



## Culturae Vitae

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<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](mailto: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](mailto:smistretta2@cox.net).

#### KCLS CULTURE OF LIFE PRESENTATIONS

Were you unable to attend KCLS? 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. The 2016 presentation provides updated information, and it covers new topics.

Please contact us if you have questions or need more information.

### WHAT IS A CULTURE OF LIFE?

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

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

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

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

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

### CULTURE OF LIFE SURVEY RESULTS 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](http://www.kofc.org/un/en/prolife/programs/support_materials.html)

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

## CULTURE OF LIFE RESOURCES

### 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](mailto:smistretta2@cox.net)) for assistance.



### CULTURE OF LIFE NEWSLETTERS ARE ON THE NEW 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](#). The website also has a new look!

This will make it easier for you to share this information with others and utilize the information in your pro-life activities. You are welcome to use any of the content in presentations made to your council. 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 Death. While the attacks on the human person are global, we should start our efforts locally. There is no better place to look for help than Louisiana Right to Life (<http://www.prolifelouisiana.org/>). Their web site includes a number of helpful resources and their staff is ready to help you. 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.



### PRO-LIFE TOUR LRTL

Louisiana Black Advocates for Life is going on a statewide pro-life tour to celebrate the belief that **ALL BLACK LIVES MATTER**, from the womb to the tomb.

LABAL will address the tragedy of abortion in the African-American community. In 2014, abortion was the No. 1 killer of blacks in Louisiana (6,249), more than HIV, heart disease, and cancer combined.

**The seven-city tour will begin in September with stops in Shreveport, Monroe, Alexandria, Opelousas, Lake Charles, Baton Rouge and New Orleans.**

Each two-hour event will include local entertainment, information about the reality of loss of unborn lives in the African-American community, personal testimonies from women and men, opportunities for prayer and healing, and identification of resources to continue on the healing journey. Each event will end with a praise and worship experience.

"We hope to identify pro-life ambassadors in each city who will continue the pro-life conversation and advocacy in a way that fits the vision of community members," said LABAL Director Kathy Allen.

Specific dates, times and locations will be announced soon. For more information on the tour or becoming a pro-life ambassador, contact Kathy Allen at [kathy@lablackadvocates.com](mailto:kathy@lablackadvocates.com) or Concerned Women for America Louisiana's Sancha Smith at [cwala.director@yahoo.com](mailto:cwala.director@yahoo.com).



### HELP PRCS IMPACTED BY THE FLOOD LRTL

The historic flooding over the weekend that devastated many parts of the Interstate 12/Interstate 10 corridor between Covington and Lafayette claimed at least two pregnancy resource centers, **Caring to Love Ministries**, located on N. Flannery Road in Baton Rouge, and **Family Resource Clinic**, 12201 Florida Blvd., between Walker and Livingston.

Can you help these life-saving agencies rebuild?  
Please consider a donation today!

Use this [link](#) to donate to Caring to Love Ministries.

Use this [link](#) to donate to Family Resource Clinic.





### END OF LIFE ISSUES, ASSISTED SUICIDE, AND EUTHANASIA

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

Vermont's Assisted Suicide law requires physicians to inform patients about all palliative care options. The Vermont Department of Health recently expanded the definition of palliative care to include Assisted Suicide. This law basically coerces physicians who oppose Assisted Suicide to violate their consciences. Fortunately, "the Alliance Defending Freedom ([ADF](#)) has filed a lawsuit to protect the conscience rights of healthcare professionals in Vermont and prevent physicians and patients from being coerced into assisted suicide." You can read more about this situation [here](#).



### HUMAN CLONING/STEM CELL RESEARCH

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

There is unbelievable news from the world of stem cell/embryonic research. "The federal government announced plans to lift a moratorium on funding of certain controversial experiments that use human stem cells to create animal embryos that are partly human.

The National Institutes of Health is proposing a new policy to permit scientists to get federal money to make embryos, known as chimeras, under certain carefully monitored conditions...

One issue is that scientists might inadvertently create animals that have partly human brains, endowing them with some semblance of human consciousness or human thinking abilities. Another is that they could develop into animals with human sperm and eggs and breed, producing human embryos or fetuses inside animals or hybrid creatures...

In addition, the NIH would even consider experiments that could create animals with human sperm and human eggs since they may be useful for studying human development and infertility."

You can read more about this situation [here](#).

Currently there is a period for public comment on this proposed change. PLEASE email the NIH at [chimera@mail.nih.gov](mailto:chimera@mail.nih.gov) and let them know that this terrible experimentation should not be done!

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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

Is your Respect Life group or another ministry in your parish considering adopting the needs of one of our local homes who aid Human Trafficking survivors?

I have updated lists of immediate needs for two of the local homes where traffic victims/survivors can receive the help they need.

The **Free Indeed Home** on the Northshore serves young women who have been sex trafficked. They have provided a new list for us: light bulbs, ketchup/mayo/mustard, ranch dressing/BBQ sauce, cake mix & frosting, Jello, cookies & crackers, pancake mix, cereal, sugar/flour, bath towels (all sizes), twin sheet sets, pillows, plastic drinking glasses, and school supplies.

The **Baptist Friendship House** on the edge of the French Quarter is a ministry that serves women who have been trafficked. They have immediate needs for the women including: women's sweatshirts & pants, sizes S, M, L, XL — NEW only, women's socks — NEW only, Women's underwear, sizes 5, 6, 7 — NEW only, duffle bags, and conditioner — large size (shampoo is NOT needed at this time).

If you would like to begin a collection of the needed items, please contact me for coordinating the collection including delivery to the home at: [respectlife@arch-no.org](mailto:respectlife@arch-no.org).

CULTURE OF LIFE STORIESMESSAGE FROM YOUR STATE CULTURE OF  
LIFE CHAIR COUPLE

Sam and Arline Mistretta

To KC Councils in the Diocese of Lafayette,

As you are well aware, the Knights of Columbus actively works to protect all human life from conception to natural death, in keeping with the teachings of the Catholic Church. While there are many attacks on the dignity of the human person, the most horrific one is abortion. There are many pregnancy centers around the country that are working to help mothers and protect their unborn children. These centers are on "the frontlines" of this battle for life. The DesOrmeaux Foundation ([www.desormeauxfoundation.org](http://www.desormeauxfoundation.org)) is one of those exceptional organizations that are doing this good work, and so they are worthy of your support.

Like many of these organizations, the DesOrmeaux Foundation relies on private donations to enable their good work in the community. Several KC councils in the Lafayette diocese have conducted baby bottle campaigns in their church parishes to raise funds for this organization. We want to personally thank each council for conducting a baby bottle campaign. This type of event has proven time and again to be a very effective fundraising method. However, more fundraising is needed because the need is so great in our Culture of Death.

If you have not done so already, we encourage each council to organize a baby bottle campaign to raise money for the DesOrmeaux Foundation.

Vivat Jesus!

PUBLIC ROSARY IN LAFAYETTE

Thomas Drake, The American TFP

Here are some pictures from the closing of the Public Square Rosary Rally yesterday in Lafayette, where we prayed for all the usual intentions plus for our Police Officers who represent a just Law and Order. The pictures are not professional quality, but they certainly show a vibrant and happy spiritual family of Catholic souls! Yes, what a joy to pray the Rosary together in public for the conversion of the world! Look forward to seeing you next month!

Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us!  
St. Michael the Archangel, pray for us!

in Jesu et Maria,  
Thomas Drake

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR CORNER

Deacon Dave Opsahl (Council 12851)

How does a Catholic vote his conscience?

First of all, we can never vote for a candidate that supports or defends: 1. abortion, 2. euthanasia, 3. embryonic stem cell research, 4. cloning, and 5. so-called same-sex "marriage." These "Five Non-Negotiables" are all matters of the moral law that have been taught definitively to be intrinsic evils (intrinsic evil means that it is morally wrong in every case and every time). These so-called civil laws are not laws at all; rather, they are "acts of violence" that Catholics can never obey and are obligated to oppose using every licit and reasonable means at our disposal. St. Thomas Aquinas said, "Any law that does not accord with God's Law is an unjust law." Catholics are obligated to oppose such laws.

Watch out for the candidate or political party that appears to promote appealing social programs for the poor and downtrodden but at the same time supports and promotes abortion, for they willfully deny the most defenseless and innocent of the poor and downtrodden, namely - unborn humans - the very "right to life" that our Constitution is supposed to protect. Think about it. If a human person is denied the freedom of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness, either before birth or at their vulnerable end of life, then all the false political promises of so-called social programs for the poor are worthless shams. We need to be reminded that it was a simple lie the devil used to make our first parents betray God. Today, Religious Freedom is our most endangered right.

My Brothers, we are called to walk like a Knight, talk like a Knight, live like a Knight and vote like a Knight. God bless America.

Vivat Jesus!!

(Thanks Don Caskey for sending this.)

#### ULTRASOUND PLACED IN BATON ROUGE PREGNANCY CENTER

David and Anne Gregory (Council 8342)

Council 8342 purchased and updated an used ultrasound that is now in the Pregnancy Problem Center ([web site](#)) in Baton Rouge. We are now focusing on getting people trained and certified to use the machine.

#### **PREGNANCY PROBLEM CENTER**

**4724 Jamestown Avenue, Suite 3**

**Baton Rouge, LA 70808**

**(225) 924-1400**

#### PRO-LIFE CORNER

Wade and Melissa Simon (Council 8770)

When the Desormeaux Foundation sent an email asking for household supplies and baby items to assist their pro-life programs, the email was broadcast to the council asking for donations to be brought to the next meeting. Our Brothers came through and a car load of supplies was delivered to support the Desormeaux Foundation pro-life work including the Women Shelter and The St. Marguerite d'Youville Home.

#### BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE

Mike and Lee Richard (Council 3015)

The Rachel's Vineyard retreat was last held in July. Lee is an angel worker, and Mike is part of the music team for Rachel's Vineyard. We also have Gabriel project, but we haven't had a mom in a while.

Mike and a group of men are praying outside an adult store and at the site of a new strip club every first Friday and Saturday. Only men can attend and they are standing for the dignity and protection of women.





PRO-LIFE CORNER

Don and Dee Caskey (Council 1905)

Fall is nearly here, and we eagerly await the cooler weather and outside activities. I JUST happen to know of two outside activities that will enrich your life and perhaps save the life of one or more unborn children. The first activity, we all are (or should be) familiar with, is the 40 Days for Life campaign. Since it first started it has better stats than any NFL Super Bowl team. In short, they have saved 11,796 children and mothers from being victims of abortion, 73 abortion clinics have closed including the Causeway Medical Clinic on Ridgelake, and held 4,168 campaigns in 636 cities and 36 countries. None of that could have happened without the dedication and loving prayers of 700,000 volunteers.

Folks, this war is far from being over, we need more people to publicly show their concern for the unborn. This year's campaign is from September 28<sup>th</sup> until November 6<sup>th</sup>. It will be held on Claiborne Ave. at the new Planned Parenthood facility which is two blocks west of Napoleon Ave. This year we will be working with our brother Knights from Christ the King Council #5870, and we are selecting a date that will be announced at the next meeting. We and the unborn need your support.

The second activity is NOLA Life Chain. This is where we literally stand side by side with others in unity against the new Planned Parenthood facility. It will almost be like a mini 40 Day for Life event. It will be held at the same location on Claiborne Avenue on Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup> from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM ONLY TWO HOURS with a lunch gathering to follow. If you have any questions, please call me or call 1.866.463.5433 or go to [www.LifeChainNola.com](http://www.LifeChainNola.com).

As Catholic men and the lovely ladies in our auxiliaries', we are people of faith and of civic duty as well. We are blessed with the teachings of our Church for clear moral direction. As we vote this November for the presidential election, please keep in mind the facts we know to be true about abortion, euthanasia, embryonic stem cell research, cloning, and "same-sex marriage" and not the lies perpetuated by our modern world. The candidates have made their positions known. The next president will also select the next Supreme Court

Justice, and right now it is at a critical balance. Please choose wisely.

Yours in Christ

ACTIVITIES AT DELTA IN BATON ROUGE

Jamie Johnson

Each day, sidewalk counselors faithfully pray and offer help to people seeking an abortion at the Delta abortion mill in Baton Rouge. The following is a brief description of an event that took place in August:

“One confirmed saved from awhile back:

A young lady told us she has an 11 month baby girl because she had changed her mind. She had drove into Delta, was counseled briefly and accepted a rosary. Somehow as she was laying on the operating table, she changed her mind. She jumped off the table and fled the place. Only recall one other time in all the years that a patient jumped off the table.”



UPCOMING EVENTSPRO-LIFE PRAYER BREAKFAST

Louisiana Right to Life will host a pro-life prayer breakfast on October 26, 2016 from 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM at Louisiana College Granberry Conference Center in Pineville, LA. The event will raise awareness and funds for the promotion and development of the Louisiana Life March Central that is scheduled for Saturday, February 4, 2017.

Cost to attend the prayer breakfast is \$15 per person. Students can attend for \$10.

For more information contact:

Ryan Verret, associate director of Louisiana Right to Life, at 337.257.3029 or [rverret@prolifelouisiana.com](mailto:rverret@prolifelouisiana.com).

The Rev. Brian Gunter, pastor of First Baptist Church Pollock, at 318.312.9861 or [bgunter3@hotmail.com](mailto:bgunter3@hotmail.com).

The Louisiana Life March Central was held last year for the first time and drew a large crowd from the Central Louisiana area. This year's march, like last year's, will begin at Louisiana College and end at the Amphitheater in downtown Alexandria.

CHERS BEBES

Chers Bebes: Acadiana's Soirée For Life will take place on Wednesday November 2, 2016 at Le Pavilion in Lafayette, honoring Suzanne Tierney and Brenda Desormeaux with Keynote Speaker Bishop J. Douglas Deshotel. Join Us for a Great Evening for Life! Doors open at 6:30 PM, and the event begins at 7:00 PM.

This event features live Acadian music, delicious food and drinks, fun baby shower games, and Acadiana Pro-Life Awards.

This fun-filled evening will benefit the Drs. William Smith and Zerbien Bienvenu Acadiana Pro-Life Education Fund. The Smith and Bienvenu Fund aims to educate thousands of middle school and high school students across Acadiana through interactive school-based presentations and activities. Through these efforts, we can strengthen the pro-life spirit of Acadiana for generations to come!

The November 2, 2016 event will be held in honor of two pioneers who dedicated their lives to building up Acadiana's strong culture of life and service, Ms. Suzanne Tierney and Ms. Brenda Desormeaux. Ms. Tierney and Ms. Desormeaux have served Acadiana very generously for the past 40 years through legislative involvement, education efforts, raising awareness of the humanity of the unborn, and assisting young mothers in need. They have set a remarkable example for today's pro-life generation to follow!

This will be an evening for our entire pro-life community to celebrate La Joie de Vivre! The evening will feature delicious food and drink, local Acadian music, and baby shower games.

For more information, contact us at 337.524.0044 or email Ryan Verret at [rverret@prolifelouisiana.org](mailto:rverret@prolifelouisiana.org).







### UPCOMING PULSE WEEKEND IMMERSIONS

Hey high schoolers! Be trained to be a pro-life agent of change in your community at our exciting PULSE weekend and week-long events in 2016! PULSE is the new name for the Louisiana Camp Joshua and Joshua Leadership Institute events.

Click on this [link](#) to Register!

Call Alex or Krista at 866-463-5433 for more information, or to have them come speak to your youth!



### SLIDELL LIFE CHAIN

St. Tammany Right to Life proudly presents the 25<sup>th</sup> annual Slidell Life Chain on Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 from 2 to 3 PM at Gause Blvd in Slidell.

Come join hundreds of pro-lifers in this peaceful and prayerful protest against abortion. You can stand anywhere on Gause Blvd or contact your church for a location. Signs will be passed out on site at 1:45 PM or you can pick them up ahead of time by contacting Michelle Gorney at 882-7210 or 640-8765.

An Open House at Slidell Crisis Pregnancy Center will follow the Life Chain at 3 PM at 550 Gause Blvd, Suite 2. Please plan to join this event!



### SPECIAL PULSE MEETING

Deanna Wallace, LRTL Legislative Director

I'd love to invite high school students & teachers to the BR PULSE Team Interest Meeting! The PULSE Teams in Lafayette and NOLA are doing great work with High school students from across their cities, and we are excited to bring a PULSE Team to Baton Rouge this school year!



### RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREATS

The Fall 2016 Rachel's Vineyard retreat is scheduled in the New Orleans area on October 14, 15, 16th. Please remember to pray for our team who is preparing behind the scenes to bring Christ's mercy and healing to the women who will join them. Also, we are in need of groups or individuals who would like to sponsor one of the women who will make this retreat. The total cost to sponsor a retreatant is \$170. If you would like to undertake this beautiful work of mercy, please contact me to arrange it: [respectlife@arch-no.org](mailto:respectlife@arch-no.org).

For help for post abortive women & men, see the Respect Life website for more information — <https://respectlife.arch-no.org/post-abortion-healing>.



Rachel's Vineyard Retreat will be held on October 7-9, 2016 in the Lafayette area. Rachel's Vineyard Retreat is an extraordinary opportunity for any person who struggles with the emotional and spiritual pain of abortion. The weekend is a unique and effective process designed specifically to help you experience the mercy and compassion of God. This process is extremely helpful for those who have difficulty forgiving themselves or others. The weekend will help your soul find a voice and transform the pain of the past into hope! For more information and to register call 337.261.5607 or email [tlittell@diolaf.org](mailto:tlittell@diolaf.org). All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

### ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE MEETING

The Annual Respect Life Meeting of Pro-Life Coordinators will be held September 10, 2016 from 9 AM to Noon at the Immaculata Center (1408 Carmel Dr., Lafayette, LA 70501). Go to Marian Hall by entering through the east side of the building. You can register by going to this [website](#) or contact Trista Littell at 337-261-5607.

### CBIB FUNDRASIER

CBIB, Compassionate Burial for Indigent Babies ([link](#)), is a non-profit organization that was founded in 2007 to ensure that unclaimed and aborted babies receive a proper burial. Our Mission is the respectful burial of babies that have been found thrown in trash bins or otherwise would not receive burial.

Mark your calendar! There will be a CBIB Fundraiser on Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6 to 9 PM at Rock n' Bowl located at 3016 S Carrollton Ave, New Orleans, LA 70118. It should be a lot of fun and the proceeds go to a wonderful charitable organization.

For more information, contact: Lise Naccari, Founder and President Compassionate Burials for Indigent Babies, CBIB Inc., 504-202-3111, [lisejnaccari@yahoo.com](mailto:lisejnaccari@yahoo.com).



*Compassionate Burials for Indigent Babies*

*Family Resource Clinic Presents*



**6th Annual  
Taste fair &  
Craft extravaganza**

SATURDAY: SEPTEMBER 10, 2016  
11:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.  
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH  
DENHAM SPRINGS, LA

Advanced Tickets: \$15.00 Adults \$5.00 Child  
Day of Event: \$20.00 Adults \$6.00 Child







**Free Craft Show, Silent Auction & Car Show!**  
**9:00 am - 3:00 pm**

→ **CRAFT EXTRAVAGANZA**  
We have many booths to shop from!  
Just in time for Christmas!

→ **SILENT AUCTION:**  
We have many amazing items for our  
auction this year!

→ **CAR SHOW:**  
Come see a variety of classic cars!  
Timeless Collection!





[www.FamilyResourceClinic.org](http://www.FamilyResourceClinic.org)



LIFE CHAIN EVENT

Shanon Snyder, Louisiana Right to Life

Life Chains are a great way to spread the pro-life message and show support for the unborn. For this event, pro-life participants stand in solidarity with the unborn and pray for the end of abortion in their communities.

Louisiana Right to Life is encouraging folks in every parish across the state to host a Life Chain this fall. Life Chains are scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> across the U.S. and Canada, though some groups have scheduled the event for another day.

Several Life Chains are already planned in Louisiana, and many others are likely, though those sites have not been verified. Events are being added to our website as we receive information on them. Use this [link](#) to find an event in your area.

If you would like to plan a Life Chain in your community, contact state coordinator Julie Hanks at 985-351-3143 or you can email her at [julieandedinhammond@yahoo.com](mailto:julieandedinhammond@yahoo.com).

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER

Ark-La-Tex Crisis Pregnancy Center is having their Annual Fundraising Dinner at the Shreveport Convention Center on Tuesday, October 25, 2016. Special guest will be Gianna Jessen, an abortion survivor. Seating begins at 6:30 PM with dinner and program from 7 to 9 PM. The dinner is complimentary, and an opportunity to make a financial gift will be extended. You can call 318-861-4600 or go to [www.GiveThemOptions.com](http://www.GiveThemOptions.com) for more information.

LIFE FEST & RESPECT LIFE MASS

The 2nd Annual Diocesan Life Fest will be held at 10 AM on Saturday, October 1, 2016, in the Tracy Center Ballroom of the Catholic Life Center (1800 S. Acadian Thruway, Baton Rouge). The theme for this year is "Called to Compassion: Living Mercy". The keynote presenter will be Fr. Andrew Merrick, Director of Vocations for the Diocese of Baton Rouge and Spiritual Director for the March for Life Pilgrimage. Breakout session topics include: Mercy at the End of Life, Prison Ministry, Artificial Reproductive Technologies & Infertility, and Living out Every Day Mercy. This FREE event will also feature Adoration, Kids Track for ages 5-11, music by Greg&Lizzy, various exhibitors and the Annual Respect Life Mass at 4pm. Registration information will be available soon!

For more information, contact the Marriage & Family Life Office at 225-242-0323 or visit their website, [www.MFLDiobr.org](http://www.MFLDiobr.org).

JAZZED FOR LIFE! RESPECT LIFE COORDINATORS' & VOLUNTEERS' DAY 2016

A respect life coordinators' and volunteers' Day will take place on Saturday, September 10, 2016 from 10 AM to 3 PM, sponsored by the Respect Life Office & hosted by St. Angela Merici in Metairie

You will get information on Respect Life Sunday, Respect Life Week in the schools, and other Respect Life week events throughout the year. Archbishop Aymond will be joining us in the morning for a blessing & sending of all of us in our work. There will also be a spiritual reflection, speakers, and an opportunity for networking with each other and with other local organizations. There will be food too!



GEAUX FORTH RALLY IN WASHINGTON, DC

We invite you and your group to join in our annual Geaux Forth Rally in Washington D.C. during the National March for Life. This rally is meant to inspire and activate the largest group of youth attending the March from one state, so let's celebrate together!

Geaux Forth Rally is a fun and upbeat event that encourages students to be actively pro-life when they return home. From live music, great speakers and meeting pro-life ministries as well as the university-level Students for Life groups in our state, high school students have the opportunity to obtain the tools they need to help them become great pro-life leaders in their communities. Last year, we were 1400 strong, but we had zero groups representing Acadiana!

Attached is a Geaux Forth Interest Form. We ask that you turn it in by the first week of November. Note that if you are going with a travel group, you can request to make this rally part of your itinerary! If you have any questions about the Rally, please feel free to contact me via email ([krista@prolifelouisiana.org](mailto:krista@prolifelouisiana.org)) or at my cell (337-303-8886).

Here is the video from last year: [link](#).

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

Baton Rouge's sixth 40 Days for Life campaign will run from September 28th to November 6th from 7 AM to 7 PM in front of Delta Abortion Facility located at 756 Colonial Drive off Goodwood Blvd.



The 2015 campaign was a huge success with 13 unborn babies confirmed saved. Between 2011-2015, 76 babies have been saved! Please encourage your council to adopt time on the prayer calendar! The Knights of Columbus play an important role in the success of 40 Days for Life in the United States. It is very encouraging to have the KCs present--particularly during the early and late hours--when the days get shorter with the changing season.

Many varied talents are needed to make this year even better! Please consider helping us during the fall campaign with event planning, communications, outreach, site coordination, fundraising, and more.

We are again offering individualized flyers to the extent that we have pictures of your school, church or prayer group from past campaigns (with time permitting). Individualized flyers will help your group stay organized, but the pictures and the specific commitment shown on the flyer will also encourage people who may never have participated to come out this year.

Check out this flyer for St. John's School and Church in Plaquemine as an example of how a flyer can be tailored to your group: [http://www.prolifelouisiana.org/uploads/docs/40DF\\_LBRFLYEREXAMPLE.pdf](http://www.prolifelouisiana.org/uploads/docs/40DF_LBRFLYEREXAMPLE.pdf)). Please make your request as soon as possible to get the word out about this powerful prayer campaign. For more information, please contact co-campaign directors Charlotte Bergeron or Danielle Van Haute at (225) 242-0164 or [40daysforlifebr@gmail.com](mailto:40daysforlifebr@gmail.com).



## EDUCATION CORNER

### ADULT STEM CELLS SAVED HER LIFE

Chuck Donovan  
President, Charlotte Lozier Institute

I'm very pleased to share with you the latest video from the Charlotte Lozier Institute: Today, we present a video celebrating one account of a life-saving ethical adult stem cell treatment.

As you know, the Charlotte Lozier Institute (CLI) is the research arm of Susan B. Anthony List. Our short video recounts the poignant story of Cindy Schroeder, a mother from Kansas who thought she was given a death sentence when diagnosed with multiple myeloma, a blood cancer with a median survival rate of just over five years that had migrated from her bone marrow to her vital organs. However her doctor had unexpected good news. He told her: "We have a cure. It's adult stem cells. You are a good candidate and the success rate is excellent if we can get good cells from your body." I hope you will take a moment now to watch our brand new [video](#) and hear from Cindy herself about how her own adult stem cells saved her life.

Many others like Cindy are currently being treated with non-controversial adult stem cell transplants, which do not require the destruction of a human life for the healing of another, while many more could benefit if only they knew of this hope.

We plan to continue creating and sharing more inspiring videos like this one to raise awareness about this life-saving, science-based, and ethical option of treatment.

I hope you will share this new video with your family and friends!



## SAVING VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Human trafficking is a reality in Louisiana. It is a form of modern-day slavery. This crime occurs when a trafficker uses force, fraud or coercion to control another person for the purpose of engaging in commercial sex acts or soliciting labor or services against his/her will. It involves both children and adults.

Fr. Jeff Bayhi is leading an effort to provide a safe and secure place for victims of human trafficking to rebuild their lives. They are building the Metanoia Manor to do just that, but they need your prayers and financial support. If you too want to save young female human trafficking victims, please partner with Metanoia, Inc. and donate today ([link](#)).



Please be aware of the signs of trafficking. You can find a list at the Polaris Project [web site](#).

If you see something, SAY SOMETHING! It is better to report a suspicious incident and be wrong than to be right and say nothing.

National Human Trafficking Resource Center  
Hotline is 888-3737-888. Put that number in your cell phone!





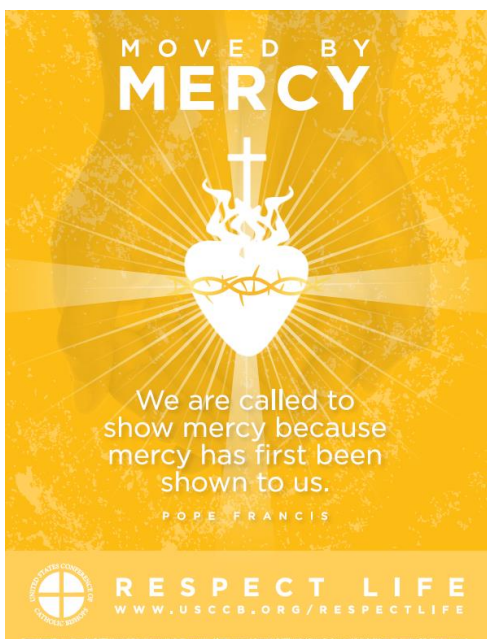
USCCB 2016-2017 RESPECT LIFE PROGRAM

The USCCB Pro-Life Secretariat develops new materials each year to assist parishes in building a Culture of Life. The 2016-2017 materials will be mailed to all pastors and Catholic high school Respect Life groups. This year's theme is **Moved by Mercy**. The kit contains the following:

- Resource Guide including suggestions on how to use the materials
- Poster (English & Spanish)
- Reflection page (English & Spanish)
- Respect Life Program Catalog
- Six new brochures: Accompanying Expectant Mothers Considering Adoption, Bridges of Mercy for Post-Abortion Healing, Caring for Loved One's at Life's END, Every Suicide is Tragic, Seven Consideration While Navigating Infertility, and Serene Attentiveness to God's Creation

Parish Respect Life Coordinators are encouraged to meet with their pastors to discuss which materials to order for the parish as well as how the themes of this year's program may be highlighted. This is a fantastic opportunity to collaborate with other ministries in your parish such as youth/young adult ministry, adult faith formation, DREs/CREs, St. Vincent de Paul, etc...

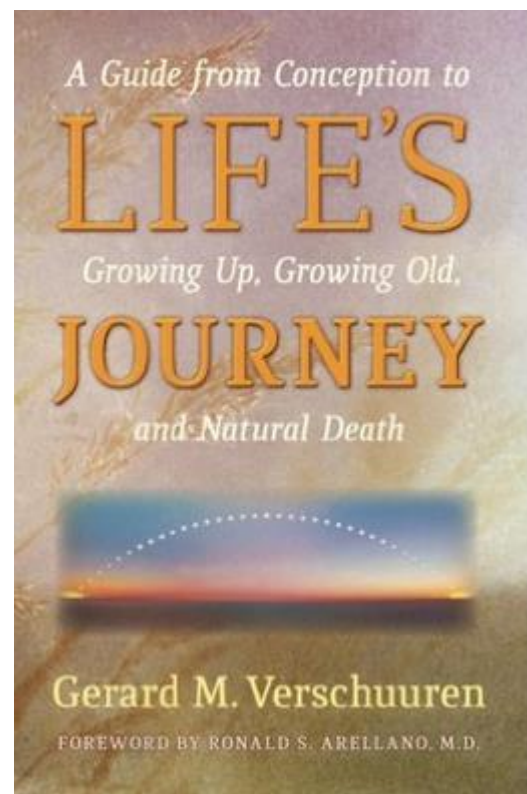
The program materials can be previewd on the USCCB [website](http://www.usccb.org/respectlife).

BOOK REVIEW

Sometimes the things that are so common are the most difficult for us to see or understand clearly. Some people in this world have the gift of enabling us to see those things from a better perspective. Such a person is Gerard Verschuuren, the author of the book **Life's Journey – A guide from Conception to Growing Up, Growing Old, and Natural Death**.

Verschuuren draws on his knowledge as a geneticist and a philosopher to lead us through the stages of our life. Each chapter of the book is dedicated to a major stage of life: conception, life in the womb, growing up, growing in maturity, physical decline, and the final stage. Each chapter provides a clear and concise biological description of that stage of life followed by a reflection on facts that go beyond what science can show us.

The book is fascinating from beginning to end. While the book is densely packed with information, the writing style is smooth, and the author takes the time to explain concepts in an easy to understand way. The great surprise for me was how thoroughly pro-life this book was. It is highly recommended.





INTERNET ARTICLES OF INTEREST

[Baby Edwin was saved from abortion after his mother saw an ultrasound](#)

[Over 1 million Americans have been saved from abortion because of the Hyde Amendment](#)

[Abstinence Education Works, Condoms Don't: New Teen Pregnancy Data](#)

[Courage in the Capital: Catholic Same-Sex Apostolate Holds Annual Conference in DC](#)

[Crack the Whip and the Common Good – Our Lives Are More Connected Than We Think](#)

[Pope: It's 'terrible' children taught they can choose gender](#)

[Illinois Gov. Signs Bill Forcing Christian Doctors and Pregnancy Centers to Promote Abortion](#)

[What They Didn't Tell Me](#)

[Supreme Court Halts Transgender Bathroom Rule in Virginia School](#)

[Carl Anderson to Voters: 'Stop Creating Excuses for Voting for Pro-Abortion Politicians'](#)

[Irish high court rules that a preborn child has a right to life](#)

[Debunking the myth of 'back-alley' abortions](#)

[Researchers: Abortion should be listed as a 'major cause of death' in statistics](#)

[Bishops in Wake of Biden-Officiated Same-Sex 'Wedding': Such Actions Counter the Faith](#)

[19 Killed in Japan \(But Don't Worry, They Were Disabled\)](#)

[Making religion matter again](#)

[Religious Students From Disadvantaged Backgrounds Could Be Most Affected by California Bill](#)

[Why the Catholic Church Defined Marriage](#)

[Media praise Netflix cartoon that sang 'get dat fetus, kill dat fetus'](#)

[Judge orders 14-week-old's life support removed against parents' wishes - to preserve his 'autonomy'](#)

[NIH Plans To Lift Ban On Research Funds For Part-Human, Part-Animal Embryos](#)

[The 14-Day Rule for Embryos is an Offense to Humanity](#)

[Illinois Law Threatens Conscience Rights, Crisis-Pregnancy Centers](#)

[St. Augustine: Why People Really Seek Assisted Suicide](#)

[The West's War on the Family](#)

[Did WHO Cover Up Evidence of Contraceptive-HIV Link?](#)

[In Ireland, Pre-born Children's Rights Extend "Well Beyond the Right to Life"](#)

[What's a Catholic to Do This Election?](#)

[Brave New World Should Be an Election Issue](#)

[The Johnson Amendment and Politics From the Pulpit](#)

[Missing More: Catholics and Political Life](#)

[Are religious teachers being eradicated from Belgian schools?](#)

[Catholic politicians should follow conscience, consensus on abortion](#)

[Summoned, Sure, and Strong: Proverbs for Pro-Lifers](#)

[Philippines: No to Population Control, Yes to Authentic Development—Part I](#)

[Philippines: "No" to Population Control, "Yes" to Authentic Development—Part II](#)

['Passion of the Christ' actor Jim Caviezel: Abortion is America's 'great sin,' but there is healing](#)

[For George Soros, Ireland abortion fight may be first step against Catholic countries](#)

[California's Religious Colleges Get 'Miracle' Win for Religious Liberty](#)

[Not 'Born That Way': New Scientific Analysis Questions 'LGBT' Orthodoxies](#)

[New Federal Rules Would Put Transgender Policy Over Privacy, Safety Concerns at Homeless Shelters](#)

[Bishop Zubik: Obama Administration 'Extremely Aggressive' on HHS Mandate](#)

[New Federal Rules Would Put Transgender Policy Over Privacy, Safety Concerns at Homeless Shelters](#)

[Why Christ Will Never Let His Bride Redefine Marriage](#)

['Born that way'? New study undercuts LGBT movement's key tenets](#)

[George Soros to launch aggressive plan to suppress pro-life laws in Catholic countries](#)

[Must-see video: Kidnapping victim Elizabeth Smart says porn 'made my living Hell worse'](#)

[Bishops stand strong against threats of morning-after pill, euthanasia in Malta](#)

[Federal Judge Puts Brakes on President Obama's Transgender Bathroom Policy](#)

[Don't bring back the death penalty, New Mexico bishops plead](#)

[Will the Federal Government Force Doctors to Perform Sex Reassignment Surgeries?](#)

[Sidewalk Counselors Tell Women: 'We Love You, We Support You, and You're Not Alone'](#)

[Whither the Culture of Life? Birth Rate Hit Its Lowest Level Yet](#)

## Depo's Deception: New Dangers for African Women

Watch this short [video](#) about our government's involvement with Depo-Provera from the Population Research Institute ([link](#)).



## QUOTES OF THE MONTH

The following quotes were taken from the book **Life's Journey** by Gerald Verschuuren:

“Some people think of human rights as if they were entitlements that the government gives us. Indeed, we gain entitlements as we age—we can drive a car at sixteen, we can vote at eighteen, we can drink alcohol at twenty-one. But we cannot apply this kind of reasoning to human rights. A human being does not gain more rights when it progresses further along the path toward being born. Protection of a human being is not a conditional legal entitlement, but an unconditional moral right. It does not increase with age, but is rooted in the fact that we are dealing with a human being from the very beginning. There is no gradualism when it comes to human rights; killing a twenty-year-old is not worse than killing a fourteen-year-old. Moral status and human development are not linked that way. There is a fundamental difference between the moral right to life and the legal entitlements we are given to vote or drive.”

“The Bible considers suffering a consequence of the Fall in Paradise. True, the “thorns and thistles” may have always been there, but since the Fall they have been felt not only as painful but as distressing, as something ‘evil.’ St. Thomas Aquinas makes a very astute remark in this context: ‘Some say that the animals, which are wild now and kill other animals, were not that way [in paradise...]. But this is entirely unreasonable. The nature of animals was not changed by the sin of man.’ Aquinas is right; after the Fall the *world* did not change, but *we* did. Without sin, physical evils would not rankle or embitter us. Only humans take diseases and catastrophes as something that should not be, as something that seems to be acting against them personally. Only humans can get depressed. Animals may ‘dislike’ these things; they can certainly feel pain, but that would not rankle or embitter them. They do not address pain by asking, ‘Why me?’ They do not have a ‘me,’ and since animals do not know about good and bad, they cannot ask why bad things happen to good animals.”

“What about people who choose to die on their own watch, either by suicide or euthanasia? The answer depends on who and what we are in the core of our being. If death were just a biological phenomenon, we could certainly manipulate human life and death, as we do with animals. But such a viewpoint ignores the fact that rationality and morality set us apart from the animal world. It skips over a vital question in human life: is there not more to human life than biology? What gives biologists and physicians the right to think that biology is all there is?”



### PRAYER OF THE MONTH

#### Prayer to End All Taxpayer Funding for Planned Parenthood

Lord of Life and Truth, Your Providence guides the course of history. You have conquered death and have made us the People of Life. You call us to fight the evil of abortion and the forces that promote it. We therefore ask you to grant wisdom and mercy to our nation. Give our government leaders the courage to put an end to the funding of the largest abortion business in the world. Give all of us the courage to insist that public funding only be used for the protection and promotion of life, rather than for its destruction. Give us hopeful hearts and joyful spirits as we continue to proclaim, celebrate, and serve the Gospel of Life. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Fr. Frank Pavone, National Director, Priests for Life

