



Culturae Vitae

June 2016

Volume 3 Number 6

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

Please send all correspondence to:
Sam and Arline Mistretta
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.

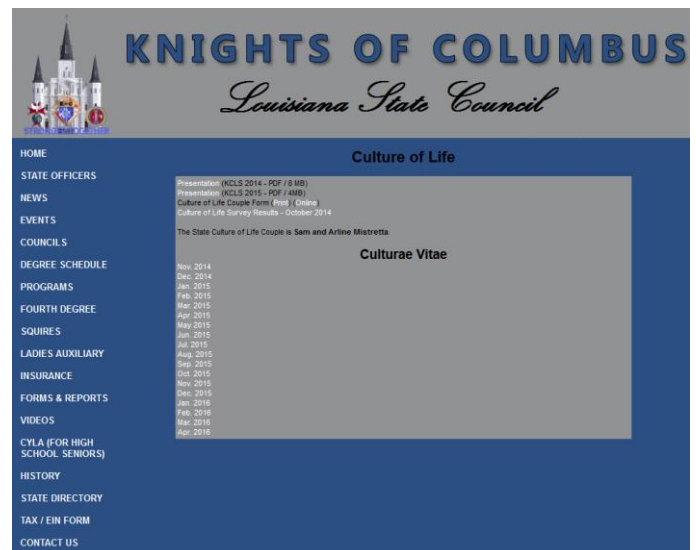


CULTURE OF LIFE NEWSLETTERS ARE ON THE STATE WEB SITE

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.



ASSISTED REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

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

One issue associated with Surrogacy and IVF is “Fetal Reduction,” also known as “selective abortion.” It is the term used to describe the eliminating of the tiny human growing alongside his or her siblings by abortion. According to Dr. Mark Evans, this is an all-too-common procedure in the world of infertility treatments: “Since the 1980s, fetal reduction has gone from a rarity performed in only the highest risk situations to an integral fail-safe of infertility practice” (use this [link](#) for more information).

One mother carrying twins after egg donation and IVF explains her experience to abort one of her children: “...making a decision about how many to carry seemed to be just another choice. The pregnancy was all so consumerish to begin with, and this became yet another thing we could control.” ([link](#) to the full story).

For basic Church teaching on Assisted Reproductive Technologies, please visit: <https://respectlife.arch-no.org/artificial-reproductive-technologies>.

HUMAN CLONING/STEM CELL RESEARCH

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

“Scientists are now contemplating the fabrication of a human genome, meaning they would use chemicals to manufacture all the DNA contained in human chromosomes. Such an attempt would raise numerous ethical issues. Could scientists create humans with certain kinds of traits, perhaps people born and bred to be soldiers? Or might it be possible to make copies of specific people?” Read more about the recent closed-door meeting of scientists [here](#).

For more information on Human Cloning & Stem Cell Research please visit this [website](#).

HELP THE GIANNA CENTER

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

Help them reach their June goal!! The local Knights of Columbus councils are raising the funds for the Gianna Center to obtain an ultrasound machine. When they reach the fundraising goal, the Supreme Council will provide the balance of the monies needed to complete the process through the Ultrasound Initiative.

You and your parish Respect Life groups can help with this effort! You can help by: reaching out to your Knights to let them know you want to help, ask your pastor if this effort could be placed in the bulletin, or take on the commitment as a Respect Life Group to raise some of the funds. Every single bit helps!

For more information, to make a donation, or to assist in the fundraising effort in any way, please contact Steve Hart at 504-615-1303 or email him at heartfore@bellsouth.net.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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

Urgent Need! A local home for young women who are victims of sex trafficking in the greater New Orleans area desperately needs a few items ASAP. I will be visiting them Monday June 6 and I am happy to pick up anything your group collects prior to June 6th for delivery to them that day. If you cannot collect any items before that time, I will still be able to make sure they are delivered. Due to their immediate needs, the sooner the better! The desperately needed items for a local “safe house” include: canned goods, toiletries (any size), and toilet paper. Please contact me ASAP if your group can help (respectlife@arch-no.org).

Thank you so much!

CULTURE OF LIFE STORIES

BOWTIES FOR BABIES

Louisiana Right to Life held their fourth annual Bowties for Babies: A Southern Soiree Benefiting Life on Tuesday, May 10, 2016 at the Capitol Park Museum in Baton Rouge. More than 165 people attended the event.

Attendees were treated to good music, good food, some friendly silent auction competition and great fellowship with other pro-lifers from around the state, all while helping fund Louisiana Right to Life's Advertise for Life project, which reaches abortion-minded women through targeted online advertising that connects them to one of the state's pregnancy resource centers.

Gov. John Bel Edwards and Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser addressed the crowd before state Rep. Regina Barrow introduced the inaugural Leadership for Life Award winner, former Sen. Sharon Weston Broome.

The Leadership for Life award will be given annually to a Louisiana citizen with an exemplary record of protecting mothers and their unborn babies, and with Broome's years of pro-life leadership in the Legislature she was an obvious choice for the first award.

We are grateful to our chair couple, Lt. Gov. Nungesser and his wife, Cher, to all our Bowties for Babies patrons and to all who attended to support this project.



DISMEMBERMENT DOORHANGER EDUCATION CAMPAIGN

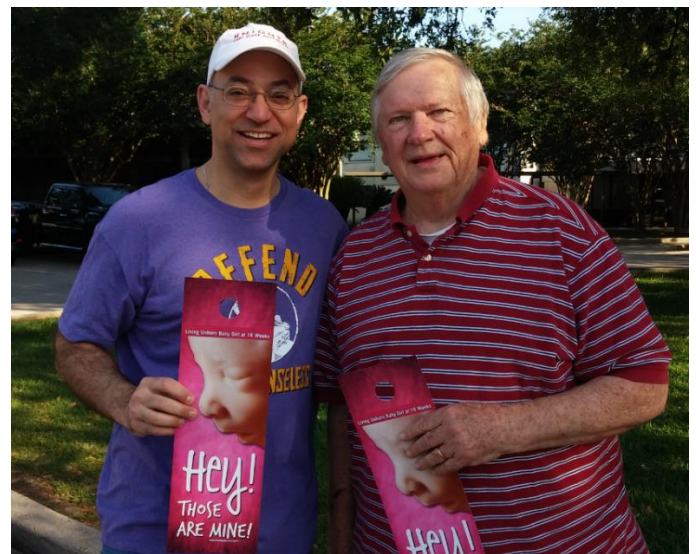
On May 14th, Louisiana Right to Life kicked off their Door Hanger Campaign. This was a statewide grassroots effort dedicated to educating the public on the injustice of dismemberment abortion. Volunteers throughout Louisiana left colorful and informative literature (click [here](#) to download an example of the doorhanger) on door knobs in their neighborhoods and communities and urge residents to sign a petition at www.EndDismemberment.com.

Volunteers meet at designated locations and worked in teams to drop literature throughout a targeted area. Distribution locations were setup throughout the state, including New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Marrero, Alexandria, Ponchatoula, Destrehan, Covington, Shreveport, Carencro, Thibodaux, Slidell, and Lafayette.

Saturday's reports from helper in Shreveport, Bossier and Haughton were positive. In Destrehan, for instance, there was such a strong turnout that they ran out of their 700 doorhangers before the end of the event. Team members picked up more today to finish what they started.

In Metairie, one volunteer was commended for her efforts by a contractor working at a home. After requesting additional doorhangers, the man said, "I like what y'all are doing out here. Keep it up."

While we have had some negative voice mails and emails, we know the mission of opening the eyes of our citizens to the reality of abortion must continue.



BABY SHOWER COLLECTION DRIVE AT KC CONVENTION

A Baby Shower Collection Drive was held at the Louisiana Knights of Columbus State Convention in Lafayette from April 29th through May 1st. Councils and individuals dropped off collected baby items at the Culture of Life table.

In addition to the baby items, there were two gift cards and cash donations of \$600.00. All of the donations were delivered to The DesOrmeaux Foundation with special assistance from Patsy and Norris Thibodeaux (Culture of Life chair couple for Council 10293). We also received help from Ed Masson from Council 5022, Phil Romano from Council 3743, and John Hauler from Council 9016. Thanks to everyone who participated in the collection drive this year!



STATE PRO-LIFE ORATORY CONTEST

Kara Hobbs Wins State Oratory Contest!

The Louisiana Pro-Life Oratory Contest was hosted at the Knights of Columbus Convention on Saturday, April 30th in Lafayette. Kara Hobbs of Baton Rouge won 1st Place and advances to the National Pro-Life Oratory Contest in DC on July 9th.



Lucia Boyd of Loyola College Prep in Shreveport, Jacob Acosta of Jesuit High School in New Orleans, and Tre' Guidry of St. Thomas More High School in Lafayette also competed.



Kara spoke on the impact of abortion on society, highlighting the absurdity of tolerating the injustice of abortion. "In the 6 minutes I have given this speech, 12 babies have been aborted," she said, reciting her speech from memory. She also gave her speech at the convention banquet and received a standing ovation.

Congrats Kara! Good luck in DC!

Here is the winning speech by Kara Hobbs:

Culture of Death: Satire Turned Reality

I've found a way to reduce poverty and the inconvenience of poor children. Very simply, we will provide parents a source of income by allowing them to sell their infants to the meat market to be cooked into delicious delicacies. This would provide money for the parents and relieve them of the burden of caring for children. Maybe the only thing more shocking than this plan is the fact that it was actually proposed in 1729 by author, Jonathan Swift, in his book, *A Modest Proposal*. Fortunately, it was only a satire. After all, what kind of culture would propose the murder of its own infants as a solution to poverty and inconvenience? In 1729, it was thought impossible, but in 2016, it's a reality. I'm talking about the tragedy of abortion. In order to fully understand this tragedy, we must understand the physical growth of a baby in the womb and how that corresponds to the life of an abortionminded mother. There are three phases or "trimesters" for each. The first is all about the beginning, the second is all about the actions, and the third, the results. Once we understand the problem, it is important that we are committed to taking the necessary actions in order to recreate a society like the one in 1729; one that realizes that murdering infants could never be a solution.

There were once twelve brothers who were the beginning of what became a great nation; Israel. As the saying goes "All great things start from small beginnings." This is especially true when it comes to every human life. Both modern science and Christian doctrine agree with Professor Gordon Of the Mayo Clinic when he states: "By all the criteria of modern molecular biology, life is present from the moment of conception." And so begins the first

trimester of the baby's life. Lasting for about 13 weeks, this time is all about beginnings as the baby already has their DNA but is beginning to develop hardening bones, functioning organs, fingernails and even the ability to hiccup. We've talked about the beginning of the baby's life, let's look at the beginning phase for a mother considering abortion. The Guttmacher Institute tells us that 89% of abortions occur during the first trimester. It also tells us that some of the most common reasons women cite for having an abortion are responsibility to others, financial problems, partner problems and simply that a baby would interfere with their lives. These factors are the beginning of what could lead to an abortion.

Nearly 1.2 billion people call Christianity their religion today. But at one time, it was only 12. Jesus was the beginning, but He used His 12 apostles to carry out the action of spreading His love. It takes action to bring something from its beginning to its potential. We make some of our first actions very early in life; they are usually felt by our mothers in the second trimester. During approximately weeks 13-28, the baby is practicing kicking, sucking their thumb and making faces. The baby has made its first actions. Let's consider the actual action of abortion. According to Abort73.com, it is estimated that 79% of abortions occur during the second trimester. There are many different types of abortion, but the most common is vacuum aspiration according to Sutter Health Palo Alto Medical Foundation. This is basically where the baby is sucked out of the mother with a giant vacuum. This is the tragic action many mothers choose to in an attempt to fix their own personal problems. But the thing about actions is that they always bring about results.

The third trimester of a healthy pregnancy results in birth finally, a reason for great joy. However, the results of an abortion are despair and destruction. I'm sure y'all remember when back in 2012 a man named James Holmes went into a Colorado theater and began randomly shooting. The result of his actions was that 12 lives were ended and many more were devastated. Similarly, abortion ends one life and devastates countless others. Many postabortive women suffer with depression, suicidal thoughts, cancer, damaged organs and even death. And more than just mothers and babies are affected. Abortion has robbed our country of over 58 million people

since 1973. That means that each of us has been personally affected by this tragedy. There is literally not a single good result that comes from the action of abortion.

You might have noticed that I started off each point in my speech today with an example of 12 people; first the twelve sons of Jacob, second the 12 apostles and third the 12 people who were killed in the Colorado shooting.

Now, by this time I've been talking for about 6 minutes. According to American Life League, roughly every 30 seconds, a baby is aborted in the United States. That means that from the time I started talking until now, 12 lives have been lost. We've seen what 12 people can do, start a nation or spread a religion and remember how the whole nation was devastated by the Colorado shooting? That same amount of life and potential has been just been destroyed.

We can't let lives continued to be slaughtered like this. Now we all know the truth about the horrors of abortion, that's the beginning phase, next we have to take some action; we need to pray for an end to this atrocity, we need to minister to mothers in crisis and we need to vote for prolife leaders and laws in our country, and then we can have the result of a society like the one that existed in 1729, one that respects the dignity of every baby's life.

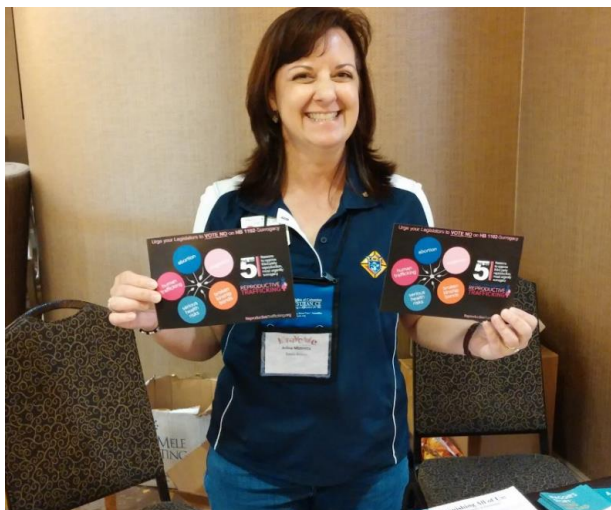


THE BATTLE AGAINST SURROGACY CONTINUES

HB 1102 authored by Rep. Stuart J. Bishop would codify gestational surrogacy in state law ([current status](#)). Sadly, the bill was passed into law. Nevertheless, we must continue to stand up for the dignity of all human beings.

For more information on surrogacy, view this [webinar](#) produced by The Coalition Against Reproductive Trafficking with Alana Newman, CART director, Ryan Verret, LA Right to Life and David Dawson, Jr., Family Life Apostolate Director for the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

During the state KC convention, cards were passed out to attendees to encourage their involvement. For more information, visit the Coalition Against Reproductive Trafficking (CART) [website](#).



PRO-LIFE CORNER

Don and Dee Caskey (Council 1905)

Brother Knights, I recently reminded you of Uncle Paul's favorite expression "I am Knights of Columbus". Now as we prepare to start a new Columbian year, we should renew in ourselves the commitment that we all made when we became knights, that is to serve the Lord.

As knights, we best do it through the various K of C service programs or ministry in our churches. However we serve, it is a witness to the strength and integrity of ourselves and our order. Gentlemen, I am now asking that in this coming year YOU, a Knight of Columbus, expand your service and assist in the service activities of our councils and churches.

All our functions need fuel, and that is what you provide with your help. Don't rely on the other guy or committee because they can all use help. If your council is financially blessed, is it primarily due to the efforts of a few brother knights or the councils? Are your council's memorial masses embarrassing because of the lack of brothers that turn out? There are a large number of activities that require little more than you being there. Please note that the Knights of Columbus is far more than just meetings and "knife and fork" events. Quite often I will attend a pro-life activity and if I were asked if I or the knights are pro-life, I can truly answer "I AM" and sadly be quite literal.

Yours in Christ

CULTURE OF LIFE REPORT

Michael & Cathy Abbate (Council 9623)

In May, Council Culture of Life couple met with the River Parishes pro-life group which consist of several church groups. We meet every third Tuesday of each month to plan and coordinate pro-life activities.

On May 2nd, Council Culture for Life Couple sponsored a Pro-Life Baby Shower with middle school students with all of the gifts given to the Women's New Life Center in Metairie.

Later in the month, the council Culture of Life couple sponsored a pro-life Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine for our church. The Shrine was displayed at all Masses. Parishioners were also given an opportunity to sign a petition to stop the building of a 7,000 sq. feet Planned Parenthood abortion facility on Claiborne Avenue in New Orleans.

Also in May, the council Culture of Life couple participated in the 17th Annual Mother's Day Rosary Crusade for Life at the Abortion Facility in New Orleans. They also organized the Mother's Day Remembrance Mass for our KC Members Wives and Family Members at the 8:30 AM Mass. They also took time to sign a petition to stop the President Obama extreme transgender school mandate and another one to pass the Life at Conception Act to the Supreme Court. At the end of the month, the Culture of Life couple participated in the Dismemberment Abortion Door Hanger campaign.



ULTRASOUND FOR LOCAL CENTER

David and Anne Gregory (Council 8342)

Council 8342 is currently working on obtaining a used ultrasound machine that will be updated and given to the Pregnancy Problem Center in Baton Rouge. This effort is being supported by Fr. Jerry Martin, our pastor of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. The council is currently receiving guidance from Richard Bosse and Ron Coco who are very experienced in placing ultrasound machines in pregnancy centers around the state.



PREGNANCY PROBLEM CENTER

4724 Jamestown Avenue, Suite 3

Baton Rouge, LA 70808

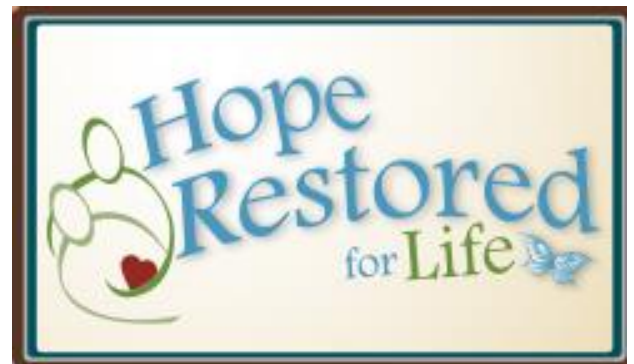
(225) 924-1400

SUPPORT FOR PREGANCY CENTER

Nick & Peggy Prosperie (Council 8932)

Council 8932 sponsored the annual Mother's day corsage sales at St Ann Catholic Church in Bourg, LA. Thru the generosity of our parish members we collected \$400.00 in support of our local RTL center "Hope Restored" (www.hoperetoredforlife.org) in Houma, LA.

We also continue our monthly holy hour and Rosary in support of a Culture of Life on the last Sunday of each month.



A PRO-LIFE PERSPECTIVE

John Hauler (Council 9016)

Many people, Catholics included, do not believe that abortion is such a bad thing. If they did, we would not have abortion as the law of the land forty-three years later.

The idea of abortion seems to stem from the fact that a woman has an unwanted pregnancy. She as well as her male partner want to be free to do whatever they want without any responsibility or consequence.

In the case of abortion, one must live with the fact that a human life is lost. After forty-three years of abortion on demand, the fact that a human life is involved is such a small consequence compared to a "life free of burden." The only burden would be a thing called conscience. When one gets over that, then one is free to do whatever he or she wants.

All actions have some sort of consequence. All choices come with consequences. You have the freedom to choose, but you are not free from the consequences of that choice.

Getting back to Catholics, whatever happened to the “examination of conscience” leading to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. That problem is introduced many times by many priests reminding us of the fact that the lines to the Communion rail are always longer than the lines to the confessional. People do not want the burden of confession any more than some want the burden of raising a baby. Let us take the easy way out.

At the beginning of the pro-life movement, pictures of aborted babies were shown to the public. Those people were shouted down because those images were too awful for someone to look at. It seems strange, but the pro-life movement itself was stigmatized by the facts of abortion. Did conscience come into play whereby the public did not want to be reminded of what abortion is all about? Now, people are saying that the pro-life movement does not care about the baby itself, just the fact that the baby is not aborted. The baby is allowed to come into the world with no one to care for it.

Much money is spent on promoting the cause of life to try to convince the general public of the evil of killing another human being. In the meantime, money is given to the pregnancy centers that have come into existence because these same pro-life people in response to the abortion industry. The centers operate with the donations from the general public. They receive no funds whatsoever from the government. The pro-life movement has the burden of using their money to educate the general public as well as to help the woman who decides to keep her baby.

On the other hand, the abortion movement receives millions of dollars from the federal government to help them in their work of providing “health care” to millions of women. The federal government cares enough for women that it will kill their children so that they may live as they wish.

Forty-three years is a long time to try to overcome an easy answer to a burden someone does not want to accept. That is to say, we have gone forty-three years of living without the thought of a conscience.

Many powerful people in politics as well as in the entertainment industry make light of the pro-life movement or consider it an annoyance to be done

away with. As long as there are laws allowing the killing of a human being, there will be a group of people trying to change that fact. One fact that will seemingly never be changed is that one human being will always want his way at the expense of another human being. This will not stop, but other people may and will come to the aid of the victim. That too is human nature.

BLANKETS FOR PREGNANCY CENTERS

Carolyn F. Lawson, Board Member – Louisiana
Ladies Auxiliary Association

Yvonne Dubret, St. Mary Magdalen KC Ladies Auxiliary President, received another shipment of blankets, burp clothes and Lovies from **Somebody Loves Me Creations**. Carolyn Lawson, SMM Aux Treasurer & LLAA Board Member transported that shipment of items to LLAA Vice President, Cheryll Thomas. They will be distributed to pregnancy centers throughout central and north Louisiana.

Thank You Ladies for your Team Effort to Cover the State of Louisiana & a very big thanks goes to Melissa Clesi-Ziegenhorn of **Somebody Loves Me Creations** for her talented handwork and generous Contribution to our pro-life efforts. (Chair couple's note: Melissa sent several boxes of blankets, burp cloths and lovies for the KC state convention that were sent to the DesOrmeaux center as well as other centers around the state. Thanks Melissa!!)



BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN A SUCCESS!

Dick Stine, Trustee and Culture of Life Director
(Council 4562)

We at Council 4562 in Lake Charles have been busy promoting Pro-Life. The Council's Fourth Annual Baby Bottle Campaign was held at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic church. This event brought in over \$16,000 for our local Pregnancy Resource Center, New Life Counseling (NLC, www.newlifecounselinglc.com). We assisted in the purchase of the NLC's ultrasound machine that will be running its first tests this week.



As several Council knights are on the NLC board, and we will participate in their upcoming Pro-Life Conference.

None of this would be possible without the efforts of the Holy Spirit. God Bless!

LOVE IN ACTION!

Fr. Dan Cook, Diocese of Alexandria

Mother Teresa inspired the entire world to put our love into action, to cry out the Gospel with our lives!

26 years ago, a newly ordained priest inspired me to put love into action when he took me to an abortion clinic to pray the Rosary with our humble Catholic brothers and sisters.

That priest now is 80 years young and still praying at abortion mills. Recently, my beloved friend and spiritual mentor prayed again at a killing mill. He has not lost any of the fire of God's Love as we prayed all four mysteries of the Rosary.

I'll be perfectly honest. I felt a little silly when my priest friend pulled out his white handkerchief and waved it high in the sky as we sang the Ave Maria song in between the mysteries, but I know his tremendous devotion to our Mother. I looked

around at our little group and thought to myself what a motley little group, but also felt peace, love, unity and tenderness. There were little children, mothers, four boys, a grandmother in her 90s, and all spectrum of life standing on the sidewalk praying for the unborn, putting love into action in front of the abortion mill.

What a profound contrast to the pro-abortion people working at the abortion clinic or driving by slamming on their cars horns, screaming vulgarities with a contorted face and flipping us the number ONE sign!!! One person driving a van honked their horn the longest and used the most vile language. The van had the typical stickers in the back window of two children, a mother, a dog and a cat. If the children were riding in the car (which I could not tell because of the tinted windows), it's hate and anger passed down from one generation to the next.

I talked about this confrontation with my priest friend as we drove home, and he wisely shared with me that hate and anger is the culture of the pro-abortion movement. If you do not agree with them, if you do not deny the science, then they will hate and curse you. This is the opposite of love in action. They call themselves tolerant, open-minded, diverse, and compassionate, but if one dares to challenge their philosophy then they are angry and will shut down any conversation.

All 5 feet 1 inch of Mother Teresa's body poured out love in action with her profound smile, tenderness of her touch and compassion of her eyes and heart ([link](#)). Mother Teresa, intercede for us to live our lives to use our bodies lives for Love in Action!

God bless +



UPCOMING EVENTS

ATTENTION: NFP teachers are needed for the Archdiocese of New Orleans! If you are interested, please contact the Respect Life Office at respectlife@arch-no.org or 504-286-1119 to discuss the possibility of training to teach Natural Family Planning in the Archdiocese. You are needed!

Natural Family Planning methods, class information, and contact information to register for a class can be found here: <https://respectlife.arch-no.org/natural-family-planning>.



PLANNED PARENTHOOD HOLDS GRAND OPENING

Ben Clapper

Executive Director Louisiana Right to Life

I am not sure if you heard the news, but Planned Parenthood held its grand opening last night at its new facility on Claiborne Avenue.

Almost exactly six years after they purchased the land, they cut the ribbon. While the building hasn't opened to clients, it will soon.

And if there were any doubts about their abortion intentions, Cecile Richards, president of Planned Parenthood, cleared that up yesterday: "We definitely built this (facility) so we can provide abortions ..."

(Click [here](#) to read more of what she had to say.)

For the past few years, no local Planned Parenthood representative had dared to utter words as clear as these. Not only has Planned Parenthood built this facility for abortions, but it has designed it to squeeze every last abortion it can out of the New Orleans market.

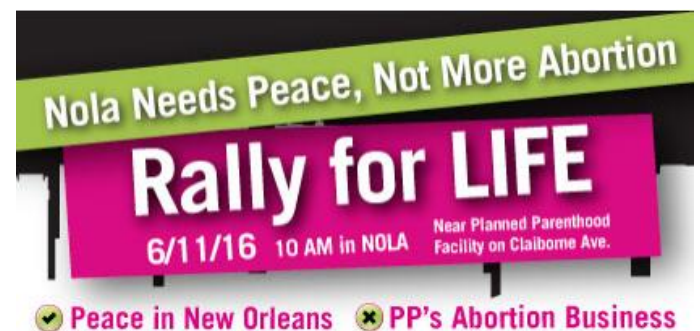
As its own documents show, Planned Parenthood plans to sell 2,844 abortions on site each year over and above abortions already being performed elsewhere in New Orleans. The most recent numbers have Louisiana's abortion count at 10,211 a year, but if Planned Parenthood has its way, that number will increase by 28%.

Thankfully, Gov. John Bel Edwards will soon sign into law HB 606, which protects taxpayer dollars from subsidizing any business that performs abortions. But, as Ms. Richards also said, Planned Parenthood is considering taking the law to court. Clearly, Planned Parenthood will take every step necessary to sell abortions on Claiborne Avenue. The story is far from over.

We will host a gathering on Saturday morning, June 11 at 10 AM at the Planned Parenthood building to stand for peace against its abortion business. I encourage you to join us for this peaceful gathering to show our opposition.

Nola Needs Peace, Not More Abortion Rally for Life Saturday, June 11 at 10 AM | 4624 S. Claiborne Ave.

Now more than ever, we need to stand together for life and for peace in Louisiana. Please spread the word.





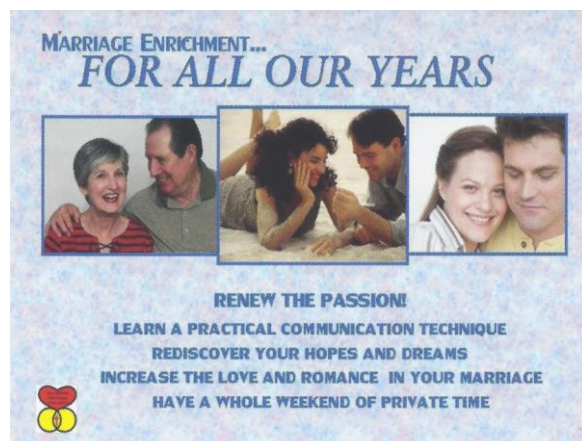
WORLD WIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) is a weekend for married Christian couples who value their relationship and desire a richer, fuller life together. Attend a Marriage Encounter weekend and learn the tools needed to keep your marriage strong.

WWME is faithful to the Roman Catholic Church's teaching that marriage is a covenant that exists between one man and one woman. Any reference to marriage or couple made by WWME is in this context.

The upcoming events will take place at the Tracy Center in Baton Rouge. The next available weekends are: July 22-24th and October 14-16th. You can find more information about these events at their web site: www.LAMS-wwme.org or call 800-586-5469.

An application fee of \$75 is non-refundable, and a donation will be requested on the weekend. You can receive a special \$25 discount on the application fee by using the discount code SAVE-25.



FORTNIGHT FOR FREEDOM

From June 21st to July 4th, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) will host its annual Fortnight for Freedom under the theme "Witnesses to Freedom." In support of this theme, the USCCB will highlight 14 men and women around the world who bear witness to authentic freedom in Christ.

As faithful Catholic American citizens, we encourage your council to work with your pastors to be fully engaged in this special celebration. For suggestions on simple activities, please visit the USCCB's Fortnight for Freedom [website](#). Additionally, we encourage you to share the USCCB-produced 10-minute video on the importance of religious liberty that is available on the website. This could be done at a council meeting or as part of a larger parish or community celebration of the fortnight.

You can also order Knights of Columbus religious freedom signs (13"x 20") for use at any rallies or marches for religious freedom sponsored by your council or held in your area. The signs say "Respect Religious Freedom" (#10041) and "Defend the First Amendment" (#10042). Order online at [Knights Gear](#) or send a Supply Requisition (Form #1) by mail or fax (1-800-266-6340) to the Supply Department. The cost is \$10 per 100 signs, which includes shipping and handling.



**RESPECT
RELIGIOUS
FREEDOM**

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!

Why should students come? Here are a few reasons:

1. It's a blast! Throughout the week, you have time to hang out with fellow students from all over Louisiana, especially during our field trips, lip-sync battles, movie nights, and our famous Coffee House! Bring your instruments and your best talents!
2. Chance to Put Convictions into Action. After learning how to present our position in conversation, we head to "Free Speech Alley" at LSU to talk with strangers about abortion. Sounds frightening, right? Students tell us time and again that they love this experience. Many students report changing a person's perspective! Students also have the opportunity to speak in a mock legislative committee at the Capitol!



3. Explore A Range of Issues. At PULSE, not only do you dive into pro-life education with the experts, but you also hear various testimonies from people who have been intimately affected by abortion and adoption. We also explore the issues of euthanasia, "end-of-life" decisions, stem cell research, and much more! We have the privilege to spend time with the elderly at a local nursing home.
4. Prepare to Change Your Community. PULSE students are trained to return to their communities to convert their knowledge and inspiration into real action.

Baton Rouge PULSE Leadership Institute is scheduled for **June 19-24th**. For more information, contact Alex Seghers, LARTL Co-Youth Programs Director alex@prolifelouisiana.org.



BATON ROUGE RIGHT TO LIFE BREAKFAST

Baton Rouge Right to Life will have their 6th Annual Benefit Breakfast on Saturday, June 25 from 9:00 to 11:30 AM at St. Thomas More Parish Activity Center in Baton Rouge (at 11411 Goodwood Blvd). We will be celebrating pro-life healthcare this year.

Robert Chasuk, M.D., FAAFP, CFCMC, will be the keynote speaker. Dr. Chasuk is a family physician and the Associate Director of Graduate Medical Education and the Family Medicine Residency Program Chief of the Family Medicine Division at the Baton Rouge General Hospital. He is also affiliated with Woman's New Life Center, a pregnancy center located next door to Delta abortion facility.

Karen Stoehr, pro-life mom and jazz vocalist, will share her experience with the challenging prenatal diagnosis of her youngest child and her courageous response when she was urged to have an abortion.

Wojciech "Al" Krotoski, M.D., Ph.D, M.P.H. will be posthumously honored with the Joan Dowd Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Al was a member of the KC Council at St. Jude Catholic Church in Baton Rouge.



The Benefit Breakfast tickets are \$30 each or \$200 for a table of 8. To register online, go to www.ProLifeLouisiana/BR or call Julie at (225) 749-8260 or contact 40daysforlifebr@gmail.com.

6th annual
Baton Rouge Right to Life
Benefit Breakfast

Catholic Women's Infertility Support Group

*Are you and your spouse struggling with infertility?
You are not alone!*

Come join us for a Catholic Women's Infertility Support Group at:

**St. George Church
Kleinpeter Activity Center - St. Paul Rm.
7808 St. George Dr., Baton Rouge
2nd Wednesday of each month
7 PM - 8 PM**

For more information, contact Julie at stellajuliedot@gmail.com

Sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge
Office of Marriage & Family Life

USCCB Call to PRAYER
Life, Marriage, and Religious Liberty

May those approaching the end of life receive care that protects & respects their lives.

(Stock.com/ vm)

NATIONAL NFP AWARENESS WEEK

National NFP Awareness Week is July 24 - 30, 2016. The theme this year is: Love, Mercy, Life; Natural Family Planning, Opening the Heart of Marriage. "Celebrate and reverence God's vision of human sexuality." Please ask your council to do something special this year.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD IN LAKE CHARLES

Do you know someone hurting after abortion? Still seeking peace years later? Experience the healing love of Jesus at Rachel's Vineyard Retreat. Retreat includes sharing of stories, scripture-based spiritual exercises, sacraments and a memorial service. Open to women, men, couples and family members touched by abortion.

A Rachel's Vineyard Retreat will be held July 1 - 3, 2016 in Lake Charles. If you would like to learn more about this retreat you can contact Marjorie Long at 337-439-7400 ext.317 or email: rachels.vineyard@lcdiocese.org.

TFP LADIES' TEA PROGRAM

The American Society for the Defence of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) will hold a Ladies' Tea Program on June 17th and 18th at La Maison Duchamp in the historic town of St. Martinville, LA.



The Friday, June 17th event will start at 10:00 AM and end at 5:00 PM, and Saturday, June 18th event will start at 10:00 AM and finish at 4:00 PM. More details will be sent soon.



Please pray for this endeavor of Catholic ladies to promote, nourish and defend Christian civilization and culture.

TFP is an organization of lay Catholic Americans concerned about the moral crisis shaking the remnants of Christian civilization. Today, with over 120,000 active members, volunteers and donors, the TFP is on the front lines of the Culture War, peacefully defending the values of tradition, family and private ownership.



KCLS CULTURE OF LIFE SESSION

Knights of Columbus Leadership Seminar (KCLS) will be held on Saturday, July 16, 2016 in the Baton Rouge area (exact location still TBD). Again this year, there will be a special breakout session for Culture of Life chair couples and any others who are pro-life leaders in their councils.

This year, we are going to show a short video followed by a discussion period. There will be a detailed review of the new grading form, and we will introduce a new area of emphasis. We will also have a **special gift** for those in attendance, and free pro-life materials will be available on a first-come, first served basis. The session should wrap-up before lunch.

Please make sure that your council is represented. We look forward to seeing you there!



EDUCATION CORNER

THE RIGHT TO RELIGIOUS FREEDOM (USCCB)

The Little Sisters of the Poor face a dire threat to their religious freedom in the United States. [Find out more](#) about what the Catholic Church teaches on religious freedom, including the groundbreaking Declaration on Religious Freedom (*Dignitatis Humanae*) from the Second Vatican Council.

Let's Talk! Small community gatherings are a great, simple way to build the life of our Church. They are also important for a healthy civil society. [Here are some ideas](#) for using the new video to kick start a small-group conversation about religious freedom.



Check out other related resources at : www.usccb.org/freedom.

SIGN-UP FOR LACCB ACTION ALERTS

Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops

Do you want to know about pending legislation important to Catholics? If so, then go to the Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops web site: www.laccb.org. They have a [web page](#) to inform you about active advocacy campaigns. You can also sign-up for email alerts so that you can contact your government officials about important issues in a timely manner.



DUDE, GET THE HELL OUT OF THE LADIES ROOM!

(Hugh Brown, American Life League)

Curt Schilling is a former Major League baseball pitcher who was fired this week by ESPN. During his playing career, Curt was a 6-time all-star, a 3-time world champion, and a world series MVP; he ended his playing career with over 200 wins. Curt has been a baseball analyst for many years, most recently for the left-wing ABC owned sports network ESPN.

ESPN fired Curt for simply sharing and commenting about a meme on Facebook. The meme stated that men should stay out of women's restrooms. The left-wing media push for a complete acceptance of insanity, such as support for supposed "transgenderism" as natural and normal, burns at a torrid rate. The world, ABC and ESPN, and many businesses think that you either accept their insanity or pay the price. You will be fired, you will be labeled, and you will be corporately ostracized. Our response is "to hell with them."



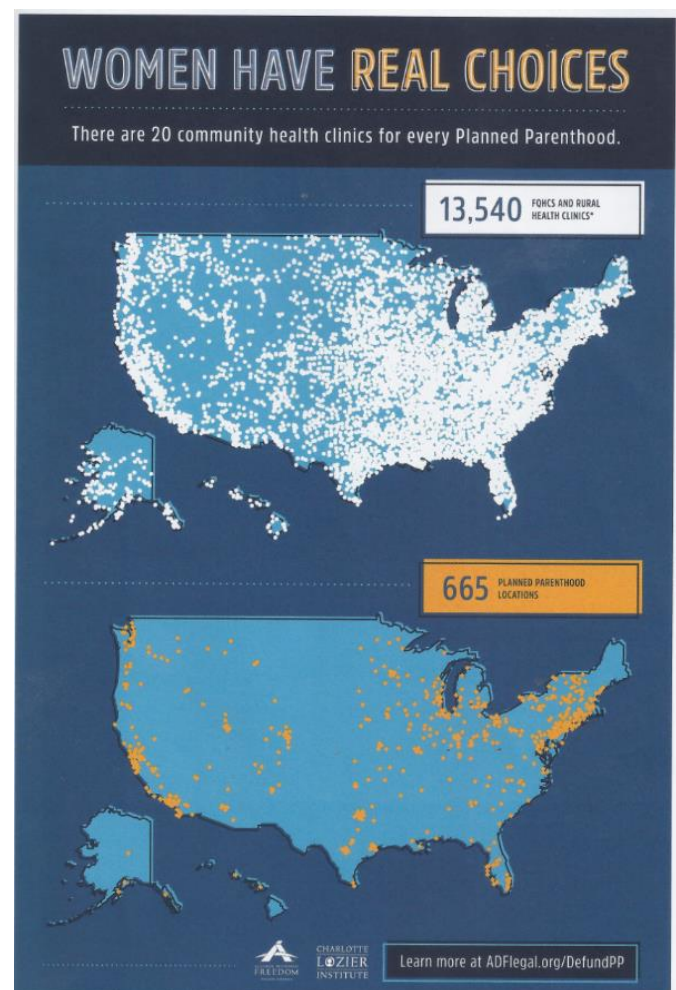
It's simple. Men who think they are women need help. Whether their gender dysphoria is the result of confusion, trauma, or mental illness, it is not natural and thus cannot be accepted such; it is a condition that requires help. To treat this condition as natural is irresponsible; it is a lie.

Did you know that 41% of active transgender men and women attempt suicide? That's 10 times the rate of the rest of the American population. These individuals need help, not false acceptance. Nevertheless, the promoters and enablers of treating perversity as wholesome truth will not stop. They want grown men in the ladies' bathroom with your wives, with your mothers, and with your daughters. Welcome to a world without faith or reason.

Fear of speaking out exists because the death of reason and common sense allows politically correct human secularists, like the empty shells at ESPN, to flap in the wind and fire men who speak the obvious.

[American Life League](#) applauds and thanks Curt Schilling for having the courage to speak the truth that even a four-year-old knows. Men are men, women are women. The attempt to redefine nature is not only unnatural, but also has an underlying evil design that seeks to brand faith and reason as bigotry. The wicked end game is persecution.

You DO NOT have to accept and tolerate this nonsense. Speak your mind, hold your ground, and move forward. The truth is on your side along with the power of prayer and the strength of Heaven. Our own Emily Brown of Life Defenders knows the truth is on our side and has boldly proclaimed it ([link to video](#)). Join American Life League in standing up to this latest push for madness! Saint Michael pray for us!

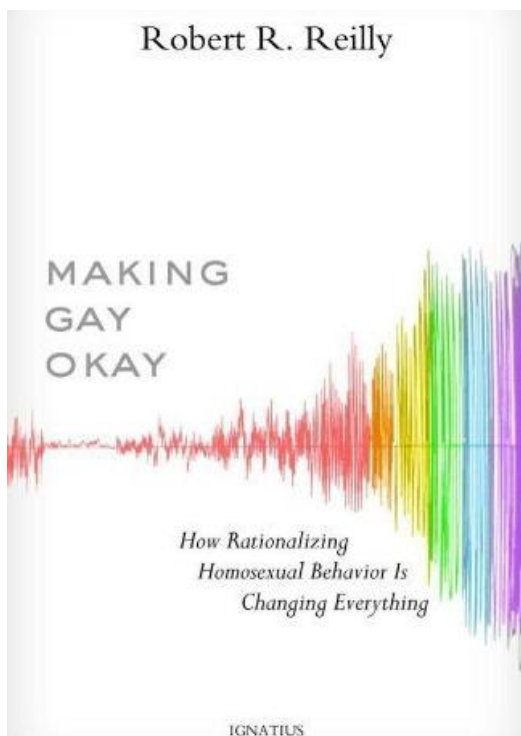


BOOK RECOMMENDATION

After the recent Obergefell ruling by the Supreme court, powerful forces have accelerated their attempts to show that Catholic teaching on same-sex unions is wrong and even bigoted. Faithful Catholics need knowledge to help them defend Church teaching. One outstanding resource comes from the book **Making Gay Okay** by Robert R. Reilly. This is a very readable and comprehensive treatment of homosexuality and same-sex unions.

The book starts with a clear description of the current cultural environment and then provides an excellent historical explanation of how we arrived at this current state of affairs. Reilly grounds the discussion in the natural law and basic facts of biology. He also takes time to explain previous Supreme Court decisions that provide a path to the widespread public acceptance of the gay lifestyle. One of the more shocking parts of the book is the description of events surrounding the decision by the American Psychiatric Association to remove homosexuality from list of mental illnesses in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual. A decision that was not based on any scientific or medical facts or studies.

This is one of those rare books that clarifies a highly controversial social issue. It is highly recommended.

INTERNET ARTICLES OF INTEREST

[Pope: Ethical Medical Research Requires Morality, 'Safeguards Human Life'](#)

[We Are Losing Our Minds Because the Left is Holding Them Hostage](#)

[USA Today asks: Do private schools with doctrines have a right to the NCAA brand?](#)

[A Life Defending Life: U.S. Bishops' Pro-Life Point Man Richard Doerflinger Retires](#)

[Pro-Life in Africa: 'What We Hold in Common Is This Value for Family'](#)

[Warping Words: On "Hate" and "Mercy"](#)

[Why young Christians can't grasp our arguments against gay 'marriage'](#)

[Captain America vs. Ironman: Who's the Better Soldier?](#)

[Horrible Crime Reveals: **THIS** Is What an Unborn Baby Looks Like](#)

[Abortion Clinics In Blue States Are Closing, Too](#)

[Obama's Foreign Policy Legacy: Chaos and LGBT](#)

[Declare Total Non-Cooperation with Assisted Suicide](#)

[Italy's March for Life 2016: Developing a Culture of Life Among Youth](#)

[The Left Has It Wrong When It Comes to Sex Ed](#)

[Against Choice as the Supreme Good](#)

[What the Male-Only World of Altar Boys Meant to This Former Gay Man](#)

[A Rape Survivor Talks About the North Carolina Bill](#)

[Three Names You Need to Know if You're Against the North Carolina Bathroom Bill](#)

[ACLU vs. Catholic Hospitals](#)

[Belgians to Canadians: Don't Legalize Euthanasia](#)

[I Hate NFP \(But Need it Anyway\)](#)

[Sex-Selection, Forced Abortion Are Happening Here in the United States](#)

[Giving Birth? Who DOES That Anymore?](#)

[Is having kids "sustainable?"](#)

[Progressivism's Fragile Gender Realism](#)

[Two More Catholic Countries Bow to the Homosexual Lobby](#)

[At-home ovulation test a 'breakthrough' for NFP](#)

[March for Life UK: 'We Are a Joyful Celebration of Life'](#)

[Supreme Court Sends Little Sisters' Case Back to Lower Courts](#)

[Fr. Schall: On 'Building the World You Want to Live In'](#)

[Jesuit Priests' Proposal to Challenge Planned Parenthood at Georgetown Was Rejected](#)

[Amazing new video captures the flash of light the moment life begins](#)

[Multiple reports confirm that Planned Parenthood videos were not manipulated](#)

[Former abortionist exposes lies about the abortion pill in new video](#)

['Sick and twisted': Scientists keep embryos alive outside womb up to 13 days for experimentation](#)

[Overcoming Obstacles - Infertility](#)

[Alabama governor signs dismemberment abortion ban into law](#)

[LGBT activist drops complaint against Australian bishops over marriage booklet](#)

[Students at Catholic Seattle Univ. Confused About Gender](#)

[Vatican cardinal: U.S. bathroom battle is part of 'insidious war' against human nature](#)

[Unanimous Win for Little Sisters of the Poor at Supreme Court](#)

[The Moral Wrong of Physician-Assisted Suicide](#)

<http://www.crisismagazine.com/2016/fact-free-universe-transgender-advocacy>

[Time for healing, not lamenting](#)

[A Subjective Definition of "Death" Would Unleash Great Evil](#)

[Transgender Controversy Engulfs Religious-Freedom Bills](#)

[Contrary to Reports, There is No Flash of Light at Conception](#)



QUOTES OF THE MONTH

“Abortion is the ultimate in the larger rationalization of the sexual revolution (of which the homosexual cause is part): if sex is only a form of amusement of self-realization (as it must be when divorced from the moral order), why should the generation of a child stand in the way of it or penalize its fulfillment? The life of the child is a physical and moral rebuke to this proposition. But the child is too weak to overcome the power of the rationalization. The virtual reality of the rationalization is stronger than the actual reality of the child. The child succumbs to the rationalization and is killed in a new ‘sacrament.’ With more than fifty-five million abortions performed since 1973, the investment in the denial of the evil of abortion and in the establishment of the alternative reality that allows it has become tremendous.”

“The legal protection of heterosexual relations between a husband and wife involves a public judgment on the nature and purpose of sex. That judgment teaches that the proper exercise of sex is within the marital bond because both the procreative and unitive purposes of sex are best fulfilled within it. The family alone is capable of providing the necessary stability for the profound relationship that sexual union both symbolizes and cements and for the welfare of the children who issue from it.”

“The legalization of abortion through this [*Roe v Wade*] decision was an act of barbarity, as barbarism is defined as the inability or unwillingness to recognize another person as a human being. Abortion brings to completion the denial of procreative sex by nullifying its effects, which are seen as accidental. If you have an accidental and conceive a baby, you can just clean up the mess by abortion him. The disavowal of the relationship between sex and procreation eliminates the child. The child is, or rather should have been, the incarnation of the love between the man and the woman. The denial of the child is the denial of this love. It also raises a troubling question: If the fruit of the tree must be destroyed, what of the tree itself?”

Taken from **Making Gay Okay** by Robert R. Reilly

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

O Lord Jesus, you lived in the home of Mary and Joseph in Nazareth. There you grew in age, wisdom and grace as you prepared to fulfill your mission as our Redeemer. We entrust our family to you.

O Blessed Mary, you are the Mother of our Savior. At Nazareth you cared for Jesus and nurtured him in the peace and joy of your home. We entrust our family to you.

O Saint Joseph, you provided a secure and loving home for Jesus and Mary, and gave us a model of fatherhood while showing us the dignity of work. We entrust our family to you.

Holy Family, we consecrate ourselves and our family to you. May we be completely united in a love that is lasting, faithful and open to the gift of new life. Help us to grow in virtue, to forgive one another from our hearts, and to live in peace all our days. Keep us strong in faith, preserving in prayer, diligent in our work, and generous toward those in need. May our home, O Holy Family, truly become a domestic church where we reflect your example in our daily life. Amen.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph pray for us!

