



Culturae Vitae

April 2016

Volume 3 Number 4

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

Please send all correspondence to:
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State Culture of Life Chair Couple
6346 Riverine Drive
Baton Rouge, LA. 70820
Email: smistretta2@cox.net

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 2014 survey of Culture of Life chair couples is 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 materials 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

KC ULTRASOUND INITIATIVE

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) for assistance.

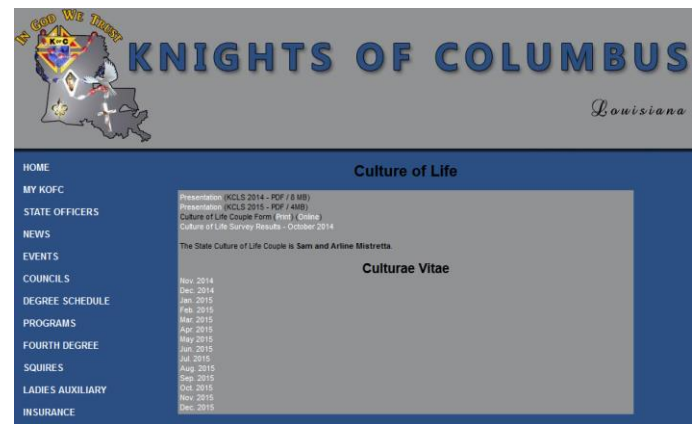


CULTURE OF LIFE NEWSLETTERS ARE ON THE STATE WEB SITE

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 councils to receive 100 points in Culture of Life.

Please contact us if you cannot find what you are looking for.



YOUR FIRST STOP FOR PRO-LIFE RESOURCES IN LOUISIANA

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 Life. 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. They also provide pro-life speakers and presentations, free of charge, for your council meetings, banquets, and other events. 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.



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Shawn Carney, President for 40 Days for Life

Our freedoms cannot be neglected. They must be exercised and defended.

Believe it or not, many of our basic rights are scrutinized when we exercise them to **simply pray** outside of an abortion facility.

We must know and use our rights if we want to end abortion. A good step is to listen to the "[Know Your Rights](#)" episode of the 40 Days for Life podcast, where we discuss love of God, love of neighbor and love of country as the foundation of defending the right to life.

Recently I visited 40 Days for Life campaigns in Florida and had the opportunity to thank the Thomas More Society for all of the valuable, free legal work they've contributed to 40 Days for Life campaigns across the United States.

We couldn't do this without the Thomas More Society attorneys, who just won another victory – this time in South Carolina.



Many of the volunteers at 40 Days for Life vigils try to encourage abortion center clients to read information about life-affirming community resources.

In Charleston, the best opportunities come when the women are driving in. It's often possible to invite them to pull over, roll down their windows and take a brochure.

But the city tried to stop this practice, citing a panhandling ordinance that prohibited passing items to drivers on the roadway.

That just didn't seem right, so the Charleston leaders contacted the Thomas More Society. The society's attorneys wrote to the city, citing numerous Supreme Court cases which "repeatedly held that passing out literature is entitled to the highest constitutional protection."

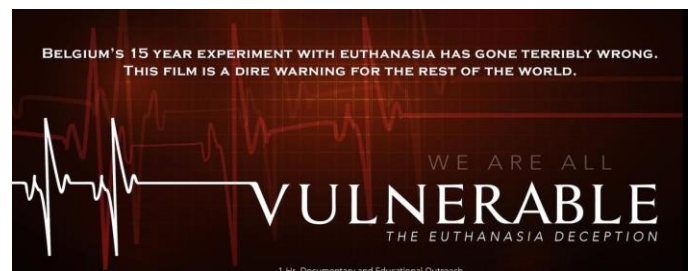
The city quickly responded that there would be no attempt to target vigil volunteers. "We are grateful to have reached a swift resolution with the City of Charleston," said Jocelyn Floyd of the Thomas More Society.



THE EUTHANASIA DECEPTION

Debbie Shinskie, Director of the Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of New Orleans

The Euthanasia Prevention Coalition has produced a new documentary — "Vulnerable: The Euthanasia Deception" — which exposes a 15 year slippery slope of Euthanasia, its legalization and effect on a country's culture. You can watch the promotional video here: <http://www.vulnerablefilm.com>.



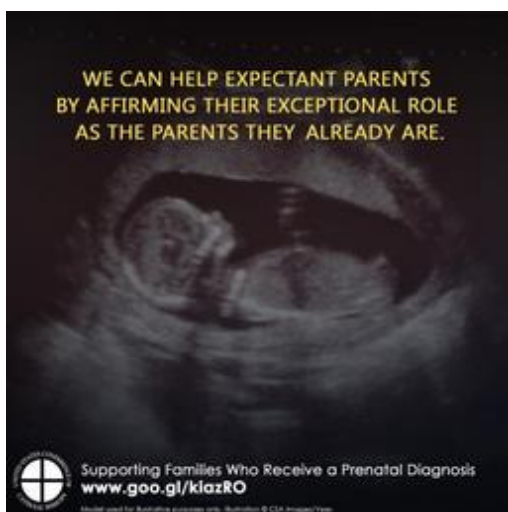
PRAYER WARRIORS NEEDED

Debbie Shinskie, Director of the Respect Life Office
of the Archdiocese of New Orleans

Wilson Breaux's Pro life Lay Apostolate will be going to Women's Health Center at 2701 General Pershing, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays from ~8:30am - 11am. Wilson encourages prayer warriors to join them! Please note that the location of this abortion facility is a place you should not go to pray alone. Also note that parking there is metered. These are indeed true sacrifices but ones that will not be missed by God in our work!

From Wilson: "We desperately need at least one additional person to come around 8:30 a.m. or so each day we are at this abortion mill. Naturally it does not have to be the same person each week which of course would be nice but at least someone to commit for each day of each week. If you arrive around 8:30 a.m. and do not see us, we will be there, perhaps running late because of traffic. Many times during the years I stood alone in front of Ridgelake, hoping and praying others will show up to join me, but I kind of felt safe at Ridgelake. Now General Pershing is a whole new ball game and one should never be alone at this location."

You can follow the progress of the Planned Parenthood building on S. Claiborne Avenue on The Louisiana Coalition for Life's website:
http://lacoalitionforlife.com/?page_id=86.

ARTIFICIAL REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Debbie Shinskie, Director of the Respect Life Office
of the Archdiocese of New Orleans

Infertility is a heavy cross many couples carry. Often the medical community steers the couple to In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) as a means to conceive a child. In addition the ethical and moral concerns expressed in Church teaching on this matter, there are grave medical concerns surrounding IVF:

- 6.72 embryos are "wasted" for every live birth from IVF (so these tiny humans die).
- Over seven million U.S. women struggle with infertility.
- The percent of women helped annually by having a baby with IVF is only 0.47% of all women with impaired fertility.
- The cost of IVF is between \$10,000 to \$20,000 per cycle.
- The "take home baby" rate is only 15 -30% per cycle depending on the woman's age.
- IVF does not seek to identify and treat the causes of infertility, but rather to bypass them.
- The prematurity rate with IVF is 11.5% which can cause increased health problems with babies.
- There are nearly half a million frozen embryos (translate: tiny human babies) in the U. S. (source: Gianna Center of the Gulf South).

If you or someone you know is struggling with infertility or for more information about about infertility treatment that cooperates with God's design and respects the health and wellness of the mother and father as well as the life of any children they conceive, contact the Gianna Center of the Gulf South at 985.466.1919 or visit their web site:
<http://www.giannagulfsouth.org/naprotechnology.html>.



PRO-LIFE LEADERSHIP MEETING

Due to the rain and flooding across the state in March, the Board of Directors of Louisiana Right to Life elected to cancel their Leadership Meeting in Lafayette. Instead, a conference call was held on Saturday, March 12th.



Attendees received updates on pro-life efforts across the state. Sharon Rodi who is on the board of directors recognized the many people who are involved in pro-life activities. The number of people involved has been increasing over time, and she encouraged people to stay involved because there is much work to be done. She asked that each of us do all that we can and to use our gifts to make a unique contribution to the cause.

During the meeting, current Texas case before the Supreme Court was discussed. This case will determine if states have a right to protect women's health. Kathleen Benfield provided an update on the Planned Parenthood facility under construction in New Orleans (it is still moving forward).

However, there was some good news from the Special Session. \$1.2 million could have been cut from the state budget that would have severely impacted Pregnancy Centers, but the governor restored funding. Deanna Wallace provided a very good legislative update including bills such as Compassionate Burial Options (giving parents a right to bury their miscarried child), the Louisiana Unborn Child Dismemberment Act (preventing a child in the womb from being ripped apart using forceps), and Women's Enhanced Reflection Act (requiring a waiting period before an abortion), and

others. More information can be found on the LRTL web [site](#).

Shanon Snyder provided updates on pro-life grassroots efforts underway. They are currently look for help with a door hanger campaign. LRTL would like to have an opportunity to setup education booths at fairs and festivals. He also mentioned that a Life Chain event has been scheduled for Saturday, October 1st on Claiborne Avenue in New Orleans.

Kathy Allen provided updated information on Black Advocates (www.lablackadvocates.com). This year, the organization is focused on small communities. The impact of abortion on the black community is staggering and we must get the word out.

Sandy Cunningham reminded us that there is a simple way that you can support Louisiana Right to Life by becoming a Luminary Member. You can go to their web [site](#) for more information. Also, LRTL has put out a wonderful booklet to make the pro-life case. They have put together a very attractive product with a clear concise message. This is simple one of the best handouts that I have seen. You can view the booklet [on-line](#) and also order copies for only 20 cents each to cover shipping and offset printing costs. Please consider getting copies to share with others.





EASTER CBIB REFLECTIONS

By Lise Naccari, CBIB Founder and President

In the beginning of 2003, I buried my first [indigent] baby. This baby was aborted. The next two babies were full term, thrown away in the trash. Both mothers were in jail for murder. By this time, I was so fed up with doing this. It disgusted me and made me physically ill.

I got a call from a friend who said, "Hey Lise, did you read the paper today? They found a baby in the trash can in Metairie, are you going to bury it?" My heart sank as it always did when I would hear something like this. My knees got weak. I told her I didn't know about it. I replied in a cynical voice, "But if God wants me to do it, someone will call me." I hung up the phone so aggravated.

I had no intension of doing this again. I was angry and ran out the house to my hair appointment, thinking no one is going to call and I am not doing it. I stepped out of my front door, where there was a beautiful oak tree that shaded my lawn, I can feel God in nature. So I looked up at my beautiful tree for a moment and prayed, "Oh God how can I tell you no for all the good things you have done for me. But I need to know if you want me to do this." So I got in my car headed to my appointment.

About an hour later at the hairdressers, a woman called me and said "Hey, I heard you bury babies." I was shocked. This was strange because not many people knew I did this. So I considered this a sign from God that he wanted me to bury this baby. The policewoman proceeded to tell me that she was at the scene where they found a baby girl with straight black hair wrapped in newspaper still with the embillical cord attached. It was the day after Mardi Gras.

So then the policewoman started to tell me her story. When she was 16 years old, she got pregnant. It was heartbreaking to tell her parents, but she did tell them. As time went on, they got use to the idea and actually got excited about the new life that was coming. But at 28 wks gestation the baby died. It just so happens the baby found in the trash was also 28 wks. in gestation with straight black hair and a girl. Was it just an accident? Or a "devine appointment."

So I told the policewoman, "please take your time, pray about it, because you're the one that needs to name her. When it came time for the funeral, the was no mother to grieve the loss of this baby. Only us. Maybe God allowed this to happen, so that the police officer could have closure and healing for the baby she lost.

I don't know, but what I do know is we were there to show that this was a human life. A life that mattered and was not forgotten or thrown away. But was named, dressed, respected and revered as a child of God. The police women named her HOPE.



Compassionate Burials for Indigent Babies

May society recognize and uphold the importance of mothers and fathers for children.



CONVENTION HELP WANTED

A Baby Shower Collection Drive will be held at the Louisiana Knights of Columbus State Convention in Lafayette from April 29th through May 1st. We are asking councils to hold a collection drive in your church parish or purchase items individually or as a council. Please bring your collected items to the Convention and drop them off at the Culture of Life table when you check in.

Monetary donations will be accepted. Please make checks payable to **Knights of Columbus** and write “**baby shower collection drive**” in the memo line. If your council cannot sponsor a baby shower collection drive in your church parish or council, you may consider a monetary donation instead.

Suggested items are: baby mattresses, pack-n-play portable playpens, baby monitors, baby health kits (thermometer, ball syringe, medicine dropper, nail clippers, etc.), children’s clothing from infant to size 3, onesies, disposable diapers preemie to size 3, wipes, baby towels, receiving blankets/baby blankets, baby bottles, packs of infant socks, pacifiers, baby wash, baby lotion, baby shampoo, and Desitin. **For health reasons, only bring NEW items please.**

We are also looking for Culture of Life chair couples and brother knights in the Lafayette area that can help us distribute the collected items to the Lafayette area crisis pregnancy centers. Please contact Sam and Arline Mistretta at 769-2433 or email: smistretta2@cox.net if you can help with this part of the effort.

CULTURE OF LIFE STORIESPRO-LIFE CORNER: WHY THE CROSS

Don and Dee Caskey (Council 1905)

Why do Christians identify with a cross? Starting as early as the first century, the Roman soldiers would try to intimidate the early followers of Christ with hand gestures and cross symbols. The early Christians remembered Christ's crucifixion, but not in the way the Romans wanted. The Christians embraced the cross because they knew not only about the pain and suffering, they knew the love that God the Father and Son had for them. Jesus sacrificed himself so that we could live. **THAT IS HOW IMPORTANT LIFE IS!**

With today's culture of death, where the death of a **UNBORN LIVING HUMAN** is preferred over any inconvenience that the child may cause, we must embrace the love that Jesus has for **ALL** lives.

Presently, under certain conditions and states, any person may choose to end their own life. We now have legal assisted suicide where any restrictions are rapidly being eliminated. Now, at least they can **SAY NO** to ending their life. Will today's culture of death council a person toward Hospice, or just offer an easy end to any suffering? When assisted suicide becomes mandatory or at the discretion of someone else, it ceases to be suicide. Just like our aborted babies, **IT IS MURDER**. The only distinction is that they are both legal.

God created us in this world for **LIFE**. He wants us to live forever and through the resurrection of his Son he has given that back to us. We also must identify with and embrace **HIS** life. He empowers us, through the help of the Holy Spirit, to defend the helpless and share God's love given to us with those who cannot defend themselves. This is our call.

Yours in Christ



PRO-LIFE DINNER IN NEW ROADS

By Scott and Ashton Smith (Council 1998)

On the evening of Sunday, February 28th, Pointe Coupee Right to Life welcomed pro-life advocate Abby Johnson back to her hometown for its annual fundraiser and banquet.

Abby is a former Planned Parenthood director who now travels the globe sharing her story, educating the public on pro-life issues, advocating for the unborn, and reaching out to abortion clinic staff who still work in the industry.

Abby's amazing conversion story drew a record crowd of more than 250 people. This number included youth and members of growing local chapters of Students for Life, many of whom had recently journeyed to Washington, D.C. for the March for Life.

Abby was greeted with some special homecoming events during the night, including a surprise introduction by her mother, a presentation of a Key to the City of New Roads, and a closing prayer from the pastor of Abby's childhood church, First Baptist of New Roads.

The parish of Pointe Coupee is still buzzing with excitement and gratitude from the special visit of a hometown hero.

SUPPORT LIFESITE NEWS

John Hauler (Council 9016)

LifeNews.com offers daily and bi-weekly news we can use. They need our help. They give us the news you do not hear from local and national broadcasts concerning the true stories behind the abortion industry. Usually, we hear news that might be troubling to the pro-life cause from regular broadcasts. LifeNews.com offers an alternative to that on a daily basis.

However, what they do costs money. Naturally, if our councils can send a few dollars to support their efforts, then it would certainly be appreciated very much. If your council has a pro-life budget, see if you can set aside some money to help these people out.

Checks can be made to: LifeNews.com and mailed to P. O. Box 270841; Ft. Collins, Co. 80527.

While you are at it please look up LifeNews.com and log on to their website if you have not already done so. It is free and open to the public. But, again, it takes money to run the program.



PRAYER FOR LOST BABIES

LeRoy and Ellen Brandow (Council 15614)

On March 12th, Culture of Life Chair Couple, LeRoy and Ellen Brandow, from Council 15614 attended a Memorial Mass at St Angela Mercy Church Metairie for the thousands of babies aborted at the Causeway Medical Clinic on Ridgelake Dr in Metairie. A prayer service was attended after Mass at the now closed Ridgelake facility.



Louisiana is facing the worst budget crisis in decades, yet Baton Rouge is wasting time legislating women's bodies.

Join us to tell the Governor and Legislature: Stop interfering with reproductive health care. Focus on the real issues facing Louisiana.

**GOVERNOR EDWARDS 225-342-7015
SENATE PRESIDENT JOHN A. ALARIO, JR. 504-340-2221
HOUSE SPEAKER TAYLOR BARRAS 337-373-4051**

Bonnie Schmidt | Jackie Krugler | Iris Ho | Emma Iris DiAnna | Karlana Humpberg | Megan E. Salder, Esq
Stephanie Acavado | Elise T. Schilling | Ann Porter | Tina D. Henderson | Walter C. Randall | Anna Timmons-Harris
StutWalk New Orleans | Unleash Women Louisiana | National Network of Abortion Funds | Brendan Turilli
American Civil Liberties Union of Louisiana | Jason Mooney | Anne Fields | Seth Harris | Julie Schwam Harris
Ambler Traeth | National Organization of Women Louisiana | National Organization of Women—Shreveport-Bossier
National Organization of Women—New Orleans | National Organization of Women—Baton Rouge | Diana Gray
National Council, Jewish Women, Greater New Orleans Section | Linda Kocher | Robert Kocher | Jessie Mekkas | Amy Irvin
New Orleans Abortion Fund | duVergne Gaines | Feminist Majority | Deborah Lynn Hallie | Catherine Pattenon
Kelsey Alney | New Orleans Secular Humanist Association | Corinne Freeman Barnwell | Julie Griffith | Rose Murray
Judith Barnes-Cochran | James B. Daniel | Stephanie White | Julie Finger MD, MPH | Melissa Fennell | Catholics for Choice
Kara Cohen | Tina Freeman | Amelie Rose LeBlanc | UU Voice for Reproductive Freedom—New Orleans
Mary L. Pretz Lawson | Lella Goveand | Madelyn Botnick Fireman | Women With a Vision, Inc. | Dana Carbo, LMSW
Christopher Kinabrew | Jess Pinkham | Pearl Thomas | Mario Barrera | Ben Koelzer | Rachel Crossbie | Nathan Harrison
Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast, Inc. | Gerard F. Gossin | Mario Wickstrom | Valeria Caplanich | Amy E. Leason
Kathleen Brethaupt | Rebecca B. Schwartz | Charles M. Schully | Kimberly Estepman | Elizabeth B. Hofmann
Tulane Law Students for Reproductive Justice | Jessi Rae Buhl | Louisiana Progress Action | Melissa Flournoy, Ph.D.
Caleen Murphy | Carol Richards | LIT Louisiana | Michelle Erenberg | Katelyn Graves | Hannah Ligon | Rachel Brown
Students United for Reproductive Justice of Tulane | Jennifer Chis | Lindsay Brown | Amy Schelly | Camille Moran
Social Workers United for Reproductive Freedom (SWURF) | Ronda Adams, MPH | Aaron Lercher | Madison Poche
Carlene Green | Equality Louisiana | Louisiana Trans Advocates | LSU Law Students for Reproductive Justice
Miriam S. Arkin | Katherine Sherik | Karla Daniela Resae | Mary Hogan | Rabbi Robert H. Lowery | Allison Letz
Jon Stovall | Kelsey Elson | Mike Stagg | Isabel Manley | Emma Tuttleman-Kriegler | Margaret Walker | Ina Davis
Richard Davis | Linda Al-Samir | Kyle Hines | Toss Carey | Tulane Medical Students for Choice | Alicia Chapman
Ariana Lewis | Liz Brunsen | Julie Hoffman | Logan Khawar | Amy L. Sandridge | Jane Junk | Gregory K. Thompson
Holley Galland | Sharon Howard | Anita Zervigon-Hakos | Tulane College Democrats | Felicia Kahn | Jennifer Fallon
Pamela Stagg | Linda Urdin | Alicia Bendana | Brittany Weber | Heidi Sinclair, MD, MPH | Doctors for America, Louisiana
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40 DAYS FOR LIFE

John Hauler (Council 9016)

Forty Days For Life Spring campaign ended on Palm Sunday with 471 babies confirmed saved and four abortion mills closed ([story link](#)). The thing that does the job best is prayer. There are many prayer warriors who go to these abortion mills on a daily or weekly basis, not including the 40 Days For Life campaigns who do marvelous work just being a presence out there. They pray for the abortionist as well as their “clients.” Those workers could also use our prayer. Never stop praying.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE.

PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES IN MARCH

Mike and Cathy Abbate (Council 9623)

In March, the Culture of Life chair couple organized a food drive (Feed the Hungry Program) at their church parish. Parishioners were asked to bring non-perishable food items to Mass. The drive continued for the entire month, and the collected items were delivered to the Ministry of Care office in Laplace for distribution.

On March 1st, the chair couple led a Rosary with school children at the Tomb for the Unborn. They also organized a week of prayer to end abortion in our country and around the world in their Adoration Chapel. On March 12th, the couple attended the Memorial Mass and prayer service for the closing of the abortion facility at 3044 Ridgelake Drive in Metairie.

On March 19th, the chair couple led a Rosary at several locations in Laplace for the Crusade of God's Marriage (One Man – One Woman).

WHAT IS SIX MILLION?

John Hauler (Council 9016)

Six Million Paper Clips is the name of a small book and DVD about a school in Whitwell, Tennessee near Chattanooga. Whitwell is a little town of about sixteen hundred people. The students are all alike: white Anglo-Saxon Protestants. In 1998, their principal wanted to prepare her students for the outside world where they would meet others who did not fit their mold. She wondered how they would react to strangers who are different from them.

She got the idea of teaching about intolerance and what it can lead to and so began the story of the Holocaust and the death of six million Jews. One student asked what was six million. The students could not imagine a number as large as six million. One student suggested that the class collect six million paper clips to get an idea of the number.

Just the story of the paper clip alone is fascinating, but the idea here is that it took many people learning of the project and contributing paper clips from

around the world, including Germany, to help the students achieve their goal.

News channels and newspapers from around the country, including The Washington Post, picked up the story, helping to spread the news of the project. However, these news organizations would not touch a story promoting the right to life. But something that happened fifty or sixty years ago at that time that was right up their alley.

The project was completed. The school built a Holocaust Memorial and obtained an actual boxcar that was used to transport Jews to their death. The Memorial was dedicated on November 9, 2001 that was the sixty-third anniversary of Kristallnacht, the day when the Nazis destroyed Jewish businesses.

Those who want to know what six million looks like can travel to Whitwell, Tennessee, and students there will bring you to the memorial where you can actually see it for yourself.

Now, since 1973, the United States Government has sanctioned the death of more than fifty-seven million humans by abortion in the name of reproductive freedom. The above Memorial was constructed so that the Jewish Holocaust would never be repeated. After seeing what six million paper clips looks like, it leaves us wondering: What will fifty-seven million paper clips look like?

Source: Schroeder, Peter W. and Dagmar Schroeder-Hildebrand, Six Million Paper Clips The Making of a Children's Holocaust Memorial. Kar-Ben Publishing: Minneapolis, 2004.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

PULSE IMMERSION PROGRAM


The PULSE Pro-life Youth Initiative is a multi-faceted effort to train the junior high, high school, and college students of Louisiana to be pro-life agents of change in their communities. Get Involved! For more information visit this [web site](#).

PULSE will include LARTL's PULSE Immersion Weekends and PULSE Leadership Institute. While the weekend and week-long youth training programs will remain virtually the same as "Camp Joshua" and "Joshua Leadership Institute", they are looking forward to expanding their youth education under the banner of PULSE!

Remaining PULSE Immersions dates in 2016 are:

- Baton Rouge: April 15-17
- Covington: April 29-May 1
- Baton Rouge Institute: June 19-24

For more information, contact Alex Seghers, LARTL Co-Youth Programs Director alex@prolifelouisiana.org.



PULSE
immersion
*formerly "Camp Joshua"

high schoolers...
Check Your Pulse...
DO YOU STAND FOR LIFE?

PULSE Immersion is an action-packed weekend that trains high school students to be the **pro-life** leaders of today!

www.ProLifePulseLA.org
1-866-463-5433

July 24-29 2016
Pulse Institute
in Baton Rouge

SPONSORED BY:
Louisiana Right to Life
Louisiana Students for Life

Shreveport
@ Camp Bethany
March 4 - 6 2016

Baton Rouge
February 12 - 14 2016
April 15 - 17 2016

Covington
April 29 - May 1 2016

I AM PRO-LIFE GENERATION

PREGNANCY CENTER FUNDRAISER

The Family Life Federation Pregnancy Problem Center is having **A Pink and Blue Event**. This is a fundrasier to support their mission to give compassionate practical assistance to women experiencing unplanned pregnancies in the Baton Rouge area.

The event will take place on Thursday, April 14, 2016 from 6 PM to 9 PM at City Club of Baton Rouge (355 North Boulevard). The event will feature heavy hors d'oeuvres and silent auction and a cash bar. Call 225-924-1400 or email director@pregnancyproblemcenterbr.com for tickets.



BORN TO RUN

Are you feeling the need to get ACTIVE for LIFE? Come help the Woman's New Life Center continue to save and change lives by participating in their annual Born to Run 5K Run/Walk (with a one mile option) on Saturday, April 9, 2016 at Audubon Park in New Orleans. This event welcomes participants of all ages and fitness levels and will be a fun day for the whole family. The Run/Walk will conclude with a 'Birth' Day Party featuring food, live music, and family activities. Be sure to take advantage of the early bird registration rates and register now! Great prizes will be awarded! Visit www.womansnewlife.com or use this [link](#) to register or for more information.



BOWTIES FOR BABIES

Louisiana Right to Life's Bowties for Babies: A Southern Soiree Benefiting Life will be held Tuesday, May 10, 2016 from 7 to 10 PM at the Capitol Park Museum (660 N. 4th St., Baton Rouge). The new Lieutenant Governor, Billy Nungesser, and his wife, Cher, are the chair couple for the soiree that will feature live jazz music, delicious food, and a silent auction.

100 percent of the proceeds go to Louisiana Right to Life's Advertise for Life Project, which reaches women in crisis pregnancies through targeted on-line advertising that connects them with one of the state's pregnancy resource centers. In 2015, the project generated 1,247 pregnancy help phone calls to the crisis pregnancy hotline and nearly 16,000 clicks to the website.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit <http://prolifelouisiana.org/bowties>.



Bowties for Babies: A Southern Soiree Benefiting Life
May 10, 2016 | 7 - 10 p.m.
Capitol Park Museum
660 N. 4th St., Baton Rouge

Chair Couple: Lt. Gov. and Mrs. Billy (Cher) Nungesser
Special Honoree: Sharon Weston Broome



THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

The next Theology of the Body Training for Teens (Middle & High School) will be held May 4, 5, & 6th at St. Dominic Parish – Sienna Room in Rectory (775 Harrison Avenue, New Orleans). This training is open to anyone who is interested, including parents & grandparents, teachers, catechists, priests, youth leaders.

Join Brian Butler (director of Dumb Ox Ministries) for a Certification training in the exciting Theology of the Body for Teens Immersion Training. Learn how this new program based on the revolutionary teachings of St. John Paul II can provide your preteens and teens with the knowledge and understanding they desire concerning the meaning and purpose of human sexuality. Discover how the language of the Theology of the Body can help your teens embrace the timeless teachings of the Church.

Contact Debbie Shinskie (504-286-1119 or respectlife@arch-no.org) for more information.



SHREVEPORT WALK FOR LIFE

Ark-La-Tex Crisis Pregnancy Center is having their walk for life event on Saturday, April 16th at 9AM at Southern Hills Park (1002 Bert Kouns Industrial Loop) in Shreveport. Go to the web site: www.GiveThemOptions.com or call 318-861-4600 to register for their 5K and Fun Run.



EDUCATION CORNERA BOOK REVIEW

Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

Culture of Life chair couples are well aware that marriage is under attack. We are all aware of troubled marriages, high divorce rates, and general confusion about the reality of Christian marriage. What can we do to strengthen marriages?

One excellent place to start is a wonderful book from Ryan and Mary-Rose Verret entitled **Witness to Love (How to Help the Next Generation Build Marriages that Survive and Thrive)**. Many of you know the co-author Ryan Verret who is the Associate Director for Louisiana Right to Life.

The purpose of the book is to help “prepare young engaged couples for marriage by providing them with a firm foundation to begin their marriage and offering enduring support as they walk forward those crucial first years.” The authors point out that many married couples are isolated from a supporting community such that they don’t get the help that they need when there are inevitable difficulties.

The authors make the case that experienced married couple need to be mentors to young couples. The book provides practical guidance on how to be a mentor, but the information is also intended to strengthen the marriage of the mentors.

The book acknowledges that there are no perfect marriages. The unrealistic image of marriage can be a serious problem for young married couples. They openly and directly speak to real marital and parenting difficulties, and they provide hope for all of us who have fallen short of what we envisioned at the start of our marriage.

I was impressed with the insights expressed in the book and I think their proposals should be seriously considered and utilized in parish programs for engaged and married couples. The guidance provided in the book can also be used by couples outside of a formal program. This book is highly recommended!

Ryan and Mary-Rose Verret



Witness to Love

How to Help the Next Generation Build
Marriages that Survive and Thrive

CALL TO PRAYER USCCB

The U.S. bishops invite the faithful to join a movement of prayer and sacrifice for the protection of life, marriage, and religious liberty in our country. Serious threats to each of these have raised unprecedented challenges to the Church and the nation. When confronted with challenges, our Lord calls us to sacrifice and pray. Go to the USCCB web [site](#) to learn more about how you can answer the Call.



THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

Kristina Arriaga,
Executive Director of The Becket Fund

The world watched while the Pope, during his US tour, made a surprise visit to the Sisters “in support of the Sisters’ legal fight.” As you may know, on Holy Wednesday, March 23, the Supreme Court is scheduled to hear Little Sisters of the Poor case in *Zubik v. Burwell*—a case that also includes several other ministries.

I am writing today to invite you to visit our new resources on this case:

- New website that explains the case: www.thelittlesistersofthepoor.com
- Meet the Little Sisters in this series of 90 second [videos](#). Guaranteed: your spirits will be lifted! Then share it with a friend!

The fate of the Little Sisters is the fate of all Americans. I hope you will partner with us in educating the public about the importance of this case and in fighting for religious liberty!

FIVE FACTS ABOUT THE LITTLE SISTERS’ SUPREME COURT CASE:

1. [1 in 3 Americans](#) are not even covered by the mandate HHS is fighting so hard to force the Little Sisters to follow.
2. Exxon, Chevron, and Pepsi—as well as other large corporations—are exempt from the mandate, because they never changed their plans and are “grandfathered.” Family plans with the U.S. military, the largest employer in the world, are also exempted.
3. If the Little Sisters do not provide these services, the government is threatening to fine them with \$70 million in fines per year.
4. This case does not endanger or affect the Affordable Care Act (ACA). It only deals with a regulation created by an agency—Health and Human Services—which would force the Sisters to provide services like the week after pill, ella, to its employees.

5. The government claims it offered them an “opt out.” The Sisters wish that were true. The government’s plan is an “opt in” that uses the Little Sisters’ healthcare plan. This is why the government insists it needs the Sisters’ signature.

Learn more at www.thelittlesistersofthepoor.com, and check out this recent news [story](#) from CNA as well.

PROJECT RACHEL

“You may be thinking, ‘I don’t deserve to be forgiven. My sins are too great!’ Thankfully, God’s love is greater than all the sins of all time. Jesus offers his grace and forgiveness to every repentant heart.” Visit: www.hopeafterabortion.com



You can find a pamphlet about this ministry at this [link](#).

There is a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat in Baton Rouge on May 13-15th. Details will be posted on Rachel's Vineyard [website](#).



FREE PRO-LIFE E-BOOK

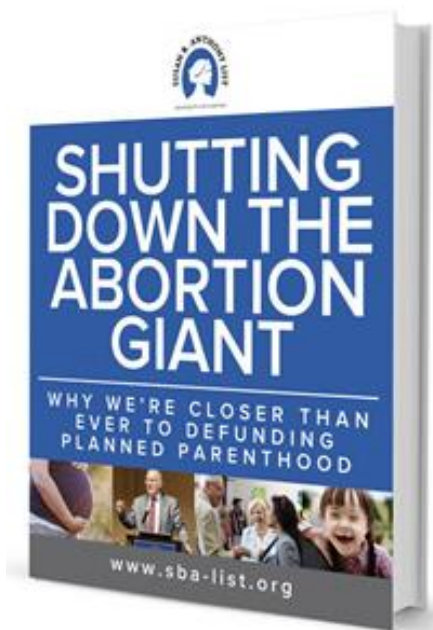
Marjorie Dannenfelser,
President, Susan B. Anthony List

I have some very exciting news to tell you. We are closer than ever to defunding Planned Parenthood – really. It is the first time in forty years we have come this close to defeating the abortion giant.

This election cycle is vital to making this a reality. That means we are in a very critical time and need to be prepared to attack and overcome the abortion lobby. We need everyone (including you) to be equipped to fight and win others over for our cause.

To help strip America's largest abortion business of millions of taxpayer dollars – and its aura of invincibility, we have created an eBook. This free eBook Shutting Down the Abortion Giant will show you just how close we are to bringing down Planned Parenthood and give you the latest information, strategy and tactics to effectively defeat this pro-death organization.

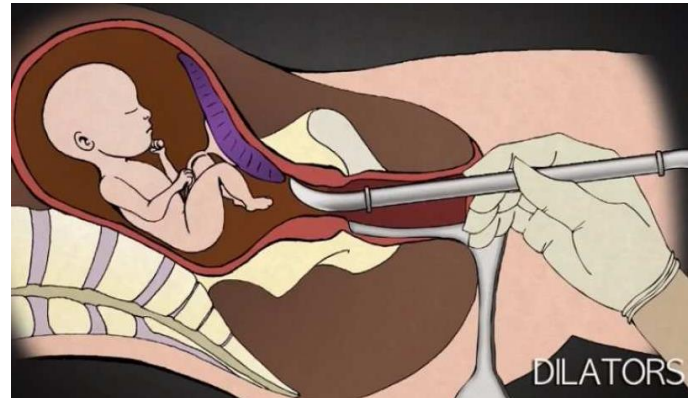
Get your [free eBook](#) today and join our efforts to encircle the vulnerable ones who need us most. Let's fight the radically pro-abortion Planned Parenthood abortion business, until the unborn are safe and free.

INTERNET ARTICLES OF INTEREST

[Viral video featuring former abortionist is changing minds about abortion](#)

[3 common misconceptions about D&E abortions debunked](#)

[He performed 1,200 abortions. In new viral video, he wants you to see what abortion really looks like](#)



[6 disturbing quotes from abortionists on second trimester procedures](#)

[The Dangers Of Hormonal Contraception](#)

[Lands' End Stores Donating Proceeds to Abortion Activist Gloria Steinem's Organization](#)

[Why it's so hard to run an abortion clinic—And why so many are closing](#)

[The Cookie Crumbles for Girl Scouts in St. Louis](#)

[A Rising Tide of Grief: The Hidden Abortion Pain of Grandparents](#)

[Italian Senate Passes Same-Sex Civil Unions Bill](#)

[A Badass Feminist Can't Hide the Truth About Abortion](#)

[Genetically Engineered Language: Propaganda Colors Public Perception](#)

[Canadian Bishop: Person Requesting Assisted Suicide Can't Receive Last Rites](#)

[Texas Faces Supreme Court Abortion Showdown](#)

[Little Sisters of the Poor on Supreme Court case: Why we can't "just sign the form"](#)

[Marquette's Gender Regime](#)

[Canadian Culture of Death: An Open Letter](#)

[Pope Francis and contraception: A response to Christopher Kaczor](#)

[New Genetic Technology Could Help the Pro-Life Cause](#)

[Let's Not Kill Each Other: Canada's Euthanasia Crisis](#)

['What About Aid in Living?' New York Faces Assisted-Suicide Fight](#)

[Georgetown Student Group Invites Planned Parenthood's Cecile Richards to Campus](#)

[Latest Push to Legalize Assisted Suicide Fails in Maryland](#)

[The Totalitarian Imposition of Assisted Suicide in Canada](#)

[EDITORIAL: C-Fam Launches Campaign Against UN Global Abortion Tax](#)

[Waiting for 60 Minutes to Help Us "See" the Unborn Child](#)

[Jericho-Style Eucharistic Procession at Planned Parenthood Draws Almost 2,000](#)

[To Maintain Supply of Sex, ISIS Pushes Birth Control](#)

['Real Sex Week' Gives Students the Information Their Universities Won't](#)

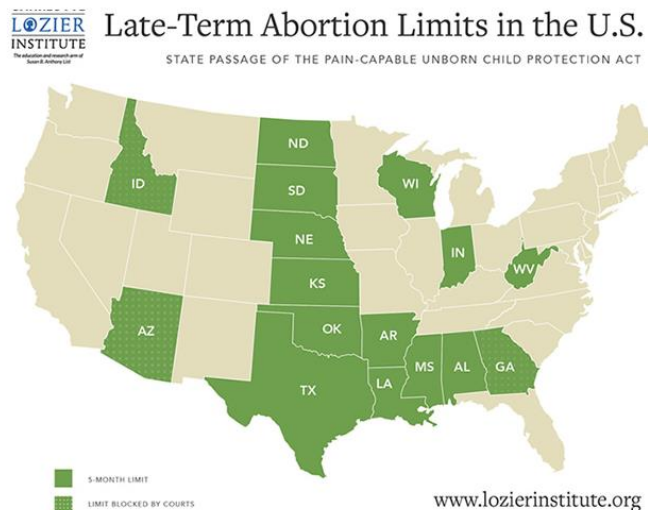
[Scalia Was Sorely Missed in the First Major Abortion Case in a Decade](#)

[Should Men Have the Right to Use Women's Locker Rooms?](#)

[Prohibiting Opposite-Sex Dorm Visitation Promotes Chastity, Authentically Catholic Campus Culture](#)

[BREAKING: Planned Parenthood President Cecile Richards to Speak at Georgetown](#)

[Supreme Court hears oral arguments in landmark abortion medical standards case](#)



[Indiana passes bill banning abortion for Down syndrome, gender, race](#)

[The Upcoming Court Battle Over the HHS Mandate](#)

[How Obergefell Really Happened](#)

[Medical Experts to Senate Committee: Unborn Feel Pain and Must Be Protected by Law](#)

[Blessing Abortion Clinics? "You Can't Call Upon God to Destroy Human Life"](#)

[Canada's Assisted-Suicide Express: Available for Minors and No Conscience Protections](#)

[Supreme Court upholding HHS mandate would be 'unprecedented' attack on faith: Priests for Life](#)

[Archbishop Chaput: 'Our Task as Believers Is to Witness Our Love for God and Each Other'](#)

[Entangled in doctrine? Will journalists even mention a key fact in HHS mandate cases?](#)

[Abortion lobby targets Catholic hospital for refusing sterilization](#)

[Swimming In the Dark](#)

QUOTES OF THE MONTH

“Marriage has borne the brunt of every sordid sitcom satire and has unwillingly become a hot political pawn. St. Pope John Paul II prophetically said, ‘As the family goes, so goes the nation, and so goes the whole world in which we live.’ Look at our families, our nation, and our world today. When married couples forget what marriage is really about, it should be no surprise that the definition of marriage is ‘updated’ to become more inclusive. If we do not protect the meaning of marriage by living out our own marriages with purpose, then we should not be surprised when it’s emptied of real meaning and subsequently used for political agendas.”

“The [Carmelite] monastery oozed holiness from its brick walls to the statues and paintings that adorned it. On the wall behind the main altar was a painted scene from Calvary with a quote from St. John of the Cross: ‘Love is repaid by Love alone.’ This quote became a large part of our lives and our marriage. It is not so much that we love because we feel like loving but because we made a vow to each other before God. We will not be judged by God on our feelings but rather on our decision to love or not to love.”

Taken from **Witness to Love** by Ryan and Mary-Rose Verret.

PRAYERS OF THE MONTH**Prayer for those with Disabilities:**

Lord Jesus Christ,

You know the pain of brokenness, You took our weaknesses upon Your shoulders and bore it to the wood of the cross. Hear our prayers for our brothers and sisters whose bodies fail them and whose minds are crippled by the ravages of disease. Implant a love for them deep within our hearts, that we, disfigured and disabled by our sin, may treasure and nurture the gifts of their lives. May we find You in their weakness, and console You in our care for them. For You are Lord, forever and ever. Amen

Prayer for those with Disabilities (for younger children to pray):

Dear Jesus, sometimes people have problems that do not allow them to do everything that most people can do. Help us to always remember that even though a person may not be able to move or think or do many things that they are still just as valuable to you and to us as everyone else. May we always help those who are weaker or less able to do things both by our prayers and our actions whenever a person needs help. Please protect those who are disabled or elderly in all that they do. In Jesus' name we pray...Amen.

Prayer for Caregivers:

Healer of souls & comforter of the weary, help to lighten the burden of families who are caring for their sick loved ones. Accompany them on their journey and ease their anxiety and fears. Surround them with the love and strength of others, so they may experience the healing presence of the communion of saints. We ask this through the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes and in the name of your Son, Jesus and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.