



## Culturae Vitae

March 2017

Volume 4 Number 3

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

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



### 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.



## 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 STORIES

### FROM THE DIRECTOR

Ben Clapper, Executive Director for Louisiana  
Right to Life

It is all about the Supreme Court!

Elections have consequences, and it is a blessing to have a Supreme Court nominee who appears committed to trust the written wisdom of the U.S. Constitution rather than his own preferences. From what we can see now, Judge Neil Gorsuch will be a justice inclined to adopt deference to the will of a legislative body, unless its decisions run in conflict with express provisions of the U.S. Constitution. The recent Supreme Court decision striking down a Texas admitting privilege law is a classic example of justices replacing the decisions of an elected legislative body with their own.

Read National Right to Life's [Press Release](#) on Judge Gorsuch.

This will be a fight, make no mistake about that! Many Democratic Senators are already promising a filibuster. Thankfully, our Senators are inclined to [support](#) Judge Gorsuch's nomination! We will need pro-life action across the nation to get Gorsuch on the high court. Stay tuned for more information!

For a Pro-Life Louisiana,  
Benjamin Clapper

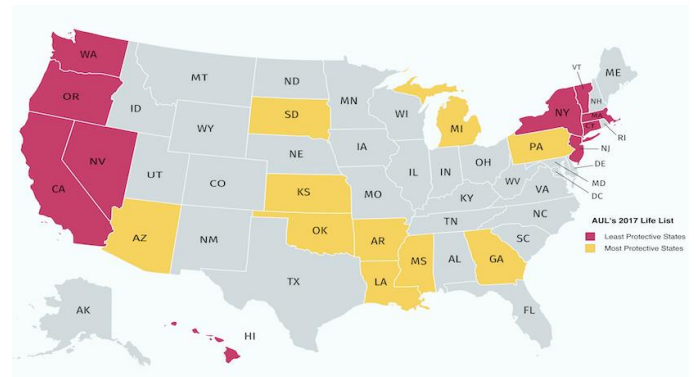
### PRO-LIFE STATES Louisiana Right to Life

Americans United for Life has released its annual report about the most pro-life and pro-abortion states when it comes to passing pro-life legislation that protects women and unborn children, and Louisiana came in third.

Oklahoma retained the No. 1 position, and Kansas remained at No. 2. Arkansas was fourth and Arizona fifth, according to the report.

For the eighth year in a row, Washington was the state where women have the fewest pro-life legal protections, followed by California, Vermont, New Jersey, and Oregon.

Overall, 43 states considered more than 360 abortion-related measures in 2016. More details can be found [here](#).



### CATHOLIC WOMEN'S INFERTILITY SUPPORT GROUP

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

You're Not Alone - Are you and your spouse currently experiencing the pain of infertility or the inability to maintain a pregnancy? There is support available! Come join us for a Catholic Women's Infertility Support Group, now being offered on the 2nd Wednesday of every month, 7pm - 8pm at St. George Catholic Church, 7808 St. George Drive, Baton Rouge. For more information, contact Julie at [stellajuliedot@gmail.com](mailto:stellajuliedot@gmail.com).

For basic Church teaching on Assisted Reproductive Technologies please visit a [web site](#) setup by the Archdiocese of New Orleans Respect Life Office.

**FREE DOWNLOADS**

ARTICLES

PRAYERS

QUICK REFERENCE INFO

AND MORE!

**RESPECT LIFE**

[WWW.USCCB.ORG/RESPECTLIFE](http://WWW.USCCB.ORG/RESPECTLIFE)

### ASSISTED REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES (ART/IVF)

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

“Every week or so, another glossy article is published about a gay couple (or single) who has created children with the help of the ever-growing fertility industry. The latest: ‘Gay Men Increasingly Turn to Surrogates to Have Babies’...These two men had a deep-seated urge to be fathers. How wonderful is that? However, fathers are supposed to be self-sacrificing and these men, motivated by their feelings alone, chose to sacrifice the need those girls have for a mother instead of facing the biological truth of their life choices. In other words, instead of dealing with their feelings of loss, they have ensured a lifetime of it for their children.”

This situation of surrogacy brings about the commodification of the child, the likelihood that embryos conceived in the process will be killed, a denial of the child’s access to their genetic, & a denial of the child’s access to the mother, in addition to many other concerns. Read more [here](#).



### CONTRACEPTION AND ABORTION

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

“The Inconvenient Truth Many Pro-Lifers Don’t Want to Face...” Thoughts on the inevitable link between contraception & abortion... “Since no method of contraception is 100 percent effective, an increase in adultery and fornication in a given population will inevitably lead to an increase in unwanted pregnancies. What happens when large numbers of women find themselves pregnant and didn’t want to be? Demand for a legal ‘right’ to abortion logically follows as a way of ‘solving’ this problem.” Read more [here](#).

### OPPORTUNITY TO HELP PREGNANCY CENTER

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](mailto:heartfore@bellsouth.net).



### ACTIVITIES AT DELTA IN BATON ROUGE

Larry Rath

Each day, sidewalk counselors faithfully pray and offer help to people seeking an abortion at the Delta abortion mill in Baton Rouge.

Little boy was born the week of February 8<sup>th</sup> and adoptive parents received this blessing today. A little background: Leigh’s half-sister Morgan is pregnant and a meth addict. She went to have an abortion here (at Delta) and she saw a man standing there praying and she thought she recognized him so she left and drove to Pensacola to do it and there were people standing and praying and she couldn’t do it. So she went home and will have the baby. Thanks for your faithfulness.

Supposedly, the birth mother stayed off of drugs at least the last month of the pregnancy. This was a save that we only found out about from a family that I know.



Charles Barbre's update:

In January, we set a monthly record for saves at Delta at 23 babies. However, this is not all good news because Delta was open more often. Besides Tuesday and Thursday, they were open every other Friday also. Keep praying for Delta to be closed for good.

### GIVING LIFE A CHANCE!

Dave Andrusko, Guest Columnist,  
Louisiana Right to Life

### **'Boy Without a Brain' Progressing Remarkably British Family Rewarded for Giving Noah a Chance to Live**



On Saturday, Oct. 30, the British Department of Health announced it had approved what is euphemistically called the "Non-Invasive Pre-Natal Testing" for use by the National Health Service. It is a more accurate prenatal test that can be given earlier in pregnancy and is absolutely guaranteed to increase the number of eugenic abortions.

279 medical professionals wrote a letter of protest, which included commenting about a highly controversial consultation in which the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists suggested the "cost-effectiveness" of caring for people with Down syndrome could be considered as a factor. According to the Daily Mail, "It called for a

'rigorous economic analysis,' including lifetime care costs."

This recommendation came exactly one day after the Gospel Herald published a heartwarming story by Suzette Gutierrez-Cachila about 4-year-old Noah Wall, who, "against all odds" has "grown to be a lively boy and is living proof that abortion does not have to be the answer" when parents are given a dreadful prenatal diagnosis.

Early on in pregnancy, doctors told Noah's parents, Rob and Shelly Wall, their unborn son was riddled with physical challenges. They were told Noah was missing a quarter of his brain, would be paralyzed from the chest down, would suffer from spina bifida, would face a life-threatening condition called hydrocephalus, and would be threatened with the possibility of having the chromosomal abnormality called Edwards Syndrome.

"We were offered termination five times," Rob said in a recently released documentary, "The Boy Without a Brain." "It was never an option for us. To me, we wanted to give Noah that chance of life."

But given the devastating diagnosis and a "do not resuscitate" order placed on Noah, the Walls did arrange a funeral for him prior to his birth, assuming he would die in utero or shortly thereafter. Noah was born March 6, 2012, and "to their surprise," Gutierrez-Cachila wrote, "he let out a cry. Although he had health complications, hearing him cry and knowing he was alive was more than enough for Rob and Shelly to keep fighting for their son."

After he was born, scans showed Noah's brain was worse than previously expected, with only 2 percent present in a thin layer at the front of his head. Immediately, Noah was rushed into a double operation. Surgeons closed up of the hole in his back and inserted a shunt in the back of his head to help drain the fluid that was placing immense pressure on his brain. Both operations were successful.

Even though progress had been made, Noah would visit the hospital many times as he grew to be treated for his health complications. But Noah is now doing remarkably well. He scampers around

using a wheelchair and braces. He continues to show signs of Improvement.

"He chooses things and makes decisions. He never shuts up, and he can sing as well," Shelly told the Daily Mail. "It is absolutely amazing. To look at him you wouldn't know there was anything wrong."

Most amazing of all, a brain scan taken when Noah was 3 showed his brain had developed considerably to almost full function. As the Daily Mail reported, Shelly said, "We just cannot believe it; he's a miracle. No one expected this to happen. We've had three years not knowing how long he's going to live, so to hear his brain's almost back to normal is beyond belief. Rob and I broke down when we heard the news. It was like a dream. I've never known anything like it, even the consultants were in tears."

Have the Walls ever regretted their decision to refuse abortion, given what they've been through and the prospect of future surgeries? Not at all. They are thankful to have Noah in their lives every single day and are working to raise awareness for spina bifida.

Noah should take a visit to the British Department of Health to remind them, and the entire world, that abortion should never be the solution. We never know when we are preventing a miracle like Noah.

*Visit [www.hugsfornoah.co.uk](http://www.hugsfornoah.co.uk) to learn more about Noah and watch portions of the recent documentary. Follow them on Twitter at @HugsForNoah*

#### FOUR LOUISIANA MEN PRODUCE DOCUMENTARY SHORTS PROJECT ABORTION: THE UNTOLD STORY

Four Louisiana men have teamed up to produce a series of short documentaries addressing the issue of abortion. The three to five minute films speak succinctly and persuasively to the issue of abortion — the greatest humanitarian crisis facing our generation.

The documentary team includes attorney Peter John Lemoine, Dr. David Spence, OB/GYN, local businessman Wilbur Gutierrez, and

videographer/filmmaker Spencer Lemoine. The first two segments are now available to the public free of charge. To view the segments and connect via social media, visit the website at [www.projectabortion.com](http://www.projectabortion.com). The team is planning to release more documentary shorts in the near future as they attempt to address all important aspects of the abortion issue.

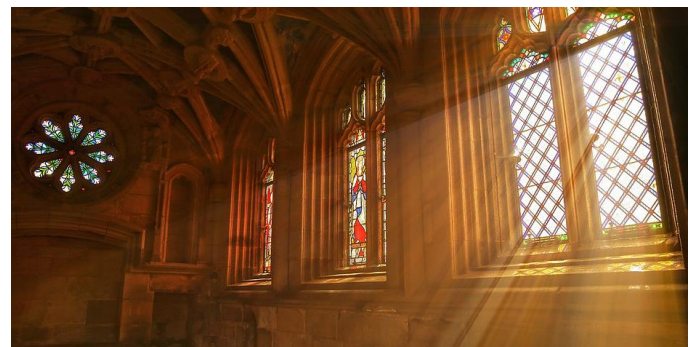
The documentary shorts are a powerful reminder that abortion touches all of us and that we can all contribute, in some way, to the cause to end abortion in this country.

Co-Producer Lemoine said, "God calls us to step outside of our circle of life to accomplish a greater good. I am a practicing attorney, former judge, husband, father of seven and now see fighting for the lives of the innocent unborn as my life's work. Being a resident of Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana, the home of Norma McCorvey, the Roe of Roe v. Wade, has provided spiritual impetus on our journey to help end this American holocaust." Co-Producer Gutierrez added, "If the fight began in Avoyelles, it can end in Avoyelles."

The venture is entirely not-for-profit and funded by the personal resources of the four-man documentary team.

The team is available for appearances before organizations and media to tell the story about what brought them together and to discuss and view the videos at no charge.

If you would like to schedule a speaking engagement, please contact the Lemoine Law Firm at (318) 876-3174 or toll free at (888) 468-3741, or by email at [jhollis@lemoine-lawfirm.com](mailto:jhollis@lemoine-lawfirm.com).





PRO-LIFE CORNER

Don and Dee Caskey (Council 1905)

Spring is not quite here, and I have already seen the fruits of our labors. While in the Baton Rouge for the Louisiana Life March South, I happened to find some young people that are very dear to us. First, there is Robert Rau. He is always there for a good cause. Then, I met two lovely young ladies: one you know by name is Gabrielle Dazant (with the gray long sleeve tee shirt in the picture). She is the young student we helped fund on an mission trip to Nicaragua. I invited her to February's Family Social. The other young lady is Alice Lee (wearing the blue 40 Days tee shirt). She is an active member of Loyola Students For Life. This is the pro-life student group that we helped, and they spoke at our February Family Social. We met a group of students from Shaw and A.O.L. (pictured in front of the Louisiana Right to Life banner, the one on the right looks familiar, Humm?). Alex Lucas from LSFL sent a group photo from Washington with yet another familiar face. There is no stopping our young people when it comes to working for life and the Lord.

And one more beautiful face is Miss Debbie from Access Pregnancy center holding the \$100 check from our Lovely Ladies Auxiliary with some of the donations from the St. Martha / Infant Jesus Baby Shower drive. I am still trying to set up this year's Baby Bottle Campaign with our churches, and I know that I will need help.

One Final Note is that Robert Rau and I will be serving 20 gallons of root beer at the Woman's New Life Center's Born to Run event on April 8th at Audubon Parks Shelter #10. This event starts about 7:30 AM, and they will have a live band. Last year, we teamed with The New Orleans Ice Cream Company and made some out of this world root beer floats. They will need to double up on their ice cream donation. Hey People! Come and join us.

One last photo of a dear friend Sam Mistretta with some the people that came with us on the bus to the Life March South.

Yours in Christ,  
Don and Dee Caskey







### PROJECT MUSTARD SEED

Charles & Betty Barbre (Council 9247)

The following is a letter from John Naughton (naughtonjj@gmail.com):

Please consider joining thousands in the Mustard Seed Project by sending a letter each month to a designated corporation asking them to stop supporting Planned Parenthood, the world's largest abortion provider.

You can use the sample letter below or selected parts of the letter or you can write your own letter. You can save your letter to use again next month; just change the addressee and date. Or, since new facts about PP are provided periodically, you may want to update your letter. If you don't wish to receive Project Mustard letters, return "Unsubscribe."

Please remember to always keep the tone of your letter respectful and polite. Your work has now resulted in 337 corporations ceasing support of PP which has cost them over \$45 million annually. Thank you for your perseverance. Your Project Mustard Seed letters do make a difference.

New information this month: the findings of Live Action surveys that only about 5% of PP facilities provide prenatal care and PP only does sonograms in conjunction with abortion.

Here are the 36 companies that directly fund Planned Parenthood: Adobe, American Express, Avon, Bank of America, Bath & Body Works, Ben & Jerry's, Boeing, Clorox, Converse, Deutsche Bank, Dockers, Energizer, Expedia, ExxonMobil, Fannie Mae, Groupon, Intuit, Johnson & Johnson, La Senza, Levi Strauss, Liberty Mutual, March of Dimes, Microsoft, Morgan Stanley, Nike, Oracle, PepsiCo, Pfizer, Progressive Insurance, Starbucks, Susan G. Komen Foundation, Tostitos, Unilever, United Way, Verizon, Wells Fargo. Note: Macy's stopped supporting PP.

You can find out more information [here](#).





CULTURE OF LIFE MONTHLY REPORT

Michael &amp; Catherine Abbate (Council 9623)

Council 9623 Culture of Life couple is leading a regular Pro-Life Rosary at the Adoration Chapel. On January 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, Council Culture of Life Couple collected Clothes, Food, Bedding, & Lamps at each Mass to give out to the Flood Families and to the Battered Women's Center in Laplace. These items were delivered on Monday Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>.

Council Culture of Life couple also sent emails to New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu about his attempts to remove the Pro-Life Banners on St. Charles Avenue in New Orleans. They also sent an email to Representative Garret Graves to Support HR-7 The No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act.

In January, they also attended the Pro-Life Awards Dinner honoring Archbishop Gregory Aymond at Chateau Country Club. On January 14<sup>th</sup>, council members installed the Pro-Life billboard at church.

On January 12<sup>th</sup>, the council Culture of Life couple joined the Archdiocesan Sidewalk Counseling and Prayer Ministry for the Rosary March from 7:30 am to 9:30 am at the Abortion Facility located at 3044 Ridgelake Drive in Metairie. All 20 decades of the Rosary was recited followed by pro-life prayers and songs. We did this to mark the 44th year of the Roe vs Wade Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion in the United States. Later that day, the council Culture of Life couple sponsored KC member and Deacon Dave Faranelli's talk at the PTO Meeting about the Flood of Pornography, obscene material on computers and cell phones and Human Trafficking in our state.

Later in January, the couple attended the Pro-Life March in Lafayette as well as the Life March in Baton Rouge. The couple paid half the bus fee for 34 adults and 21 youth who attended.

On January 24<sup>th</sup>, council Culture of Life couple sponsored and attended the Pro-Life March in Washington, D.C. The council also paid half of the bus fee for 41 adults and 500 youth who attended.

On January 25<sup>th</sup>, the council's Culture of Life couple joined the National Right to Life and the National Pro-Life Religious Council at the National

Memorial for the Pre-Born and their Mothers and Fathers. A monthly donation has been established.

On January 20<sup>th</sup>, the couple attended the Memorial Service for the Unborn at St. Patrick's #3 Cemetery in New Orleans to remember the millions of children lost by abortion since 1973. Archbishop Aymond led the prayer service. Also in attendance were members of the Louisiana Right to Life, Archdiocesan Respect Life Office and Archdiocesan Cemeteries office, young people from Jesuit and Holy Name Schools and Loyola College, and members of different parishes.

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 drive has collected just over \$6,000. The director was thrilled!

To find out more about Access Pregnancy Center, visit their web site at <http://accesspregnancy.com/>.



BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

Kevin &amp; Jeannie Gauthier (Council 14657)

Our council put on a baby bottle fundraiser and gave a \$2,000 check to the pro-life group Lilly of the Valley in Alexandria. You can find out more about their work at : [www.lilyofthevalleyministries.com/](http://www.lilyofthevalleyministries.com/)

LIFE MARCH CENTRAL

Kevin &amp; Jeannie Gauthier (Council 14657)

Council 14657 in Pineville participated in the Louisiana Life March Central organized by Louisiana Right to Life. The march started at Louisiana College and continued to the Alexandria Theater on the river.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

David &amp; Ann Gregory, Council 8342

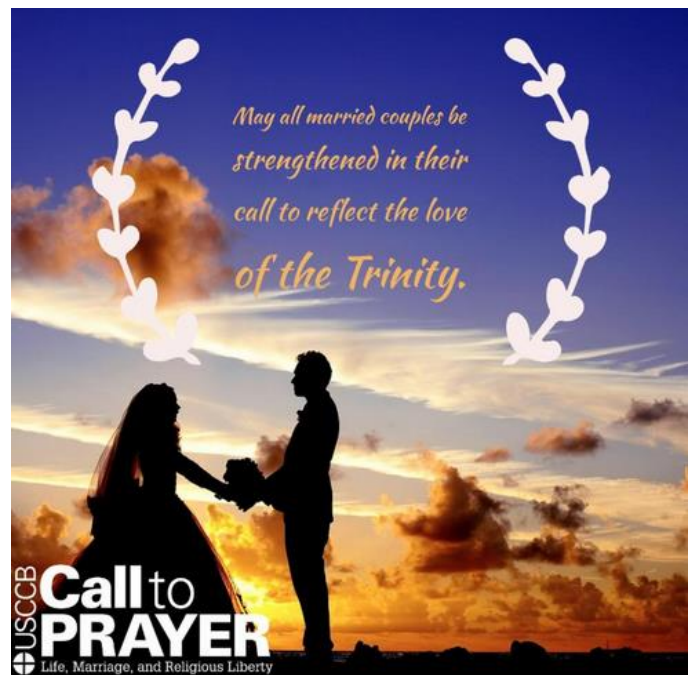
The Pregnancy Problem Center in Baton Rouge is looking for pregnant women who are in their first and second trimesters to have a free ultrasound. It will help those at the center who are currently being trained to meet the requirement perform ultrasounds with their clients. As many of you are aware, it is important to show mothers and fathers a picture of their baby in the womb. The training occurs on Mondays. To make an appointment, call Frances Broussard, Director of the Pregnancy Problem Center at: 225-924-1400. The center is located at 4724 Jamestown, Baton Rouge, LA 70806.

**PREGNANCY PROBLEM CENTER**

4724 Jamestown Avenue, Suite 3

Baton Rouge, LA 70808

(225) 924-1400





### LOUISIANA LIFE MARCH CENTRAL

On Saturday, February 4th, the Louisiana Life March Central was held in Pineville/Alexandria.

The event began at Louisiana College in Pineville where there were guest speakers to get everyone ready to march, including Dr. Rick Brewer, President of Louisiana College. About 5,000 marchers crossed the Jackson Street Bridge into Alexandria and ended at the Ampitheatre on the banks of the Red River.

Speakers at the ampitheatre included Louisiana Attorney General Jeff Landry, Sancha Smith with Concerned Women of America, and the Rev. Brian Gunter, pastor of First Baptist Church of Pollock.

Check out an on-line news [story](#) about the march.





LA STUDENTS GEAX FORTH!

By Krista Corbello, Louisiana Right to Life  
Youth Programs Co-Director

1,423 Louisiana students, teachers, and parents joined together in Washington, D.C., last Thursday for Louisiana Right to Life's annual Geaux Forth youth rally. Everyone got fired up during the standing-room only event, ready for the following day's 44th annual March for Life.

High school groups from the Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Houma-Thibodaux, Acadiana and Lake Charles areas attended, including four groups attending for the first time - Opelousas Catholic, Vermilion Catholic and the Schools of the Sacred Heart from Acadiana and St. Matthew's from New Orleans.

In addition to the high school groups, college students from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Loyola, LSU and Nicholls were there. Our Louisiana Students for Life helped our Geaux Forth pro-life vendors, including Stand True, Students for Life of America, RockForLife, Crossroads, Life Matters Journal, Life Culture Apparel, and Abbey Youth Fest.

Geaux Forth included two general sessions. The first featured Deanna Wallace, former Legislative Director of Louisiana Right to Life and current Staff Counsel for Americans United for Life. She spoke on Pro-Life Feminism and shared her adoption story. The second session, titled Love in Action, featured Youth Programs Co-Directors Krista Corbello and Alex Seghers, who focused on the pro-life movement being compassionate in its activism.

Overall, students and teachers had a lot of fun while being inspired by the testimony of the speakers. A local Lafayette band, Letrainiump, played upbeat and life-loving music, and they were a hit with the crowd. The band had the crowd singing its original songs as well as popular music from Maroon 5, Taylor Swift, and Florence & The Machine.

One of our "regulars" from the Diocese of New Orleans told us this Geaux Forth was the "best one yet!" We were so glad to come together to inspire the youth of Louisiana to be brave pro-life leaders once we return home.

LADIES AUXILIARY IN ACTION

By Carolyn Lawson,  
Treasurer St. Mary Magdalen KC Ladies Auxiliary

On the weekend of Feb 4th & 5th our Ladies Auxilliary handed out right at 325 baby bottles after all the Masses at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church in Metairie for the Women's New Life Center in the New Orleans area. We picked them back up last weekend, and we estimate the return of about 200-215 of those distributed. Thus far we've received \$3,607.96 in donations for Women's New Life Center and reached 59 new donors to their ministry.

We also were instrumental in distributing another shipment of blankets, burp cloths & lovies to the Centers in the Baton Rouge Area. We should also have more to distribute at the KC Convention in May.

Our mission statement: We support our Knights of Columbus in their efforts for Charity, Unity, Fraternity & Patriotism. We actively work within our parish to enrich Fellowship, Community and Spirituality. We encourage working with other Organizations in our Parish and Community.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### UPCOMING PULSE WEEKEND IMMERSIONS

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

The next one will be held at Camp Abbey in Covington on April 28-30<sup>th</sup>

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](mailto:krista@prolifelouisiana.org) or 337.303.8886

Alex Seghers at : [alex@prolifelouisiana.org](mailto:alex@prolifelouisiana.org) or 985.705.6568.



## BOWTIES FOR BABIES

On Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, Louisiana Right to Life will hold their annual Bowties for Babies event at the Capitol Park Museum, with Louisiana's State Capitol as its backdrop.

This reception-style event will feature live music, delicious food, a silent auction, and more.

100 percent of the proceeds go to Louisiana Right to Life's Advertise for Life Project, which reaches women in crisis pregnancies through targeted online advertising that connects them with one of the state's pregnancy resource centers. In 2016, the project generated more than 1,650 pregnancy help phone calls to the crisis pregnancy hotline and nearly 16,500 clicks to the website.

About Louisiana Right to Life's Advertise for Life Project: Studies show that 95% of women who enter a pregnancy center choose life. Even with 30 pregnancy centers across Louisiana, 26 women a day still choose abortion. Advertise for Life uses targeted online advertising to reach abortion-minded women and connect them to pregnancy centers, where they can find the support and help they need. Visit: <http://www.adifficultchoice.com> for more information.

Patron Levels Start at \$250 and include tickets to the event as well as other perks.

Tickets are \$50 Young Professional (18-26), \$75 Adult and \$125 Couple.



**Bowties for Babies: A Southern Soiree Benefiting Life**

May 11, 2017 | 7 - 10 p.m.

Capitol Park Museum

660 N. 4th St., Baton Rouge

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](http://www.hopeafterabortion.org).



## 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 RETREAT

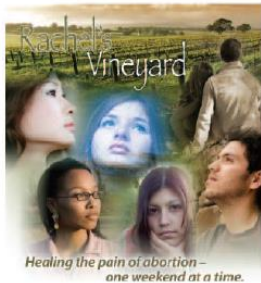
Debbie Shinskie, Archdiocese of New Orleans

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](mailto:richj504@bellsouth.net)  
 Melanie Baglow at 504-889-2431 home or [mkbaglow@cox.net](mailto: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](mailto:richj504@bellsouth.net)  
 Melanie Baglow – (504) 889-2431

[facebook.com/rvrNOLA](https://facebook.com/rvrNOLA)

**Take courage. He is calling you!**

### 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

The 40 Days for Life peaceful pro-life prayer vigil will be held from February 25 to April 9<sup>th</sup> at the Bossier City Medical Suite at 1505 Doctor's Drive between 7 AM and 7 PM. Contact Chris Davis: [christopherpatrickdavis@gmail.com](mailto:christopherpatrickdavis@gmail.com) for info.

PRO-LIFE BANQUET IN SHREVEPORT

Save the date! The Bishop Michael Duca's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Pro-Life Banquet will take place on Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> 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 Bishop Duca. The title of the talk is "My Vision: Our Future." For more information go to [www.dioshpt.org](http://www.dioshpt.org). Proceeds to benefit Mary's House.



St. Jean Vianney Catholic Church

## Pro-Life Breakfast

*Living a Pro-Life life in a secular world*

Saturday, March 25, 2017  
 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM  
 Parish Hall

\$25.<sup>00</sup> Single, \$40.<sup>00</sup> Couple  
 or \$50.<sup>00</sup> Family (12 or older)



Featuring


**Elaine Matherne**

*A Story of Conversion*



**Pat Shingleton**

*Chief Meteorologist, WBRZ*

Sponsored by:  Knights of Columbus Council 9247

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY VIDEO SERIES

Trista Littell, Diocese of Lafayette

Due to the great turnout for the previous Theology of the Body Video Series, Adele Guillot will be conducting another Theology of the Body, The Gift - Level I Video Series.

The series consisting of four Monday evening sessions from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. will be held at Immaculata Center and offered on the following dates:

March 20, 2017 – Session One

March 27, 2017 – Session Two

April 3, 2017 – Session Three

April 10, 2017 – Session Four

There is no fee for the class. Student Workbook for Theology of the Body – The Gift – Level I is \$15.

Participants must be 18 years of age or older.

Please register by calling the following information to the Office of Pro Life Apostolate at 337.261.5607 or email: [tlittell@diolaf.org](mailto:tlittell@diolaf.org): name, address, city, state, zip, email address, phone, church parish/city, and referred by whom.

Please note the following regarding Catechist Certifications for Theology of the Body – The Gift Classes in the Diocese of Lafayette:

Four Catechist Credit Hours are allowed provided you attend all four sessions. Partial credits or hours are not available. May not be repeated for credits or hours.

All classes are at Immaculata Center, 1408 Carmel Dr., Lafayette, LA 70501 in Henriette DeLille Conference Room. Please enter through the east side of the building. Front offices are locked.

If you have questions please contact Trista Littell at 337.261.5607.

*What is “Theology of the Body”?*

St. John Paul II's Antidote for the “Culture of Death”.

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



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](mailto:jkeene@womansnewlife.com)



START

WWW.WOMANSNEWLIFE.COM/BORNTORUN

Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady Bioethics Lecture Series

## WHEN DOES HUMAN LIFE BEGIN?

- A LECTURE BY DR. MAUREEN CONDIC

Time/Date: March 23<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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?

**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>.

**INTERNET ARTICLES OF INTEREST**

[Dutch Euthanasia Authorities OK Apparent Murder](#)

[Finley's parents are grateful abortion pill reversal saved their little girl](#)

[Scientists Create Human-Pig Hybrids for Organ Transplants That Could Develop Into "Monsters"](#)

[Controversial Chimera Research: Is This Little Piggy Really Part Human?](#)

[Louisiana March is the Biggest One Ever as 9,000 Pro-Lifers Flood the Streets of Shreveport](#)

[The March for Life in Year 44](#)

[We See Through a Sonogram, Darkly](#)

[Boy Scouts: Gender Identity Is New Standard for Admission](#)

[Flexible Genders and Fanciful Selves](#)

[Immoral Uses of Biotechnology — Even With Good Intentions — Are Evil](#)

[To Pro-Life Warriors Everywhere: Thank You](#)

['Horrible Picture': Dutch Woman Restrained by Family While Being Euthanized](#)

[Watch a 20-week baby in utero with new groundbreaking technology](#)

[Pediatrician Group Say Teens Have 'Right' to Abortion Without Parental Knowledge](#)

[ACLU Opposes Bill to Ban Sex-Selection Abortions](#)

[Vatican Updates Health Care Charter](#)

[Can we end the need for abortion? One organization aims to find out](#)

[Boy Scouts' New Policy Further Strains Connection With Catholics](#)

[More Than 10,000 Pro-Lifers Call for Defunding of Planned Parenthood](#)

["LGBT Rights" and Male Rape in Conflict: How to Abuse Humanitarian Law.](#)

[USCCB Chairmen Ask President Trump to Fulfill His Promise to Protect Religious Liberty](#)

[France bans pro-life websites that do not 'openly state' they are pro-life](#)

['Miscarriage management': Planned Parenthood's shocking backup plan if abortion is ever made illegal](#)

[Planned Parenthood: We will only give you an ultrasound if you want an abortion](#)



[Catholic youth turn brutal attack during March for Life trip into an amazing display of faith, forgiveness](#)

[WATCH: Pro-aborts baffled by the multitude of young pro-life supporters](#)

[When Texas defunded Planned Parenthood, they didn't leave women suffering](#)

[Scientists Given Green Light to Edit the DNA of Unborn Babies](#)

[Media Pro-Abortion Bias is as Evident as it is Appalling](#)

[All Freedoms Are at Stake, Says Florist Who Lost Religious Liberty Case](#)

[Norma McCorvey Was Wrong, Then She Was Right — May God Welcome Her Home](#)

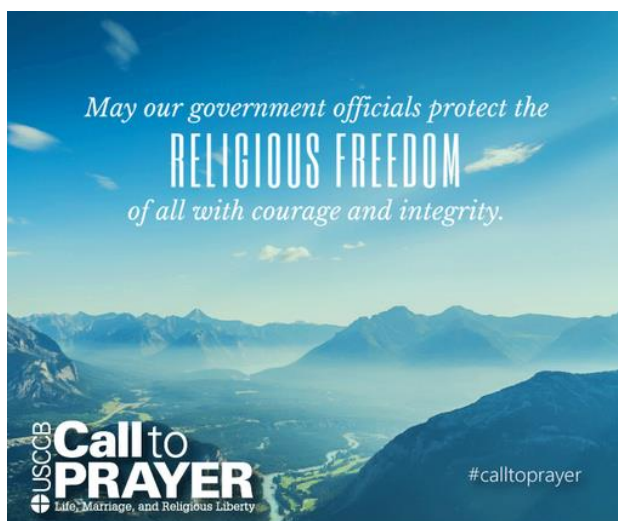
[MSU Settles Lawsuit With Student Who Refused to Counsel Gay Couples](#)

[EU Says the Priorities of Women Workers are Access to Abortion, and LGBT Rights](#)

[Cardinal Dolan and Archbishop Lori to Congress: Support the Conscience Protection Act of 2017](#)

[Battle Begins to Defund Planned Parenthood](#)

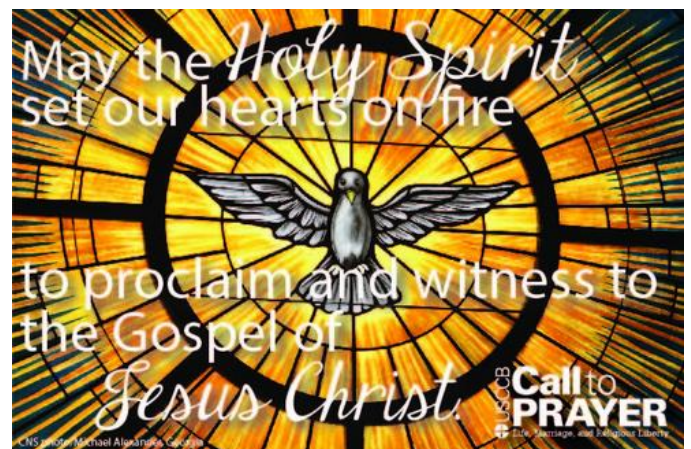
[LGBT activist admits they want to force Ohio churches to host gay 'weddings'](#)



## QUOTES OF THE MONTH

“I have never heard the ‘pro-choice’ argument made about genocide or rape or slavery or racism. Why? Obviously because everyone knows these to be evils so great and so clear that no civilized society should legalize them. Most people, even ‘pro-choicers’ on abortion, would admit that they are not “pro-choice” on slavery, for instance. But that means admitting that it is possible to have clear and certain knowledge about the goodness or evil of some human acts, at least, if not about abortion. From that admission, it is fairly easy to argue that it is also possible to have clear and certain knowledge about the evil of abortion. For this reason, some of the most philosophically sophisticated pro-choicers are reluctant to admit the principle that it is possible to have clear and certain knowledge, objective and rational knowledge, about the goodness or evil of any human act. They tend to be moral relativists or subjectivists.” Taken from **Three Approaches to Abortion** by Peter Kreeft, Ignatius Press, 2002.

“We must never again allow that beautiful term “compassion” to become a blinding light, in whose name totalitarians seize power for “the people,” and then practice the utmost cruelty. Abortion, for instance, the daily use of scissors to slice spinal cords and other medical tools to crush little skulls—this is compassion for women? It is a ruse to cover this with the name “choice.” The question is: What is the choice, and how much do you want to look at it with your own eyes, in order to take full responsibility for it?” Taken from **Social Justice Isn't What You Think It Is** by Michael Novak and Paul Adams with Elizabeth Shaw, Encounter Books, 2015.



VIDEO PICKS OF THE MONTH

Check out this pro-life [video](#) from the March for Life in Washington, D. C.:



The Archdiocese of New Orleans has produced a Human Trafficking Awareness [video](#). It is well produced and provides important information. Please take a few moments to view this video.



Check out this short [video](#) from the USCCB and join other Catholics in the renewal!

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Prayer to St. Josephine Bakhita

St. Josephine Bakhita, you were sold into slavery as a child and endured untold hardship and suffering. Once liberated from your physical enslavement, you found true redemption in your encounter with Christ and his Church.

O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery; Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free.

Provide comfort to survivors of slavery and let them look to you as an example of hope and faith. Help all survivors find healing from their wounds. We ask for your prayers and intercessions for those enslaved among us.

Amen.

