



Culturae Vitae

May 2017

Volume 4 Number 5

<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 this newsletter to make presentations 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 help you. All of these materials are free of charge except for the shipping. A list of materials can be found on-line. Use this [new link](#)!

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. Use this [new link](#)!

The Supreme web site provides an 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. 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

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 \$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.



BOSSIER ABORTION FACILITY IS CLOSED!

Ben Clapper, Executive Director for Louisiana
Right to Life

Good news!

The Bossier City Medical Suite, an abortion facility in Bossier City, has permanently closed its doors ([CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)). There is now one less facility in Louisiana destroying the lives of innocent unborn babies!

This abortion facility has been open for many years, likely into the 1980s. From just 2006 to 2015, this facility sold 7,482 abortions. We mourn for these lives that will never enjoy life in Louisiana.

Moving forward, we rejoice that this facility will no longer be in the business of abortion.

We recognize the tireless effort of many sidewalk counselors and prayer leaders, including those with 40 Days for Life Shreveport/Bossier. This closure

happened just days before the end of the spring 40 Days for Life campaign!

As the pro-life community, we must continue providing help to mothers and babies, both before and after birth. We must also keep a peaceful presence at these facilities, offering hope even in the most difficult places. We must never give up!

We look forward to a day when all babies are protected by law and welcomed with joy!



PREGNANCY CARE CENTER

Louisiana Right to Life

We are excited to see that the Cenla Pregnancy Center is taking one more step toward opening its doors to help mothers and babies in Alexandria and beyond! Articles of incorporation were signed last week for the center, which plans to open later this year. The idea for the center began with Rev. Brian Gunter of First Baptist Church, and has spread to include hundreds of church, business leaders, and other pro-life advocates in the region. Click [here](#) to read more in The Baptist Message.



HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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

We continue to assist a local safe house, the Free Indeed Home, where girls ages 12-17 who have been sex trafficked can come for healing.

If you or your group would like to participate in the collection of much-needed items, please contact the Respect Life Office at respectlife@arch-no.org to facilitate this. No drop-offs can be accepted.

The following items are needed:

- Cash or gift cards for grocery/big box stores
- Canned vegetables, flour, sugar, corn meal, seasoning, cooking oil, pasta, rice, cereals, canned meats, boxed cake mix, pudding
- Paper towel, toilet paper, paper napkins
- Comet Cleanser, Clorox Clean-up, dish detergent, disinfectant spray, multi-surface cleaner, baking soda, floor wax for hardwood floors, laundry detergent
- Feminine products
- Board games, puzzles, craft items
- Copy paper (cheapest kind), pens, pencils, crayons, color pencils, markers, dry eraser markers, loose leaf paper, notebooks, binders, printer ink for an HP 950 and 951, batteries (all sizes, primarily AA and AAA).

PARTY WITH A PURPOSE

Natasia Kissinger, Footprints for Life

"Party with a Purpose" - I wanted to let you know about some themed Pro-Life Parties that you may be interested in celebrating with your children. Some ideas can be found [here](#). I am also available to help with these if needed. These are great ways to also get parents involved and raise money for a respect life organization.

Party with a Purpose

LIFE ISSUES FORUM:PRO-WOMAN IS PRO-LIFE

By Kimberly Baker with the USCCB

Recent cultural conversations on the importance of women's advancement have increasingly included abortion access, perpetuating a tragic assumption that 'pro-woman' and 'pro-life' are diametrically opposed viewpoints. This belief ignores the full reality of the beauty and dignity of all human life. To be pro-woman is to be pro-life; one cannot exist without the other.

Abortion has negative outcomes for both a woman and her child, with the two-fold loss including both the destruction of the child's very life and the destruction of the mother's well-being. The aftermath of abortion for a woman often includes psychological traumatization, and sometimes physical harm. Far from promoting dignity and freedom, abortion promotes the lie that a woman must harm herself and her child in order to be free.

The idea that abortion empowers women is one of many lies in society that are, in reality, incredibly harmful to women. How many other areas in culture have women been told to endure pain and a "quick fix" for their own advancement, whether through the fashion industry, eating disorders, or cosmetic surgery? Abortion advocates perpetuate the myth that women must "jump through hoops" and do violence to themselves in order to preserve their equality and the freedom to advance in the world.

Many women have rightly rejected the myth that they must "jump through hoops" just to be acknowledged and valued as human beings. The authentic, pro-woman position demands a woman be loved and valued for her own sake, exactly as she is—not because she has compromised herself. Abortion is anti-woman because it attacks some of what is most true and beautiful within a woman. Abortion is the very antithesis to a woman's ability to nurture and bring forth new life.

Abortion advocates treat pregnancy like a problem or a disease. Pregnancy is not the problem; it's the lack of care for the woman—for her own dignity and life-giving ability—that's the problem. When society devalues motherhood and the ability to nurture life, making these things a source of shame

and inconvenience, it increases the likelihood of a woman feeling like she has no option other than to abort her own child.

We are called to love. A woman facing an unplanned pregnancy should never feel like she must face it alone. She needs to know that others truly care about her dignity and well-being, and that there is help through a variety of sources, especially from local diocesan resources like the Respect Life office, Catholic Charities office, or local pregnancy help centers and maternity homes. Both mother and child deserve experienced care and compassion; both deserve a future filled with hope.

As we bear witness to and build the culture of life, in what ways can we show support, both for mothers facing unplanned pregnancies and for all women and the unique challenges they face? Society often objectifies women and tells them they need to reject their procreative and nurturing abilities just to be equal to men and to feel respected. But there is much we can do, in our personal witness, to counter these lies. When we celebrate and support women in all their unique gifts and contributions—including their life-giving capacity—they will be encouraged to make life-affirming choices for both themselves and their children.

To be pro-woman is to be pro-life. If we want to change the cultural conversation, we must be a part of it.

Kimberly Baker is Programs and Projects Coordinator for the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. For more information on local help for any woman facing a difficult pregnancy, please visit www.heartbeatinternational.org. This article was reprinted with permission from the USCCB.



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF
CATHOLIC BISHOPS



MAGDALENE INSTITUTE

One of our Culture of Life Chair couples, Kevin and Mary Langlois from Council 12906 in Covington is involved in the Magdalene Institute.

The Magdalene Institute is a Catholic-inspired non-profit organization committed to sharing high-quality research and scholarship on the topic of abortion. The Magdalene Institute stands for the principle that since human life is a gift from God and begins at conception, procured abortion at any time during the human being's development is without exception a grave violation of the most important and fundamental human right, the right to life. Therefore, we oppose legalized abortion, without exceptions, from conception until birth. We cannot support incremental measures to limit abortion in some cases, since these, if enacted into law, permit abortion in other cases. When continuing a pregnancy verifiably endangers the life of the mother, we believe every effort must be made to spare both lives, but if the child dies during medical treatment, he or she deserves the same respect that any dying person should receive.

This organization is very active at the United Nations. To find out more, go to their [web site](http://www.mmagdaleneinstitute.org).



CULTURE OF LIFE MONTHLY REPORT

Michael & Catherine Abbate (Council 9623)

Council 9623 Culture of Life couple is leading a regular Pro-Life Rosary at the Adoration Chapel. On April 10th, Council Culture of Life Couple sent e-mail notes to defund Planned Parenthood Act of 2017 (HR-354) to President Donald Trump, US Representative Garret Graves, US Senators Bill Cassidy and John Kennedy. Also, the Council Culture for Life Couple led the Rosary everyday of the Month of April at either Place De Bourg Elderly Home in Laplace or Twin Oaks Nursing and Convalescent Home in Laplace or in the Adoration Chapel.

SOME GRADING FORM HIGHLIGHTS

Arline and I have completed the grading form process for the current fraternal year. Every year, we are so impressed with what individual councils are doing to build a Culture of Life. We also are happy to see a variety of activities that address the evil of abortion as well as other issues endangering human life. We thought it would be good to share just a few examples from this year's forms:

Knights from Council 1286 joined the Pro-Life Group at St. John the Evangelist Cathedral in Lafayette to distribute educational materials concerning pre-natal services and the importance of voting your Catholic conscious.

Council 1905 in Gretna sponsored a Culture of Life Night at the Council home with guest speaker Kathy Allen from Louisiana Right to Life Black Advocates for Life.

Council 4508 in Metairie held a Baby Bottle Campaign for Catholic Charities Access Program, raising \$4,266.

Council 5013 in Houma sponsored a pro-life living rosary with our religious education children. Attendees included 5th, 6th, 7th, & 8th graders, teachers, parents, along with 12 knights. It was a beautiful and prayerful afternoon. Everyone took part in praying the rosary. The council chair couple spoke to the participants about their part in being active as a pro-life teen. Everyone was given a candle, and rose to hold as they prayed the rosary.

After each child led their prayer, they placed the candle on the floor and then presented a rose to the Blessed Virgin Mary. After the rosary, the lights were dimmed to give them a chance to see the rosary illuminate the room and meditate with soft music playing in the background. One of the knights then talked with them about the role of the Knights of Columbus in the church and the pro-life movement.

Council 8770 in Maurice received a request from the St. Marquerite home that they were in need of household supplies due to an increase in expectant mothers. An email was sent to the council and the response was tremendous. A substantial load supplies from washing detergent to diapers was delivered. They also held a diaper drive at St. Alphonsus parish to support the babies of the Desormeaux foundation St. Marquerite home.

Council 8840 in Mathews had a pro-life Mass at St. Hilary Catholic Church. The council decorated a baby bassinette with pro-life material. Inside the bassinette were pink and blue rosaries and pro-life cards. The rosaries and cards were given out to remind the parishioners to pray for the unborn.

Council 12989 in Lacombe distributed flyers providing the Presidential candidates position on the life issues. They also had a "Vote Pro-Life" banner surrounded by wooden crosses placed in the front of the church property.

Council 13819 in Houma conducted a pro-life baby shower in the month of October to benefit Hope Restored for Life Crisis Pregnancy Center. A crib was setup in the church lobby to collect toys, diapers, formula, clothes, etc. for the center's supply closet that gives new mothers supplies to get started.



HELP NEEDED TO GET ULTRASOUND FOR WOMAN'S NEW LIFE CENTER

The Woman's New Life Center is located directly adjacent to the Abortion Mill in Baton Rouge. The ability to show pregnant women their child in the womb has a huge influence on their decision to not have an abortion. Therefore, this is a critical part of their pro-life work.

However, their current ultrasound machine does not provide a clear image of a baby's heart (and the ability to show a heartbeat). Also, the vaginal probe is non-diagnostic, so it does not provide accurate measurements of the embryo. This makes it hard to determine stage of pregnancy. Furthermore, it is unable to see the uterine wall and cervix to confirm an intrauterine pregnancy. Training users without a sonography background is challenging on these machines. In summary, the machine is so outdated that they are unable to provide clients with clear and accurate pictures of the baby and measurements to determine stage of pregnancy.

They are looking for a council (or councils) to participate in the Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Initiative, and purchase a new ultrasound machine for the Woman's New Life Center.

If your council is willing to accept the challenge, please contact:

Donna Ashcraft
Chief Development Officer
225-218-4862 office
225-802-9234 cell
dashcraft@womansnewlife.com

Contact State Culture of Life Director Sam Mistretta (smistretta2@cox.net or 225-975-1501) to learn more about how your council can help.



MEN FOR MARY'S HOUSE RAFFLE

For the last 10 years, there have been over 70 abortions each week at the Shreveport and Bossier City abortion centers. Every week! Recently it was announced that the Bossier abortion facility has closed. Now there are only three abortion centers left in the state: Shreveport, Baton Rouge and New Orleans. Shreveport is the closest abortion facility for all of North Louisiana from Alexandria north, East Texas and South Arkansas. Wouldn't it be wonderful to end abortion in Shreveport? We can do that!

[Mary's House](#) offers alternatives to abortion to women with unintended pregnancies. We offer free peer counseling, free pregnancy tests and free ultrasounds to women who think they have no other option but abortion or who are just afraid and don't know what to do. We help them TAKE TIME. Research shows that 77% of the time when women thinking of abortion see an ultrasound of their baby, they choose life.

Alas, every good thing needs money to run though. That's why we are having a Men for Mary's House Raffle. I have met so many men who are pro-life, and ask how they can help. This is one way. Raising funds, winning prizes and spreading the word about Mary's House Pregnancy Care Center - three ways men can show they are pro-life - MEN FOR MARY'S HOUSE!

THE DETAILS:

1. Tickets are loose (no books of tickets), so you can buy one at a time or hundreds. We will sell tickets until October 25, but being eligible for all 6 drawings is ideal.
2. When purchased from us, we can mail the ticket number to the purchaser and keep the ticket stub with their name for the drawing. When purchased from a "distributor," the distributor sends the ticket stubs to Mary's House for the drawings.
3. A purchaser is entered in every drawing unless he wins; then that winning ticket is withdrawn from the following drawings.
4. Tickets are \$20 per ticket.

PRIZES:

June 1st – 65 Qt. Yeti Cooler

July 1st – 4 Cowboy Football Tickets

August 1st – 4 Saints Football Tickets

September 1st – 4 LSU Football Tickets

October 1st – Big Green Egg - Mini

November 1st – Cajun Fryer and Stand

I appreciate all and any help you would be able to give Mary's House with its Raffle. Focused intensity, persevering by God's grace, we will end abortion in Shreveport.

Thank you,
L'Anne Sciba
Mary's House of Louisiana, Inc.
maryshouse.sport@gmail.com

POO-DAT DIAPER DRIVE

The Poo-Dat Diaper Drive was organized by Louisiana Right to Life from April 19th through April 25th. Donated diapers were dropped off at the Louisiana Right to Life headquarters (200 Robert E. Lee Blvd.) and the Robert's Fresh Market (135 Robert E. Lee Blvd) in New Orleans. It was certainly a successful event. The drive collected a grand total of 13,379 diapers over a 7 day period!

[Access Pregnancy Center](#) and Catholic Charities of New Orleans have a full diaper room thanks to the Poo-Dat Diaper Drive! Access distributes 10,000 diapers every month! You can call them at 504-832-1503 to donate more diapers.



PRO-LIFE CORNER

Don and Dee Caskey (Council 1905)

Brother Knights and Ladies,

On the weekend of March 25-26th, we kicked off another season of Baby Bottle Campaigns at St. Anthony in Gretna. They only have two weekend masses and just over a hundred people attended, but they have the heart and power of the largest army in history. I am so proud to be able to say that we have broken bread together because they have donated to-date \$1,125 in cash and checks with a substantial amount of uncounted change. I thank you and Access Pregnancy Center also thanks you.

We started the second phase at St. Joseph in Gretna on the weekend of April 29-30th in conjunction with our quarterly Mass. We attended the Vigil and the 9:30 AM Sunday mass. As of yet, we have no returns, but I am quite confident that the parishioners of St. Joseph are just as generous.

We will have a short rest and then resume our Baby Bottle campaigns at St. Martha in Harvey on June 17-18th during the Father's Day weekend Masses.

The Woman's New Life Center's "Born to Run, New Orleans" 5K Fun Run/Walk was a stunning success. The Knights of Columbus were there in strength and armed with various culinary talents. I believe that I have all the Councils that participated. John Billiot #2732 of Slidell donated bottled water, #5663 Cudovicom Council Red Beans and Rice, St. Dominic's council Breakfast Casserole (YUMMY), #13425 St. Matthew in River Ridge Jambalaya, and still yet another fantastic Jambalaya from #9007 Bishop Caillouet Council, St Rita's Council #3854 donated Pulled Pork and Coleslaw.

We donated four kegs of homemade root beer (Secret recipe of modified Zatarain's) and mixed it with four tubs of hand packed ice cream from The New Orleans Ice Cream Company (2 French Vanilla and 2 Creole Cream Cheese). All the other booths were as busy as we were. We gave out over four hundred root beer/ice cream floats.

I want to thank WGK Rory Cadres, and Brothers Robert Rau, Chuck Lachney and Roy LeBlanc for turning out early and working so hard. Chuck's son

Sage Lachney, one of our Squires, ran in the event and still had time to help out in our booth.

Yours in Christ,
Don and Dee Caskey



UPCOMING EVENTS

CONVENTION HELP WANTED

A Baby Shower Collection Drive will be held at the Louisiana Knights of Columbus State Convention in Baton Rouge from May 5th through May 7th. We are asking councils to hold a collection drive in your church parish or purchase items individually or as a council. Please bring your collected items to the Convention and drop them off at the Culture of Life table when you check in.

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

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

The collected items will be distributed to the Baton Rouge area crisis pregnancy centers. Please contact Sam and Arline Mistretta at 769-2433 or email: smistretta2@cox.net if you can help with this part of the effort.



MOTHER-DAUGHTER PROGRAM

Growing Up Gracefully, a Mother-Daughter Program for young ladies in the 8th through 12th grade and their mothers will be held on May 2, 2017 from 6 to 8 PM at the Westerfield Conference Center on Catholic Life Center campus located at 1800 S. Acadian Thrwy in Baton Rouge.

Parents are the primary educators of their children. Mothers have a unique responsibility to teach and guide their daughters as they make the journey from little girl to young woman. The goal of this program is to give moms the tools they need to help their daughters not only survive the journey but become the women God created them to be-fully alive and full of grace!

Topics include:

- Your period and your body: what's normal and what's not? When should you see a doctor?
- The Birth Control Pill-is it really the best option?
- Making good decisions regarding the gift of sexuality
- Dating and healthy relationships-living the virtue of chastity
- The feminine genius-the great power and responsibility of being a woman
- Anonymous Q&A session

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

Attire: Sunday Dress Please

Cost is \$25.00 for Mother and One Daughter (non-refundable); please add \$5 for each additional daughter attending. Space is limited. Make your reservation today.

You can sign-up on-line using this [link](#).



PRO-LIFE DAY AT THE CAPITOL

May 11th will be a day of pro-life activities in Baton Rouge, and we hope you will make plans to join us!

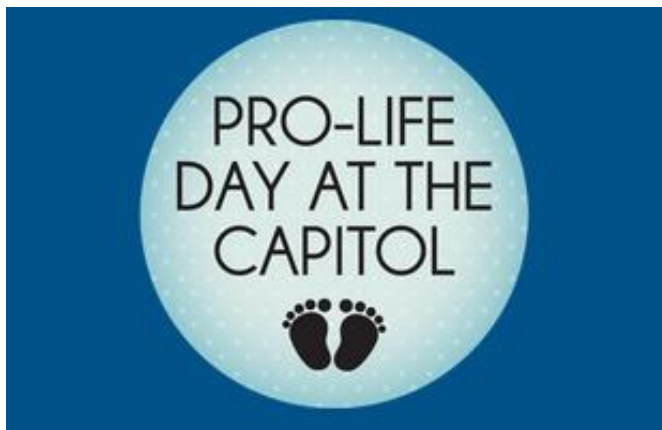
The day will begin with Pro-Life Day at the Capitol. Details are not available yet, but we urge you to mark your calendar and plan to spend time with us as well as your legislators talking about pro-life issues in Louisiana.

Then we hope you will stay and join us at the fifth annual Bowties for Babies: A Southern Style Soiree Benefiting Life. The event will be held that evening at the Capitol Park Museum, located right across the street from the state Capitol.

The soiree, being chaired this year by Charlie and Ellen Davis and Jeff and Bridget Dunbar, will feature live music, good food, and a silent auction. All proceeds benefit Louisiana Right to Life's Advertise for Life project, which uses online advertising to connect abortion-minded women and men to one of the state's pregnancy resource centers that can help them choose life.

Please consider becoming an event patron. You can get more information on the event and sign up to be a patron or buy event tickets by clicking this [link](#).

We hope to see you in Baton Rouge on May 11 advocating for women and their unborn babies!



BOWTIES FOR BABIES

On Thursday, May 11th, 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 by New Orleans jazz by Bean 'N' the Boys, delicious food, a silent auction, presentation of the 2017 Leadership for Life Awards 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 for Young Professional (18-26), \$75 for Adult and \$125 Couple. Use this [link](#) for tickets.



CHAMPIONS FOR LIFE

SAVE THE DATE! On Saturday, June 10th, there will be a 2-mile walk and 5K run to raise money for the Ark-La-Tex Crisis Pregnancy Center in Shreveport. Go to: www.GiveThemOptions.com for more information.

JAZZED FOR LIFE!

Jazzed for Life! Respect Life Coordinators' & Volunteers' Day will take place Saturday, September 9, 2016 from 9am - 1pm.

The event will provide information on Respect Life Sunday, Respect Life Week in the schools, and other Respect Life events throughout the year. It includes prayer, spiritual reflection, speakers, and opportunities for networking with each other and with other local organizations. Food is included!

This is sponsored by the Respect Life Office & hosted by University of Holy Cross in New Orleans

ALL parish Respect Life Coordinators AND their committees are invited!

For more information, contact Debbie Shinskie at respectlife@arch-no.org or go to this [web site](#).

PULSE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

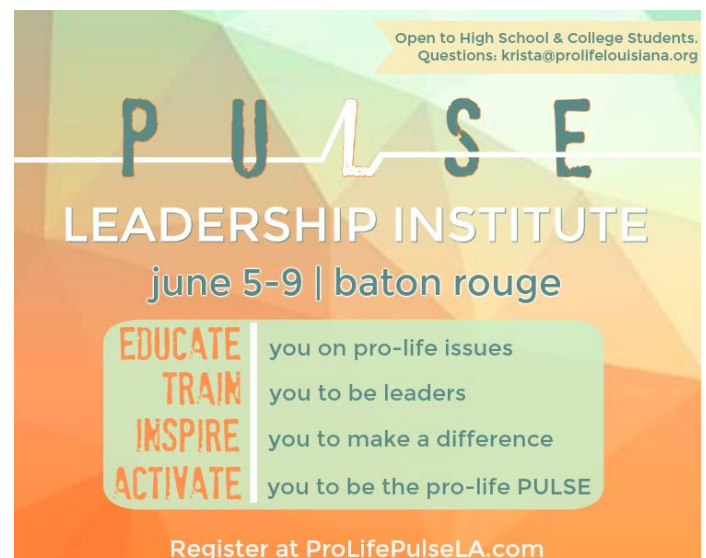
The PULSE Leadership Institute will be held on June 5 - 9, 2017. Click [here](#) to visit and apply for the PULSE Leadership Institute

The PULSE Leadership Institute (PLI) is an exciting opportunity for high school students and entering college freshmen to experience the pro-life movement in a way never before done! PLI is a weeklong program designed to equip you with education on ALL life issues and give you the chance to dialogue with new friends and some of the top pro-life leaders of the nation!

PLI is very action oriented. You will not only participate in exciting workshops, but also traveling to various destinations for special "feet-work" sessions. There will be field trips to Laser Tag, the Capitol, and Women's New Life Center.

We will have plenty of fun throughout the week, whether it is the famous CoffeeHouse, indoor rock climbing at LSU, skits, interactive games, and free time to hang out with friends. Also at PLI, you will receive intensive training on starting and maintaining pro-life student groups. Learning to be a pro-life student activist is the focus of PLI. We want YOU to shape your community and our world!

Contact Alex Seghers at alex@prolifelouisiana.org or Krista Corbello at krista@prolifelouisiana.org or call 1-866-463-5433 for more information.



NOLA MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Black Advocates for Life Men's Breakfast will take place on Saturday, May 13th from 8:30 to 10:00 AM at Bayou Breakfast located at 3111 Grand Rte Saint John St., New Orleans. The event is free. Come to be inspired to be a man full of life for life!

Please RSVP using this [link](#).

LRTL CRAWFISH BOIL

Want to learn more about pro-life activities in Acadiana and upcoming PULSE events for youth? Do you like crawfish? Then you don't want to miss this pro-life crawfish boil, set for Saturday, May 27, from noon to 4 p.m. at Girard Park in Lafayette! Tickets are \$3 in advance and \$5 at the gate. Click [here](#) to purchase tickets.

EDUCATION CORNERHUMAN 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>.



METANOIA IN LOUISIANA

Human trafficking is not just an issue in foreign countries. It's a real issue across America and, now, throughout our own State.

According to national statistics, one of the busiest trafficking corridors stretches from Houston to New Orleans. The victims ultimately reach virtually every corner of Louisiana. The average age of a trafficking victim is 13.

These children come from every walk of life – some abducted, others lured by traffickers. They are then transported to other states where they are forced to perform sexual acts, sometimes as often as 20 times a day. The impact on trafficked children is devastating.

The victims of human trafficking are nothing more than income-producing property for their handlers. They have each been robbed of their childhood. There is no joy in their lives.

Fr. Jeff Bayhi is leading an effort to provide a secure home for trafficking victims to recover from their ordeal (see this recent [news story](#)). They need your support! Go to their [web site](#) to find out how you and your council can help.

INTERNET ARTICLES OF INTEREST

[Reading Amoris Laetitia in Light of Trent](#)

[A little less Canada](#)

[The Priesthood of the Transgendered](#)

[Culture Of Life 101 . . . The Eugenics Philosophy](#)

[Analysis Shows Only a Tiny Number of UN Member States Preoccupied with Homosexuality](#)

[Infant Mortality in the U.S. Falls to Lowest Levels Ever](#)

[Senate overturns Obama rule forcing states to fund Planned Parenthood](#)
[Want to stop Planned Parenthood? Do these 10 things](#)

[Trump administration halts funding for UN Population Fund, which aided 'coercive population control' programs](#)

[Ben Shapiro destroys case for abortion after rape: the 'morality of abortion does not change'](#)

[Abortionist: Was baby born alive? It depends 'who's in the room'](#)

[Google 'review teams' to flag 'upsetting' search results about 'sexual orientation'](#)

[Pope's emissary slams UN population control efforts](#)

[Healing the Wounds That Cause Homosexuality](#)

[Outing Christian Bigots In Australia](#)

[United States Ends Funding for United Nations Population Fund](#)

[A new civil rights ruling may create religious liberty problems](#)

[Part I: Treading the Uneven Terrain of 'Gay Ministry' in the Church](#)

[The Real Nature of Catholic Reparative Therapy](#)

[Pro-lifers Celebrate Huge Win at UN Commission](#)

[This baby's life support can be pulled without parental consent, UK judge rules](#)

[Surveying Sex, Denying Childhood](#)

[German family continues to fight for right to homeschool](#)

[Arkansas Bans Sex-Selective Abortions](#)

[New Ways Ministry's "Fr. James Martin Effect"](#)

[Trauma Associated with Do-it-yourself Abortions](#)

[Porn leaves men dissatisfied with real relationships, study finds](#)

[Doctors harvesting organs from Canadian patients who underwent medically assisted death](#)

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

[What Does Cloning Have to Do With Stem Cell Research?](#)

[Our children are under assault](#)

[This country banned abortion and now, abortion promoters can't believe their eyes!](#)

[While Admitting Risks, WHO Continues to Recommend Injectable Contraceptives for Women at High Risk of Contracting HIV](#)

[New video: Abortion activist nearly runs over priest after stealing pro-life signs](#)

[LGBT values will be pushed on two-year-olds in UK preschools](#)

[Iowa legislature passes bill banning abortions after 20 weeks](#)

[How to Accompany Catholics With Same-Sex Attractions](#)

[The WHO Says Abortion is Family Planning](#)

[Chicago cardinal praises governor for pledging to veto abortion bill](#)

[University meets harsh criticism for Plan B in vending machine](#)

[Is America Running Out of Elbow Room?](#)

[Melinda Gates: Contraception is 'one of the best' ways to fight poverty](#)

[BREAKING: Abortion center closed!](#)

VIDEO PICKS OF THE MONTH

On Marcy 29, 2017, David Daleiden released a new undercover video showing former Planned Parenthood abortionist Dr. DeShawn Taylor, joking about needing to go to the gym in order to strengthen her biceps so she can kill unborn children. Watch the [video](#)!



FMOLU Bioethics Lecture Series now available on YouTube! Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University Bioethics Lecture series has hosted great speakers so far. You can check out the most recent [talk](#) from Dr. Maureen Condic on **When Does Human Life Begin?** This is not to be missed!



QUOTES OF THE MONTH

“Two overarching statements which will help to summarize the conclusions of the Roman Catholic Tradition on many of the [bioethics] issues to be discussed are these: even with the best of intentions, persons may never be used as a means to an end; their dignity requires this prohibition; second, human beings are stewards of their lives and of all Creation, not masters.”

Taken from **The Essential Moral Handbook** by Kevin J. O’Neil, C.Ss.r. & Peter Black, C.Ss.R..

“Special attention must be given to evaluating the morality of prenatal diagnostic techniques which enable the early detection of possible anomalies in the unborn child. In view of the complexity of these techniques, an accurate and systematic moral judgment is necessary. When they do not involve disproportionate risks for the child and the mother, and are meant to make possible early therapy or even to favour a serene and informed acceptance of the child not yet born, these techniques are morally licit. But since the possibilities of prenatal therapy are today still limited, it not infrequently happens that these techniques are used with a eugenic intention which accepts selective abortion in order to prevent the birth of children affected by various types of anomalies. Such an attitude is shameful and utterly reprehensible, since it presumes to measure the value of a human life only within the parameters of "normality" and physical well-being, thus opening the way to legitimizing infanticide and euthanasia as well.”

Taken from Pope John Paul II’s encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*.

“Scandal is an attitude or behavior which leads another to do evil. The person who gives scandal becomes his neighbor's tempter. He damages virtue and integrity; he may even draw his brother into spiritual death. Scandal is a grave offense if by deed or omission another is deliberately led into a grave offense.

Scandal takes on a particular gravity by reason of the authority of those who cause it or the weakness of those who are scandalized. It prompted our Lord to utter this curse: ‘Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened round his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.’ Scandal is grave when given by those who by nature or office are obliged to teach and educate others. Jesus reproaches the scribes and Pharisees on this account: he likens them to wolves in sheep's clothing.” (CCC 2284 and 2285)

PRAYER OF THE MONTH**Prayer for those struggling with Infertility**

Mother of Christ, you were graced by God with the privilege of bearing our Divine Savior. You experienced the joys and challenges of being a parent. Your life was blessed with seeing Jesus grow from infancy and childhood, into his adult years of teaching a ministry.

With St. Joseph, you created a home for your family to love and share together. Please intercede before the God of all life, that those struggling with infertility may conceive a baby and raise healthy children, with whom they can share the Lord’s good gifts. May their children honor them and You by lives of virtue and caring for others. May their home be holy and their family be blessed with health, happiness and abiding love. And for those for whom conceiving a child is not possible may their love for each other be fruitful. Help them not to become bitter when they encounter others who devalue life. May those who cannot give birth to a child see other ways in which they can give life to others.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Source: [Fertility Friends](#)

