



Culturae Vitae

February 2017

Volume 4 Number 2

<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? 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 us 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 NEWSLETTERS ARE ON THE STATE KC 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](#).

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.



CULTURE OF LIFE RESOURCES

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.

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.



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.



DIOCESAN PRO-LIFE RESOURCES

Many of the Dioceses in Louisiana have pro-life information and resources on-line. Here are links to specific web sites:

Baton Rouge: <http://www.mfldiobr.org/>

New Orleans: <http://respectlife.arch-no.org/>

Lafayette: <http://diolaf.org/pro-life>

Lake Charles: <http://www.lcdiocese.org/prolife.html>

Shreveport: <http://www.dioshpt.org/ministries/pro-life-ministry/>

Houma-Thibodaux: <http://htdiocese.org/fm>

CULTURE OF LIFE STORIESFROM THE DIRECTOR

Ben Clapper, Executive Director for Louisiana
Right to Life

I was honored to speak to the faithful pro-life warriors at the St. Landry March for Life in Opelousas on Saturday. This dedicated team, led by Jeri and John Miller, has been at it for 30 years now. We are blessed to have them!

During my remarks I shared that we should never forget the sheer impact of abortion. From 1973-2015, 485,003 abortions were performed in Louisiana. That's roughly the equivalent of the COMBINED populations of Lafayette, St. Landry, Acadia, Vermilion, AND St. Mary parishes. These babies were never able to savor the joys and blessings of life and Louisiana.

As I write this today, on the day we remember the life and contributions of Martin Luther King Jr., I remember his famous quote, "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice."

I believe we will see the end of abortion in our nation. Let's hope, pray, and act to see that arc bend to justice for the unborn sooner rather than later.

For a Pro-Life Louisiana!

VATICAN WORKING TO END SLAVERY

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

Check out the the Vatican's go-to website for all things related to Human Trafficking. Here is the [link](#).

ASSISTED REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES
(ART/IVF)

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

The Gianna Center of the Gulf South is still currently in need of an ultrasound machine. In order to receive the matching funds from the Knights of Columbus to purchase their ultrasound machine, they need to raise an additional \$32,000. This ultrasound machine is an integral part of the treatment of infertility as well as tool that plays a vital role in encouraging abortion-minded women to keep their babies. To make a donation to the Knights of Columbus for the Gianna Center's ultrasound machine, contact Steve Hart at 504-615-1303 or heartfore@bellsouth.net.

NEW ULTRASOUND PROBE NEEDED

Allison Millet
Associate Director, Woman's New Life Center

For several months the medical staff have noticed a definite reduction in the quality of the image produced by our high resolution ultrasound probe. There may be an air bubble under the cover surrounding the ultrasound crystal (the part that actually sends and receives the sound waves), or the crystal itself may be malfunctioning. Since we do not have a service contract, the manufacturer will not assess the probe to see if it is fixable without charging an exorbitant fee. We have attempted to find a third party ultrasound repair service or a refurbished probe for sale, but this search has been unsuccessful. The purchase of a new probe appears to be our best option at this point.

This high resolution ultrasound probe is needed to image very small structures such as a 6-8 week fetus that may be less than 1/2 inch in size. It is also enables us to demonstrate the beating heart in this early stage, which often has a dramatic effect on a woman's perception of her pregnancy. The majority of our ultrasound exams are performed at this time,

so the probe is very important to our ability to provide this potentially life changing service to our clients.

We greatly appreciate all that the Knights of Columbus have done to assist our ministry, through prayerful and financial support. You are helping us to provide a “window to the womb” for our clients.

Please contact Allison at (504) 496-0212, amillet@womansnewlife.com if you can help provide funds to support this much needed purchase.



ACTIVITIES AT DELTA IN BATON ROUGE

Jamie Johnson

The total number of confirmed saves at the Delta abortion mill in Baton Rouge in 2016 was 134.

Charles Barbre reported in his January 1, 2016 email the following annual save counts:

Year	Saves
2015	139
2014	136
2013	121
2012 (last half)	46

The cumulative total confirmed saves is 576.



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.

Thursday, January 5, 2017, the Delta Clinic opened as usual. There were the same faithful people praying and counseling on front lines. Also present were the faithful Pohchatoula Demon Busters.

At 7 AM, a truck pulled into Woman's New Life Center (WNLC) parking lot (evidently by mistake). Counselors went over and spoke with them. The mother, daughter and grandfather in the truck were from Lafayette. It was clear that the mother did not want her daughter to have an abortion. The grandfather began weeping. They were counseled go into WNLC. When they came out, they told us that they would keep their baby. They were given Dr. Hardy's office card because his group is very pro-life. They accepted a rosary and a baby gift.



PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES

Norris and Patsy Thibodeaux, Council 10293

We had our annual pro-life walk in Lafayette on Saturday, January 21st. We also are sponsoring the Baby Bottle campaign for the Desormeaux foundation during the first weekend in February.

We are also making a donation (about \$600.00) to the Desormeaux Foundation for a table at their silent auction campaign. We pay for a table of eight, and we do that annually.

IN VITRO GAMETOGENESIS

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

“...in vitro gametogenesis, a technique they say could allow any type of cell to be reprogrammed into a sperm or egg... an endless supply of eggs could also open the door to high-tech eugenics. For instance, it’s possible it could someday allow IVF clinics to manufacture hundreds of embryos and then choose those with the most desirable qualities, like 20/20 vision or a chance of a high IQ.”

“The claimed ‘benefits’ of IVG would be to overcome the limited availability of human embryos for experimentation, plus the potential reproductive and regenerative therapies. But as society well knows, technology in the past has barreled forward at breakneck speed while ethical guidelines lag far behind, usually at the expense of the sanctity of human life.” Read more [here](#).

2017 MARKS BISHOPS 30TH ANNIVERSARY!

Fr. Dan Cook, Diocese of Alexandria

Our beloved Bishop Charles P. Greco was received unto eternal life on January 20, 1987. 2017 marks bishops 30th anniversary!

Bishop Charles P. Greco often related that he had a Trinity of values in his life. His highest appreciation was for his Catholic faith. The second was his priesthood. The third was his membership to the Knights of Columbus.

In 1919, the young Father Greco joined the Knights of Columbus. The bishop served as state chaplain for the Knights of Columbus in Louisiana for 32 years, and he was Supreme Chaplain for 26 years. He remained a member of the Knights throughout his life, being affiliated with the order for 68 years.

Bishop Greco stressed that the Knights of today are not at the bottom of the social ladder. In fact, many members are college graduates, business owners and on the boards of large corporations. Because of their new status, the bishop insisted that they have new obligations. They must become members of the royal universal priesthood.

They do not belong to the ordained priesthood that dispenses the sacraments, he explained. However, the universal priesthood, which includes the laity, has been given the obligation to further the interest of Christ and his church, to promote truth, morality, and faith in the salvation to all humankind. The ordained priesthood offers the Body and Blood of Christ at the altar. The universal priesthood advances the kingdom of God on earth and proclaims His glory. The laity must assume its role to the fullest of its potential. By their training and their priorities, the Knights of Columbus are well prepared for this mission.

In 2017, may I humbly suggest to my brother Knights that the greatest battle that we face in our world today is the aggressive assault on the Dignity of Life. This great brotherhood, with all its potential, is called to protect LIFE from the moment of conception to the moment of death. Let us work together with those who inspired us in the past to end the culture of death and proclaim that the Kingdom of God is at hand.

Please note that there is a Rosary of Life at the Abortion mill at 211 Kings Hwy in Shreveport on the 1st Saturday of the month at 10 AM. Please join us.

Vivat Jesus!



PRO-LIFE CORNER

Don and Dee Caskey (Council 1905)

Brother Knights,

Good news, Mr. Alex Lucas and some board members from Loyola Students For Life will be at our February Family Social. He will be our guest speaker. I can't wait for his first hand sharing about the National Right to Life March in Washington D.C.

Two of our churches, Infant Jesus of Prague and St. Martha had a month long "Baby Shower" for the Access Pregnancy Center, and the boxes and bags are stacking up. What makes this so special is that the idea came from our own lovely, wonderful, beautiful and pretty sweet Ladies Auxiliary. Totally unconnected with the church baby shower, our lovely ladies donated \$100 to Access Pregnancy Center. I did not want to "steal" this information from their report, but I just had to let you know how great they are.

With this recent election, the pro-life cause and people of faith have dodged a major bullet. I do not even want to imagine what possible damage "Madam President" would have done to our freedoms and the rights of the unborn. Let us pray that our newly elected government can protect life and religious freedom. Ummm, let us start with the Supreme Court Vacancy. The battle is not over as long as Roe V Wade exists. The only permanent solution is to open the eyes and heal the hearts of those that do not know the value of life. Remember action is best powered by prayer.

One final word, the Louisiana Right to Life March was held on Saturday January 21st. I tried to recruit brother knights and people from other ministries to attend, but I had minimal success. My trusty few and family rode with the annual bus from Visitation of Our Lady in Marrero. My heartfelt thanks go to them and Fr. Mike for the continuous support they give to pro-life activities.

Yours in Christ,
Don And Dee Caskey

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD DONATION

Michael & Catherine Abbate (Council 9623)

Council 9623 Culture for Life couple delivers two car loads of pro-life gifts from our Giving Tree to the Women's New Life Center on Ridgelake Drive in Metairie.



A SUCCESSFUL BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN!

Dick Stine, Council 4562

Council 4562 in Lake Charles has the honor of supporting and participating in this Sunday's (January 22nd) pro-life march and rally. It is the 21st commemoration of the 1973 Roe vs Wade decision on the part of New Life Counseling, the Lake Charles area's Pro-Life organization. Several Knights of Columbus Councils participated by providing support in many areas including leading the march and providing hot chocolate.

Also, the council has begun preparation for its Fifth Annual Baby Bottle campaign at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church.

CULTURE OF LIFE REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Michael & Catherine Abbate (Council 9623)

In December, the council Culture for Life couple sent e-mails to Rep. Garrett Graves, Senator David Vitter and Senator Bill Cassidy asking them to support to protect the rights of pro-life health care providers and the Abortion Non-Discrimination Act.

Also, the council Culture for Life Couple started the Pro-Life Giving Tree for the Christmas season. During the week of December 9th, they sponsored the week of Prayer to end Abortion in our Country and around the World in our Adoration Chapel.

REGIONAL PRO-LIFE WALK

Richard Randle (Council 10293)

On Saturday, January 21st, Council 10293 organized a 16th Annual St. Edmond Knights of Columbus Regional Pro-life Walk in Lafayette. The event included music by the St. Edmond Choir, an opening prayer by Bishop Douglas Deshotel, and a Rosary. Snacks, fruit, cold drinks and water were provided by St. Mary's Catholic Church.



CULTURE OF LIFE ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Nick and Peggy Prosperie (Council 8932)

On Saturday, January 21st, we from St. Ann parish in Bourg, LA were blessed to join our brothers and sisters in Christ from St. John the Evangelist parish in Prairieville in attending the awesome Life March South in Baton Rouge. Although the weather threatened, God provided the much needed break in the storms to allow us to travel and join in the march without any weather problems! God is so good!

KC council 8932 sponsored an air-conditioned school bus for the journey thanks to the leadership of our Grand Knight Ivy Dupre, and our youth minister Mrs. Lisa Lapeyrouse from St. Ann. We departed at 7 AM and arrived at St John's Church in Prairieville around 9 AM. After sharing a breakfast of donuts, we all boarded the bus for the journey to the march. After joining the crowd near Galvez plaza, we enjoyed the prayerful walk to the state capitol.

The speakers were awesome, and we especially appreciated the witness by state representative Katrina Jackson. She talked about what one person taking up the battle to defend innocent unborn life can accomplish. She also asked us to answer the call to support those mothers who chose life for their babies!

There was also the witness of Lorrain, a mother who spoke of how God has changed her life after realizing He is the only one who can fulfill the longing for the Father relationship that is so sadly absent in today's society and which she sought in all the wrong places.

Two college students who serve our Lord in the fight to defend life invited the youth to attend the upcoming Pulse Leadership Institute in Baton Rouge next month.

Thanks to Laverne Scott for the pictures of the march.

Yours in defending the Culture of Life,
Nick and Peggy Prosperie

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS HEADING TO D.C.

Vince Whittington (Council 9016)

Father Maynard Hurst Council 9016 and a couple of members of St. Jean Vianney Council 9247 once again prepared 500 sandwiches for the 9 busses of students going to Washington D.C. for the January 27th March For Life. Council 9016 buys the ham and slices it up while many other Baton Rouge councils donate money for the purchase of lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, cheese and bread for the sub type sandwiches. Also the money is used to buy yogurt, cookies, chips, and fruit. The council members met at St Louis King of France Fair kitchen to make the sandwiches, divide up the chips, cookies, muffins,

yogurt and fruit into 9 different stacks, package it all up and put in the cooler. The next day everything is delivered to the 4 different bus departure points. It is hard to stop and feed 9 busses at a restaurant so the students use these meals for dinner and breakfast as they travel north.



COUNCILS CONTINUE TO HELP PREGNANCY CENTER WITH FLOOD RECOVERY

As many of you may already be aware, one of the pregnancy centers in Baton Rouge, [Caring to Love Ministries](#) (CTLM) was devastated by the terrible flood located at 3813 N Flannery Road. They are still in the process of returning to full operation.

On Saturday, January 14th, a work day was scheduled to move equipment and files from temporary off-site storage to the center. Two knights from our council 3743 (Tommy Cook and Sam Mistretta) along two knights from Belle Rose Council 10606 (Tony Vavasseur and Johnathan Landry) answered the call. The group did a lot of work, and the two trailers provided by Tommy and Tony were essential to accomplishing so much.



LOUISIANA LIFE MARCH SOUTH

On Saturday, January 21st the Louisiana Life March was held in Downtown Baton Rouge. Despite the early forecast of wet weather, it was a dry and beautiful day, and hundreds of people from around the state gave public witness for the protection of human life from conception to natural death. Participants marched from Galvez plaza to the State Capitol where a several speeches were given on the Capitol steps. Including impassioned speeches by Rep. Katrina Jackson and Archbishop Gregory Aymond. Many knights and their families came out in support for the pro-life cause. Louisiana Right to Life did a great job again this year of organizing this event.



CULTURE OF LIFE HIGHLIGHTS

Daniel and Sue Hake (Council 15133)



St. Anselm Council 15133 has conducted Baby Bottle campaign for Access Pregnancy Center. This is our 6th annual event. The bottles were distributed last weekend, and we began collecting this past weekend. Over \$3,000 were collected so far this year. Our Council also held its first Bowling fundraiser. It was very successful. We were able to donate \$500 to the Gianna Center in Covington to contribute to the purchase of an ultrasound machine.

Also, the 4th Degree Knights from our Council that are members of the Harry S. Thompson Assembly participated in a Protect Life Mass. Following Mass, there was a ceremony at the Monument outside the church.



LOUISIANA LIFE MARCH NORTH

On Saturday, January 23rd, the Louisiana Life March was held in Shreveport. The event began at the Louisiana Boardwalk in Bossier City, and participants marched over the Texas Street bridge to gather at Festival Plaza for speakers and music. Ryan Verret from Louisiana Right to Life and Chris Davis from Council 10728 gave inspiring speeches before the march. Speakers included Congressman Mike Johnson, State Representative Katrina Smith, and Bishop Duca. This was the fourth march in Shreveport, and it appeared to be the largest so far. It was a beautiful day to stand up for life!



UPCOMING EVENTS

FINAL LOUISIANA LIFE MARCH 2017

Saturday, Feb. 4 | 10 AM - Noon
Louisiana Life March CENTRAL in
Pineville/Alexandria



Louisiana Life Marches are held yearly to unite the pro-life people of Louisiana, across all denominational lines, to take a stand for life in our state and mobilize them with resources to go make a difference in their communities.

Want more information on the Life March in your area? You can download the flyers below or visit www.LALifeMarch.com.

ANNUAL CELEBRATE LIFE BANQUET

It is time for our annual Celebrate Life Banquet with very special guest speaker, Bishop Douglas Deshotel! It will be held Friday, February 10th, at 6:30pm at the Petroleum Club of Lafayette. We would like to invite you to be a sponsor of this great annual event. There will be more than 300 attendees; local media, local celebrities (famous and “maybe-not-so-much”) from all over Acadiana and the State. So please consider a sponsorship.



UPCOMING PULSE WEEKEND IMMERSIONS

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS! Future PULSE Immersion Weekends are being planned ([link](#)):

Tracy Center in Baton Rouge
February, 10-12th

Camp Abbey in Covington
April 28-30th

High school and college students will be trained to be the pro-life leaders of today. Students will hear engaging speakers and testimonies, be educated on pro-life issues and be inspired to make a difference in their schools and communities. The weekend will also include activities such as a bonfire, talent show and onsite outdoor recreation. Cost is \$60 per person.



Click [here](#) to register online and get more information. You can also download a registration form and mail in your payment.

Have questions? Contact Louisiana Right to Life Youth Programs Co-Directors:

Krista Corbello at : krista@prolifelouisiana.org or 337.303.8886

Alex Seghers at : alex@prolifelouisiana.org or 985.705.6568.



April Respect Life Gathering Fertility/Infertility Awareness

Pray together ~~ Learn more about the issues ~~ Network

Date: Tuesday April 4, 2017
7pm St. Andrew Hall
St. Andrew the Apostle in Algiers



Please join us!

Hosted by St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church
3101 Eton St., New Orleans LA 70131

7pm in St. Andrew Hall

Fertility/Infertility Awareness

Light refreshments provided

PROJECT RACHEL

Trista Littell, Diocese of Lafayette

A Journey to Healing for Anyone Hurting After Abortion

It's normal to grieve a pregnancy loss, including the loss of a child by abortion. It can form a hole in one's heart, a hole so deep that sometimes it seems nothing can fill the emptiness.

Project Rachel is a confidential ministry for anyone who desires healing after being impacted by abortion. This includes the mothers and fathers of children lost to abortion, grandparents, siblings, and others. Abortion crosses all boundaries of religion, race, age and socio-economic position. Project Rachel's mission is to provide a confidential and compassionate ministry that offers opportunities for healing to anyone who struggles with the aftermath of abortion. We pray that those who attend Project Rachel experience God's forgiveness and mercy in order to live in freedom and peace.

Project Rachel consists of eight to nine individual sessions. For more information, contact the Office of Pro Life Apostolate at 337.261.5607.

Rachel's Vineyard Weekend Retreat:

Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat is an opportunity for any man, woman, couple, grandparent or sibling who struggles with the emotional or spiritual pain of abortion. This weekend retreat provides participants the opportunity and space to enter the grieving process, identify effects the abortion has had and release deep feelings of anger, shame, and guilt that frequently accompany an abortion experience. This unique retreat process is designed specifically to help retreatants experience the gentleness, mercy and compassion of Jesus as they walk the journey from pain to forgiveness.

Participants re-connect on a spiritual level with the children who have been aborted and give them honor and dignity through many special exercises as well as in a memorial service. Those who journey through their grief allow God to transform their experience into one that brings hope, liberation and peace.

When: April 21-23, 2017

Time: Friday, 6:00 p.m. - Sunday, 3:00 p.m.

For more information about the retreat weekend and/or to register contact: Karol or Trista @ 337.261.5607/Diocese of Lafayette, Office of Pro Life Apostolate. Pre-registration is required.

If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential non-judgmental help is available. Call Project Rachel's national toll-free number: 888-456-HOPE(-4673) or visit www.hopeafterabortion.org.





Slidell Pro-Life Walk

Saturday: February 4, 2017

Walk from Slidell Pregnancy Help Center (550 Gause Blvd) to the St. Margaret Mary Church and return (approximately 1.1 miles total, if you can believe google.com).

Walk starts at 1:00 pm.
Ends at 4:00 pm.

Refreshments at the PHC after the walk
For additional information call Paul at 645-3560 (day) or 641-4097 (night)

PRO-LIFE BANQUET IN SHREVEPORT

Save the date! The Bishop Michael Duca's 7th Annual Pro-Life Banquet will take place on Wednesday, March 8th at the Shreveport Convention Center (400 Caddo St.). Seating will begin at 5 PM with dinner at 6 PM, followed by the program at 6:45 PM. The keynote speaker will be Duca. The title of the talk is "My Vision: Our Future." For more information go to www.dioshpt.org. Proceeds to benefit Mary's House.

Save the Date

Bishop Michael Duca's
7th Annual
Pro-Life Banquet

*My Vision:
Our Future*
from Speaker Bishop Duca

March 8, 2017
Shreveport Convention Center
400 Caddo St. • Shreveport

Seating at 5 p.m. • Dinner at 6 p.m.
Program at 6:45 p.m.

www.dioshpt.org
For sponsorship contact:
prolifedioshpt@dioshpt.org
Proceeds benefit Mary's House

PROJECT RACHEL RETREAT

Debbie Shinskie, Archdiocese of New Orleans

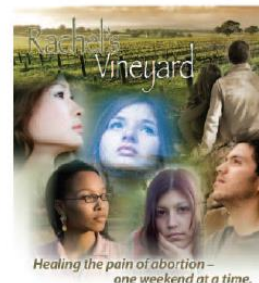
The next Rachel's Vineyard Retreat is scheduled for Friday April 7 through Sunday April 9 at Rosaryville. For more info, please contact either of the following retreat facilitators:

Pam Richard at 504-460-9360 cell or 985-809-0773 home or richj504@bellsouth.net

Melanie Baglow at 504-889-2431 home or mkbaglow@cox.net

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

**Healing the pain of abortion,
one weekend at a time.**



There is forgiveness and hope after abortion... If you or someone you love is hurting from abortion, please consider attending this healing retreat.

All faiths are welcome!

Date: April 7-9, 2017
Where: Rosaryville Retreat Center
Address: 39003 Rosaryville Rd, Ponchatoula, LA 70454
Price: \$170/person (Financial Assistance Available)
Priest Facilitator: Fr. David Seid

To register or for more information, please contact the retreat facilitators:
Pam Richard – (504) 460-9360 or richj504@bellsouth.net
Melanie Baglow – (504) 889-2431

facebook.com/rvrNOLA

Take courage. He is calling you!

*Mary,
Mother of God,
we place our country in your hands.
Through your intercession,
may our religious freedom be
protected.*

Call to PRAYER
USCCB
Love, Marriage, and Religious Liberty

#calltoprayer

BORN TO RUN NEW ORLEANS

Start your New Year off right with a goal to stay fit and support life at Born to Run NOLA! Join us for Born to Run NOLA, our 5K and 1-mile Fun Run. Registration is Now Open! [REGISTER NOW](#).

Woman's New Life Center (WNLC) is a life-affirming counseling and medical center that serves women facing unplanned pregnancies in the New Orleans and Greater Baton Rouge areas. You can help WNLC continue to save and change lives by participating in Born to Run.

WOMAN'S NEW LIFE CENTER

PRESENTS

BORN TO RUN

NEW ORLEANS

SATURDAY
APRIL 8, 2017
5K and 1 Mile Fun Run / Walk

Audubon Park
Shelter #10 / Newman Bandstand

For more information on Born to Run -
New Orleans, please contact jkeene@womansnewlife.com


START

WWW.WOMANSNEWLIFE.COM/BORNTORUN



BATON ROUGE CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE



A CALL TO BATTLE

CHALLENGING
EVERY MAN
TO FIGHT FOR HOLINESS



Featuring

 
Dr. Brant Pitre Fr. Michael Champagne

 
Sr. John Thomas Mark Hartfield

Dynamic Speakers Fellowship
All Day Adoration
Eucharistic Procession
Vendors & Exhibitions
Online Registration
On-sight Registration
Food by Chef John Folse

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
2250 Main Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

February 11, 2017
7:30 to 4:00 PM Vigil Mass

Online Registration
Adults \$50
Students \$25

Register Now At:
www.MenOfTheImmaculata.com

MYSTERY AT CHESTERION SQUARE

A Celebration of G.K. Chesterton

SATURDAY, 11 MARCH 2017
9:00 AM - 4:30 PM
PONCHATOULA, LOUISIANA
LUNCH INCLUDED



Speakers and Actors

DALE AHLQUIST CARL HASSLER
CHUCK CHALBERG KEVIN O'BRIEN
BRIAN G. DAIGLE JOSEPH PEARCE

GET YOUR TICKETS AT
WWW.MUDHOUSEART.COM

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

IT'S REAL...

COME LEARN MORE ABOUT IT.

HELP US BREAK THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE
AGAINST THE INNOCENT IN OUR COMMUNITY
THROUGH PRAYER AND ACTION.

PLEASE JOIN US!

Thursday, February 9th ~ 6:30-8:00 pm
Saint Mary's Hall ~ St. Peter Church, Covington

Presented By Debbie Shinskie

Director of the Respect Life Office, Archdiocese of New Orleans

Sponsored by the St. Peter Parish Pro-Life Ministry

Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady Bioethics Lecture Series

WHEN DOES HUMAN LIFE BEGIN?

- A LECTURE BY DR. MAUREEN CONDIC

Time/Date: March 23rd at 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. (reception to follow)

Location: Our Lady of the Lake College Biological Learning and Research Building - 5222 Brittany Drive, Suite B, Baton Rouge, LA

Event is Free and Open to the Public: No need to RSVP or Register

Event Sponsored By: OLOL College Campus Ministry

For More Information: Dr. John Meinert - (225) 768-1708; john.meinert@ololcollege.edu

Maureen Condic, Ph.D., is an associate professor of neurobiology and anatomy at the University of Utah School of Medicine. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Chicago, her doctorate from the University of California at Berkeley, and her postdoctoral training at the University of Minnesota. Since her appointment at the University of Utah, Professor Condic's primary research focus has been the development and regeneration of the nervous system. She has been awarded the Basil O'Connor Young Investigator Award for her studies of peripheral nervous system development, been named a McKnight Neuroscience of Brain Disorders Investigator in recognition of her research in the field of spinal cord repair and regeneration, and appointed to the Pontifical Academy for Life. Her current research involves the control of human stem cell potency and differentiation.



A PERSPECTIVE FROM EMBRYOLOGY AND NEUROSCIENCE

WHY IS THIS A CONTROVERSY IN THE FIRST PLACE?

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A HUMAN CELL AND A HUMAN BEING?

WHAT DOES SCIENCE CONCLUDE ABOUT WHEN LIFE BEGINS?

WHY ARE HUMANS VALUABLE?



Celebrate Life Banquet

Silent Auction



SAVE ME!

Friday, February 10, 2017 6:30 pm

Petroleum Club, Lafayette, LA

Purchase \$75 Tickets

Table for 8 \$550

Call 337-289-9366 to purchase tickets

All Proceeds Benefit the DesOrmeaux Foundation's Ministries:

The Women's Center of Lafayette

St. Marguerite d'Youville Maternity Home

Baby & Me Boutique

Featuring Special Guest Speaker: Bishop Douglas Deshotel

- ☐ DINING ☐ SILENT AUCTION
- ☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ CAMARADERIE ☐ RAISING FUNDS
- ☐ SAVING LIVES

Sponsorship (Patron's) Packages:

Bronze—\$1,000—includes 2 tickets & program

Silver—\$2,000—includes 4 tickets & ad

Gold—\$2,500—includes 6 tickets & ad

Platinum—\$5,000—includes 8 tickets & ad

EDUCATION CORNER

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Please be aware of the signs of trafficking. Go to: <http://polarisproject.org/recognize-signs>.

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!

For more information, Go to the Coalition Against Reproductive Trafficking's Action page: <http://reproductivetrafficking.org/action>.



NEW PRO-LIFE TV SHOW

Announcing a NEW TV Show:
EWTN Pro-Life Weekly
 When: Thursday, January 26 at 5pm &
 Friday, January 27 at 5:30pm
 Where: Tune into EWTN on your TV

The Susan B. Anthony List is partnering with EWTN to produce a brand new weekly pro-life TV show. The show is premiering the day before the March for Life with an encore airing on the day of the march. More details about the program can be found [here](#). Find your local EWTN channel [here](#). Every week, Catherine Szeltner and a team of pro-life experts shine the light of truth on abortion, euthanasia, assisted suicide and the culture of death.



BOOK RECOMMENDATION

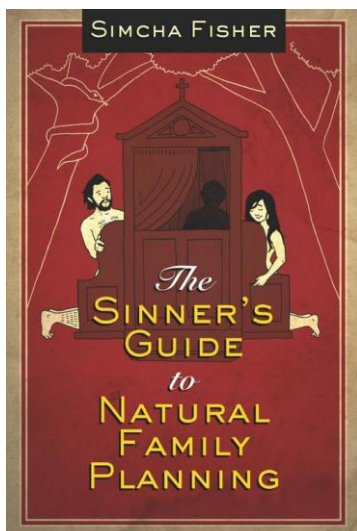
Does Natural Family Planning (NFP) sound like another name for the rhythm method? You may have heard about NFP, but how do you learn more about it? Well, I have found a great little book that would be a great place to start: **The Sinner's Guide to Natural Family Planning** by Simcha Fisher. Some of you may be familiar with the author because she is a Catholic blogger for the *National Catholic Register*.

Fisher provides an honest assessment of NFP. She is very clear about the difficulties in trying to use NFP, and she draws on her personal experience with it. Furthermore, she sets realistic expectations for the use of NFP. There is a lot of practical advice about how to approach sex within marriage with a particular emphasis on how to be chaste within marriage. Yes, the content of the book is focused on NFP, but there is a lot of good marital advice too.

The content of the book is based firmly on the teachings of the Catholic Church. There is also advice on how to talk about sex with your children.

There is serious content in this book, but her conversational style and use of humor made the book a joy to read. Good humor and even sarcasm help to make things clear. She is pretty blunt at times, and I found that refreshing. NFP is hard work, but work is often required for what is good.

All married couples would benefit from this book, but the book would benefit newlyweds the most.

INTERNET ARTICLES OF INTEREST

[Abortion, Adoption & the Heroes I Met Along the Way](#)

['Mail order' abortions: Feminist researchers bracing for a post-Roe America?](#)

[I was a Surrogate. I Want People to Know What's Really Going On.](#)

[Cells from cancer victim's own body help man fight deadly brain cancer](#)

[Strip club closure raises new questions about French Quarter moratorium](#)

[Unexpected Risks Found In Replacing DNA To Prevent Inherited Disorders](#)

[No, the sky won't fall if Planned Parenthood is defunded. Here's why.](#)

[Kentucky Abortion Clinic That Killed Babies Since 1989 is Closing](#)

[BREAKING: Washington, D.C. Mayor signs bill legalizing assisted suicide](#)

[Catholic health educator fired for refusing to promote contraception, attend class at Planned Parenthood](#)

[Fighting the Pronoun Police](#)

[Court strikes down harmful transgender mandate](#)

[Kim Burrell under fire for comments about gays and lesbians](#)

[A "Merciless Assault on Human Dignity"](#)

[Cardinal makes strong pro-life defense rarely heard in Germany](#)

[Pro-aborts tout one big victory in 2016 but admit many legislative setbacks](#)

[Texas court strikes down reg forcing doctors to do 'sex changes' on kids](#)

[Congressional Committee Report Accuses Planned Parenthood of Serious Abuses](#)

[Federal Judge Rules Against Obamacare Mandate on Gender-Reassignment Surgeries](#)

[Congressional Panel releases final report on late-term abortion industry](#)

[A Catholic Answer to the Indignities of Modern Man](#)

[Another In Vitro Fertilization “Oops...”](#)

[Margaret Sanger's Low Road to China](#)

[The Transgender Movement Targets Autistic Children](#)

[Daleiden: ‘Prosecute Planned Parenthood’s criminal abortion business to the fullest extent of the law’](#)

[AUL’s 2017 Life List](#)

[Abortionist Quits After St. Thomas Aquinas Visits Him in a Dream](#)

[Indian State Proposes A Two-Child Limit for Government Employees](#)

[How an unusual lawsuit could affect a Catholic hospital's religious liberty](#)

[Pope Francis: ‘Having an abortion to keep your figure is a big problem’](#)

[Bioethics in 2017](#)

[Defending unborn, Francis sometimes drops language of mercy](#)

[St. Louis Archbishop Speaks Out Against Proposed Abortion Law](#)

[‘Conscience in Residency’ Project Supports Pro-Life Doctors in Training](#)

[Christian student booted for saying he would not counsel gay couples gets \\$25K settlement](#)

[Don't Be Duped by the Women's March on Washington](#)

[New video: Planned Parenthood was caught covering up child sex trafficking, did nothing about it](#)

[Pro-Life Feminists Booted From Women’s March Sponsorship](#)

[So, abortion doesn't harm women's mental health? The stats disagree](#)

[Defunding Planned Parenthood: Community Health Centers Can Fill in the Gap](#)

[Abortion numbers in U.S. reach lowest point since 1975](#)

[Death With Dignity: The Ultimate Cop-Out](#)

[Formerly Suicidal Man's Sight is Restored Through Adult Stem Cells](#)

[Pro-Lifers Take Part in ‘Women’s March on Washington’](#)

[President Donald Trump Signs Executive Order to Defund International Planned Parenthood](#)

[The Journey From Pro-Choice to Pro-Life is a Journey of Grace](#)

[New Poll Finds Most Americans Support Abortion Restrictions](#)

[Pro-Lifers Care About the Born, More Than Liberals Know](#)

[Women are calling Planned Parenthood and finding out there’s no prenatal care](#)

[VP Pence tells March for Life: ‘Life is winning again in America’](#)

[An Open Letter to My Liberal Friends](#)

[The Best Signs Spotted at the March for Life 2017!](#)

QUOTES OF THE MONTH

“Can we ever say that we have an indisputably good reason, or an indisputably bad reason, for postponing a pregnancy?”

Of course. It’s just that I can’t think of anything more personal and private than these reasons. I believe that if the Church ever did give a specific, objective list of legitimate reasons for avoiding or achieving pregnancy, it would cause more confusion, not less.

People with good reasons to postpone a pregnancy would doubt themselves, and people with no good reason would find loopholes. People would judge each other even more than they already do (which is a shameful amount), and it would distract from the soul’s conversation with God.”

Taken from **The Sinner’s Guide to Natural Family Planning** by Simcha Fisher, Our Sunday Visitor

VIDEO OF THE MONTH

Check out this pro-life video from [Students for Life of America](#): [link](#).



PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Prayer for the Closing of an Abortion Mill

Father, all life is in Your care. You have entrusted us to one another that we may show our brother and sisters the same love You have for us. We pray, then, for the least among us, the children in the womb.

Protect them from the violence of abortion. We pray for those that are scheduled to die at *THIS ABORTION MILL*. Save them from death.

Give new hope to their parents that they may turn away from the desperate act of abortion. Grant conversion to the abortionist and to the staff. Show us how we are to respond to the bloodshed in our midst, and lead us to the day when this place of death will be transformed into a haven of life.

Guard us with your joy and your peace, for in You, life is victorious. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Fr. Frank Pavone, Priests for Life

