are unfavorable. Please remember that it has been forty-two years since abortion was declared legal and many American citizens have and are growing up in this environment.

Please continue to write and encourage others to write to our political leaders. Sometimes our clergy need to hear from us as well. All life matters: born and unborn.

PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES IN JULY

By Michael and Cathy Abbate (Council 9623)

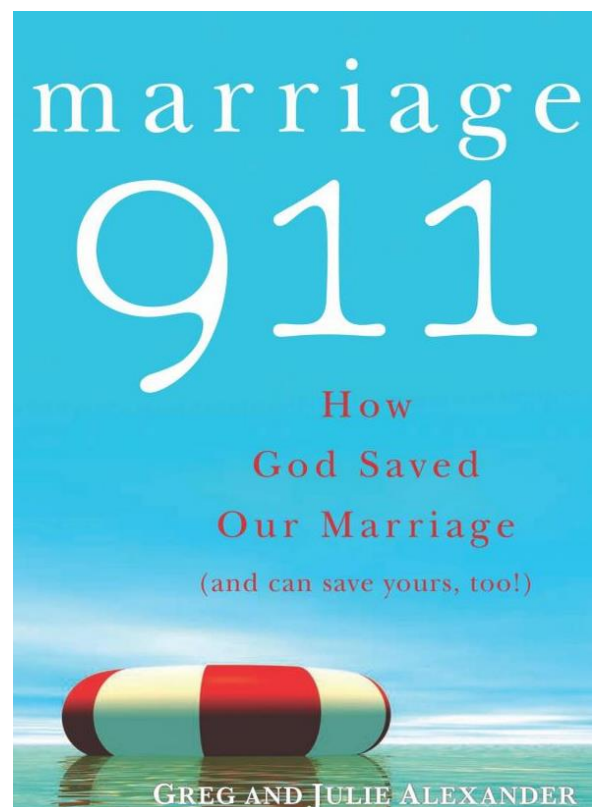
The culture of life chair couple for Council 9623 is organizing monthly meetings called “Champions for Life” to plan pro-life activities with several local churches in the Laplace area. At the July 21st meeting, participants were asked to consider volunteering for one or more of the following activities:

- Publically witness at the local abortion mill.
- Pray for one hour per week at the Adoration chapel for the intention of transforming this Culture of Death into a Culture of Life.
- Watch EWTN programs such as *EWTN Nightly News*, *the World Over* and *Defending Life* that offer pro-life information and news stories.
- Subscribe to National Right to Life.
- And more!

In July, the council donated \$250 to the National Pro-life Alliance to help in the battle for the Life at Conception Act.

On July 12th, the council Culture of Life chair couple participated in a peaceful prayer vigil at the New Planned Parenthood site on Claiborne in New Orleans.

On July 25th, the council Culture of Life chair couple organized a Supper & Substance meeting with Greg and Julie Alexander, authors of the book *Marriage 911*.



DEATH BY CONTRACEPTION

Deacon Lloyd Duplantis (Council 12285)

This article was adapted by Deacon Lloyd Duplantis based on an [article](#) by Jennifer Roback Morse, PhD, Founder and President of the Ruth Institute.

The mainstream media would have us believe that the Sexual Revolution equates to fun and freedom. The Ruth Institute is convinced that the Sexual Revolution equals destruction and heartbreak. The Institute has identified numerous survivors of this contemporary phenomenon – people who have been harmed by the Sexual Revolution and who have lived to tell their stories.

Here is the heartbreaking story by the parents of a young woman, Erika Langhart who is not a survivor. Erika died due to the use of the NuvaRing for contraception. Listen to her symptoms:

Our beautiful, caring, full of life, daughter, only just 24, had collapsed in her apartment, and had two heart attacks in the ambulance on the way to hospital. A doctor called to say we needed to get there as soon as possible. We took a flight at midnight and arrived by her side on Tuesday morning, but she was still in a coma....

One of the first things the doctors asked was whether Erika had been using hormonal contraceptives. When they found out she was using Nuva Ring – a vaginal ring that releases so-called third generation synthetic hormones – they removed it immediately. On the Wednesday before Thanksgiving we were shown scans of her lungs, which were full of massive blood clots. We were told NuvaRing was the cause of the pulmonary embolisms, heart attacks and subsequent irreversible brain swelling. On Thursday – Thanksgiving – they told us Erika wasn't coming back. She died that day. It absolutely broke our hearts.

Tell me: were you aware of these possible symptoms of using the NuvaRing? Yes, they have warning labels. But all the advertising makes it look so harmless, so easy. Think propaganda: seductive, superficially appealing, with trouble lying just below the surface.

How does the victimization continue? There are typically two motives, an ideological motive and a self-interest motive. Somebody wants you to believe something in spite of the evidence. And somebody is making money.

In this case, the Somebody Making Money is Merck, the giant pharmaceutical company. Erika's parents wanted to hold the company accountable. They wanted, at the very least, to have the case examined in a jury trial, so that all the facts could come to light. However:

Unfortunately the attorneys involved in the class action lawsuit against Merck did end up settling out of court. These cases included 3,800 women, 83 of whom had died. We never got that jury trial we were promised. My husband and I refused to opt in to the \$100m settlement agreement. Merck would not now be held accountable in a trial – to us this felt like watching Erika die all over again. The only thing that has ever mattered to us is the pursuit of truth in honor and memory of our beloved Erika.

In our opinion, Merck got away with murder, and continues to do so to this day. In 2011 NuvaRing made the company \$623m; in 2013 it was \$686m; and in 2014, after the settlement, Merck made a staggering \$723m from it. Settlements are just the cost of doing business to Merck, all at the expense of women's health and lives.

And the ideological motive? One of the three key tenets of the Sexual Revolution is that a good society separates sex from babies. This of course, cannot be done. Sex does make babies. All contraception sometimes fail. Yet, this fantasy ideology that we can create a society in which sex is a sterile recreational activity continues to hold a grip on the minds of many people. In order to keep this Fantasy Ideology going, all the risks and harms of contraception must be systematically downplayed. If people knew that contraception had risks associated with it, the Ideological Illusion would be shattered.

For people in this frame of mind, Erika is just collateral damage, another broken egg for the omelet of the dream world.

Erika and her mom in happier times:



Erika is not a survivor. She died, very quickly, once her symptoms first appeared. But her parents are survivors. They have set up a foundation in memory of their daughter, InformedChoiceForAmErika.com.

If you think you have health problems due to hook-ups, abortion or contraception, visit: www.ruthinstitute.org for help. Also check out this related article: [link](#).

NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE CONVENTION 2015

From July 9th through 11th, the National Right to Life Convention took place in New Orleans. According to Ben Clapper with Louisiana Right to Life, the convention was a resounding success with over 1,000 people attending throughout the three days.

Highlights of the convention included:

“A Taste of Louisiana” Reception that included a brass band, Mardi Gras Indians, comedy from Senator Jonathan Perry, and a keynote address from Governor Jindal.

A Presidential Forum featuring Senator Marco Rubio, Senator Rick Santorum, Dr. Ben Carson, and Governor Rick Perry.

An inspirational Prayer Breakfast featuring cast members of Duck Dynasty and Senator David Vitter.



Among the many powerful speakers at the National Right to Life Convention, Dr. George Delgado wowed and inspired the audience with his presentation on his breakthrough development of the “Abortion Pill Reversal” (APR).

APR is a treatment that allows the possibility of reversing the RU-486 abortion pill in the days immediately following it being administered by an abortion facility. Dr. Delgado shared that more than 100 babies have been born after mothers regretted their abortion decision and called APR to initiate treatment. Visit AbortionPillReversal.com.



Note: Content provided by Louisiana Right to Life.

Some of our Culture of Life chair couples were able to attend the event. Jim and Carolyn Angel from council 2732 said that they “learned so much from this weekend.” Please read their related article in this issue. Don and Dee Caskey of council 1905 provide me with some copies of pro-life handouts obtained from the event. Anne and David Gregory from council 8342 said: “We were given articles about how to have discussions with pro-choice people. We also learned about how to talk to post

abortive women. You always think about 57 million babies aborted, but never think about the mothers who survive and live with the after affects.”

NATIONAL RTL CONVENTION

Jim and Carollyn Angel (Council 2732)

The National Right to Life held their annual convention in New Orleans July 9th thru 11th. The last time it was held in New Orleans was 1987. The main theme was “We are a Voice for the Voiceless”.

Attending the convention were five presidential candidates: Gov. Bobby Jindal, Sen. Marco Rubio, Sen. Rick Santorum, Gov. Rick Perry, and Dr. Ben Carson. Sen. Ted Cruz and Gov. Jeb Bush sent a video message since they were unable to attend. Their speeches can be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/user/nationalrighttolife>



We heard from David Scotton, a 21 year old LSU student whose mother went in to have an abortion and at the last minute changed her mind and decided on adoption instead.

There were 11 workshop sessions with each having 6 workshops each. Some of the workshops I attended were: Abortion Techniques in all Three Trimesters of Pregnancy, Catholic Respect Life Ministry, Margaret Sanger and Planned Parenthood, How to Activate the Grassroots in 2015, The Right to Life Social Media, Abortion Hurts: My Personal Journey of Abortion, Suicide, and the Abortion Industry given by Jewels Green, Are you a Persuasive Pro-Lifer?, When They Say...You Say, Legitimizing Abortion as a Trauma, Surviving Unplanned Pregnancies, and Don't Hurt Your Baby.

The prayer breakfast speakers were Alan and Lisa Robertson and Miss Kay Robertson. We heard about their life experiences. The prayer breakfast can be viewed at:

<http://livestream.com/righttolife/events/4164801>

Jim also attended the St. Tammany Right to Life board meeting, July 24th. Any knight that would like to join can contact Jim Angel, 985-847-0411, e-mail: jbuckeye@bellsouth.net. Upcoming events are: January fundraising breakfast, 40 Days for Life, and Slidell Life Chain. The next quarterly meeting is on Monday, September 21st.

CULTURE OF LIFE AT KCLS 2015

Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

KCLS was held at Dutchtown High School on July 18th. About 60 chair couples and directors attended the Culture of Life breakout session.

This year, the Culture of Life session at KCLS was shorted considerably compared to last year. Every couple attending the Culture of Life session was given a copy of the Catholic Answers booklet entitled *Absolute Relativism*. Culture of Life literature provided by the Diocese of Baton Rouge was also made available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The session began with a special presentation by Cody Reed with Sidewalk Advocates for Life. Many of you may know Cody from his time with Louisiana Right to Life. Cody is part of a fairly new organization with the mission of training, equipping, and supporting local communities across the country and the world in sidewalk advocacy. We plan to provide more information on this organization in an upcoming newsletter. You can find out more information at their web site: www.SidewalkAdvocates.org.

After Cody's talk, I provided some information on our short term plans for the new fraternal year. There was also a brief discussion of moral relativism and attacks on the family. However, the bulk of the time was spent on clarifying the content of Culture of Life activity form. We want every council to receive 100 points in Culture of Life. It is certainly possible to do that no matter the size or

council resources. Arline and I hope that our monthly newsletter will provide you with information to help you do just that. You can find a copy of the presentation on the state web site (see page 1 of this newsletter).

When reading news stories, I am sometimes discouraged by the amount of evil in this world. However, I am personally strengthened by each Culture of Life chair couple who are doing so much to build a Culture of Life in a world that needs that message of life and hope. Seeing so many energized people at KCLS was just so wonderful. We are looking forward to working with you again this year!



CULTURE OF LIFE ACTIVITIES

Ross and Carolyn McCalip (Council 3743)

Carolyn and I just took part as extras in an independent movie financed by Louisiana Right to Life about a true story of a mother who entered an abortion facility in Indianapolis more than 20 years ago but changed her mind just before the doctor was getting ready to abort her baby. The son she was to abort is now helping with the movie, and he is one of the actors too. The movie should be out sometime next year. It was a neat experience and it was awesome meeting this amazing young man.

Also, I wrote emails to Senators Cassidy and Vitter and Congressman Graves encouraging them to go after Planned Parenthood and defund them. Over \$500 million of our tax dollars goes to Planned Parenthood. I encourage all of our fellow brothers knights to do the same. Their websites are: vittter.senate.gov, cassidy.senate.gov, and garretgraves.house.gov. God bless!

PLANNED PARENTHOOD RALLY

Louisiana Students for Life organized a "Women Betrayed" Rally in Baton Rouge on Tuesday, July 28th from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM outside the Planned Parenthood facility at 3955 Government Street. The news coverage of the undercover videos obtained by the Center for Medical Progress ([link](#)) are giving us an opportunity to reach people who may have been unreceptive to our message before.



The Baton Rouge rally was one of 55 held Tuesday across the United States. Students for Life of America launched #WomenBetrayed following the release of videos about Planned Parenthood's involvement in selling the organs and body parts of babies aborted in their facilities. The rallies were held nationwide to expose Planned Parenthood's

abortion business, encourage state and federal officials to investigate the practices of Planned Parenthood, and to call for an end to tax-funding of the abortion giant.

Arline Mistretta (Council 3743) estimated that there were more than 200 people at the Baton Rouge Rally. Let us all pray that this will put an end to Planned Parenthood's evil work.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

40 DAYS FOR LIFE 2015

After 42 years of legal abortion-on-demand in our nation, we must unite in our local communities, and across the nation, for an end to abortion. Stand with us this fall to protect women and unborn children from abortion through inter-denominational prayer, peaceful vigil, and community activism.

The 2015 Campaign will take place from September 23rd through November 1st (7 AM to 7 PM daily).

Events are held at three locations:

- o Metairie-Causeway Medical Clinic
- o Baton Rouge-Delta Clinic
- o Shreveport-Hope Medical Group

This event saves lives and helps people become knowledgeable and active on the life issues.

This is a major activity for the Knights of Columbus. Make plans for your council and parish to participate in 40 Days for Life!



Louisiana Abortion Data:

- 9,932 abortions were performed in Louisiana in 2014 per LA Department of Health Hospital data.¹
- There are 5 abortion facilities in Louisiana. One is located in each parish listed:
 - o New Orleans
 - o Metairie
 - o Baton Rouge
 - o Shreveport
 - o Bossier

¹ DHH ITOP data.

<http://dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/709> , accessed 7-17-15.

40 Days for Life Louisiana is an interfaith pro-life effort that involves prayer and fasting. People of faith throughout our city and region are invited to join together for 40 days of fervent prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. It is a peaceful vigil of standing for life through a 40-day peaceful witness outside of a local abortion facility.

For more info, go to:

- www.40DaysForLifeBR.com
- www.40DaysForLifeNOLA.com
- Shreveport-Bossier is on the national 40 DFL website.

In fact, Pope Francis issued a letter in support of 40 Days for Life UK ([link](#)).



AGING SEMINAR

Family Choices: Transitions in Aging event will take place on Saturday, August 29, 2015 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Catholic Life Center, Main Auditorium, 1800 S. Acadian Thruway, Baton Rouge. The cost is \$15 per person with pre-registration and \$20 for walk-ins. Lunch is provided.

Speakers & Presentations:

- "A Spiritual Discernment of Transitions" by Lisette Borne, Spiritual Director
- "Attending to the Needs of the Dying" by Darryl Ducote, LCSW
- "Creativity in Retirement" by Fr. Donald Blanchard and Fr. Gerald Burns
- "Transitions in the Home: Safety-Proofing" by Roxane Bingham
- And more!

Register online at www.MFLDiobr.org, or call the Office of Marriage & Family Life at 225-242-0323.



BORN TO RUN 2015

Again this year, the Woman's New Life Center will have a major fundraising event in Baton Rouge.

Dear Knights,

Your participation is wanted and needed to help save the lives of the unborn and protect their mothers from its violence. It would be a honor to have all of you, your families and parish families involved with Born to Run Baton Rouge 2015. Your participation will save lives and protect lives. Please pass this to all of the councils serving within the Diocese of Baton Rouge.

Contact me, Ali Dazzio, 225-241-9822 or adazzio@womansnewlife.com for details. I can't wait to hear from y'all!



BORN TO RUN
BATON ROUGE



—SAVE the DATE—

5K RUN
1 MILE FUN RUN AND WALK

**SATURDAY,
NOV. 7TH
2015**

**NORTH BLVD
TOWN SQUARE
BATON ROUGE**

Woman's New Life Center (WNLC) is a life-affirming counseling and medical center that serves women facing unplanned pregnancies in the Greater Baton and New Orleans areas.

For more information, contact Ali Dazzio at adazzio@womansnewlife.com or call 225-218-4862

CRISIS PREGNANCY FUNDRAISING BANQUET

The Ark-La-Tex Crisis Prenancy Center (www.altcpc.com) will have a Life Banquet on Tuesday, October 27, 2015 at the Shreveport Convention Center. This year, Abby Johnson, author of the book *Unplanned*, will be the keynote speaker.

Contact Kim at 318-861-4600 or kim@altcpc.com if you wuld like to sponsor a table or obtain more information.



SAVE THE DATE: LIFE FEST

Saturday, October 10, 2015
10 AM - Kickoff
4PM - Annual Bishop's Respect Life Mass
Tracy Center Ballroom
1800 S. Acadian Thrwy, Baton Rouge

This celebration of life will have something for everyone! Renowned speakers, music, kids track for ages 5-11, Eucharistic Adoration and more! The day will conclude with the Annual Bishop's Respect Life Mass at 4:00 PM.

For more information, visit their web site at www.MFLDIOBR.org.



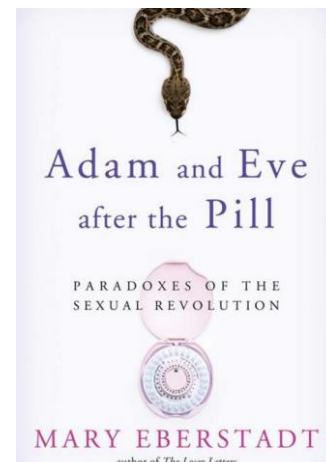
EDUCATION CORNER

BOOK RECOMMENDATION By Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

What has the sexual revolution done for us? For those active in the pro-life movement, we know that it has brought much evil into our society. We have seen the broken marriages, broken families, and the death and suffering of millions of children.

If we are going to change our society, we must have a deeper understanding of the underlying causes. Author Mary Eberstadt is one of the foremost Catholic lay voices in American today. She has written a very insightful and fascinating book on this subject entitled: **Adam and Eve after the Pill**. I found this book to be a fast read because Eberstadt has a wonderfully engaging writing style full of wit and candor. I was also very impressed with the sociological analysis of specific changes in our society in the last 60 years. The content of one chapter of the book can be captured with the question: "Is Food the New Sex?" The content of another chapter can be captured with the question: "Is Pornography the New Tobacco?" She also has a chapter dedicated to the university setting, providing essential information for parents who have college age children. She also dedicates a chapter to pedophilia, making some provocative assertions regarding the reasons our society continues to reject pedophilia despite efforts by the American Psychological Association to normalize it.

This book cuts to the heart of the Culture of Death, offering solid analysis grounded in the Church's moral teaching. I highly recommend this book.





INTERNET ARTICLES OF INTEREST

[Catholic Leaders Resolve to Hold Firm to Biblical Marriage Teaching](#)

[States of Alert: Political and Church Leaders Seek Shelter Against Marriage Ruling](#)

[The Catholic Church and the 'New Normal'](#)

[A Warning From Canada: Same-Sex Marriage Erodes Fundamental Rights](#)

[Planned Parenthood increases the number of abortions they perform to 33% of all abortions](#)

[After Obergefell: A First Things Symposium](#)

[What the Catholic Church does \(and does not\) teach about same-sex marriage](#)

[Justice Kennedy's Dictatorship of Relativism](#)

[The Church Will Survive Gay Marriage if It Sticks to Its Guns](#)

[With Weak Protections For Conscience, "Obergefell is Roe on Steroids"](#)

[On Justice Kennedy's Tenuous Grasp of Human Dignity](#)

[The Supreme Court: A Despot Agent of Change](#)

[Unnatural is the New Normal](#)

[We Are Winning Even If It Doesn't Feel That Way](#)

[Life Issues Forum: Stories of Hope](#)

[Supreme Court Decision on Marriage "A Tragic Error" Says President of Catholic Bishops' Conference](#)

[Against a Growing Intolerance, Christians Must Witness Christ 'for the World'](#)

[The death penalty for Miss Pennsylvania?](#)

[Humanae Vitae and the Sensus Fidelium](#)

[Bishop to all mass-goers: Catholics have 'duty' to 'emphatically oppose' marriage ruling](#)

[Glamorize Death and Copycat Suicides Follow](#)

[The Real Jesus Wants to Know Where You Stand](#)

[One More Nail in the Coffin](#)

[Nine Lessons from the Obergefell Decision](#)

[Kennedy Replaces the "Laws of Nature" with His Own](#)

[Australia's Bishops Reaffirm Catholic Marriage – and Get Reported to Government](#)

<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/california-legislature-withdraws-physician-assisted-suicide-bill/>

[Are gays 'born that way'? Most Americans now say yes, but science says no](#)

[Big Win for Traditional Family at UN Human Rights Council](#)

[False Enlightenment at the Court](#)

<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/high-time-for-the-churchs-teaching-moment-on-marriage/>

[FDA finally acknowledges what we already knew about Essure](#)

[AP has Catholics standing alone, sort of, in debates over California right-to-die bill](#)

[Gordie Howe and John Brodie Cases Show Stem-Cell Wars Aren't Over](#)

[Court Rules Against Little Sisters of the Poor](#)

[Boy Scouts Abandon Christian Roots](#)

[Is Planned Parenthood's Fetal-Parts Trade Legal?](#)

[Why Brittany Maynard's Home State Couldn't Pass Assisted-Suicide Bill](#)

[Venezuela's Bishops Caution Against No-Fault Divorce](#)

[We Must Defend the Babies With Greater Strength and Strategy](#)

["In a Fallen World, One Voice Is Not Heard"](#)

[An Open Letter to Planned Parenthood](#)

[Shock Video Catches Another Top Planned Parenthood Doctor Selling Body Parts of Aborted Babies](#)

[A Perfect Trifecta, Made in Hell](#)

[Planned Parenthood and Immigration Control: What You Should Know and Probably Don't](#)

[Merchants of Faith: Christian Business Owners Discuss the Costs of Defending Marriage](#)

[Saint Nero, Patron of Gay Marriage](#)

[Is Polygamy Right Around the Corner?](#)

[Thoughts on Euthanasia Prompted by My Uncle's Death](#)

[After Obergefell: The Effects on Law, Culture, and Religion](#)

[A Catholic Mother Reflects on Furor Over Philly Teacher in Same-Sex Marriage](#)

[Catholic Parents Object to HHS Mandate for Their Daughters, Open New Legal Front](#)

[USCCB RESPONDS TO SUPREME COURT RULING](#)

The United State Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has produced a bulletin insert in response to the United State Supreme Court ruling on marriage. You can obtain a copy using this [link](#).



[THE HUMAN LIFE REVIEW](#)

Since 1975, The Human Life Review (<http://www.humanlifereview.com/>) has been the only publication of its kind in the world: an academic-quality journal devoted to civilized discussion of legal, philosophical, medical, scientific, and moral perspectives on all life issues. We cover not only abortion but also euthanasia, suicide, neonaticide, genetic engineering, cloning, fetal and embryonic stem cell research and experimentation, and new issues as they emerge. We also deal with underlying issues of family and society.

If you are looking for solid pro-life content, then check out this publication and consider supporting the Human Life Foundation, Inc.



QUOTES OF THE MONTH

“Since everything is interrelated, concern for the protection of nature is also incompatible with the justification of abortion. How can we genuinely teach the importance of concern for other vulnerable beings, however troublesome or inconvenient they may be, if we fail to protect a human embryo, even when its presence is uncomfortable and creates difficulties? ‘If personal and social sensitivity towards the acceptance of the new life is lost, then other forms of acceptance that are valuable for society also wither away.’”

“Here, though, I would stress the great importance of the family, which is ‘the place in which life – the gift of God – can be properly welcomed and protected against the many attacks to which it is exposed, and can develop in accordance with what constitutes authentic human growth. In the face of the so-called culture of death, the family is the heart of the culture of life.’ In the family we first learn how to show love and respect for life; we are taught the proper use of things, order and cleanliness, respect for the local ecosystem and care for all creatures. In the family we receive an integral

education, which enables us to grow harmoniously in personal maturity. In the family we learn to ask without demanding, to say “thank you” as an expression of genuine gratitude for what we have been given, to control our aggressivity and greed, and to ask forgiveness when we have caused harm. These simple gestures of heartfelt courtesy help to create a culture of shared life and respect for our surroundings”.

Take from Pope Francis’ Encyclical *Laudato Si*

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Thank you, Lord, for conquering death and for giving us what we need to counteract its destructive power in our day.

Taken from **Pro-life Reflections for Every Day**, by Fr. Frank Pavone, 2009.

