



## Culturae Vitae

July 2017

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

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

### PRELIMINARIES

#### COUNCIL CULTURE OF LIFE CHAIR COUPLES WANTED!

We want to encourage each council in the state to name a chair couple and allow them to contribute to the council's activities. If you have not done so, please send us the contact information for your council chair couple. A form has been created to facilitate this and it can be found on the State KC web site:

<http://www.louisianakc.org/programs/cultureoflife/>

Please send the filled-out form to us by mail or email at [smistretta2@cox.net](mailto:smistretta2@cox.net).

#### KCLS CULTURE OF LIFE PRESENTATIONS

Were you unable to attend KCLS? If not, then you can view PowerPoint presentations given by the State Culture of Life Chair Couple. They are available on the state KC web site:

<http://www.louisianakc.org/programs/cultureoflife/>

The 2014 presentation provides an overview of the main Culture of Life issues. The 2015 presentation provides specific guidance on the activity grading form. The 2016 presentation provides updated information, and it covers new topics.

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

### WHAT IS A CULTURE OF LIFE?

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

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

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

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

We want this monthly newsletter to be an opportunity for councils to share the good work that they are doing to build a Culture of Life. Please send 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 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](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. 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](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. 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](mailto:heartfore@bellsouth.net).



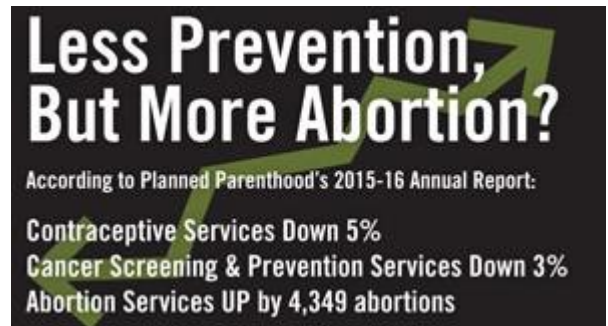
### PLANNED PARENTHOOD'S ABORTION NUMBERS RISE

Louisiana Right to Life

*Planned Parenthood Report Shows Abortion Up,  
Revenue at Highest Recorded Level*

Planned Parenthood's [2015-16 annual report](#) is finally out and shows the nation's largest abortion provider saw fewer patients but performed more abortions than a year earlier. Revenues, including taxpayer funding, are also up from fiscal year 2014-15, while non-abortion services, such as cancer screenings, declined.

Abortion numbers have been declining nationwide in recent years, but at Planned Parenthood, those numbers are back up. In 2015-16 Planned Parenthood performed 328,348 abortions, up from 323,999 abortions a year earlier.



*Is this what is in store for Louisiana if Planned Parenthood is able to get approval to do abortions at its New Orleans location?*

Planned Parenthood affiliates reported seeing 2.4 million patients in 2015-16, while they saw 2.5 million in 2014-15. The organization received \$554.6 million in taxpayer funding in 2015-16, up from \$553.7 million a year earlier. Planned Parenthood's total revenue for 2015-16 was \$1,354 million, up from \$1,296.1 million in 2014-15 and the highest the group has ever recorded.

In 2015-16, PP performed  
**328,348**  
abortions nationally.

The population of

Orleans Parish - 343,829

East Baton Rouge Parish - 440,171

Bossier and Caddo Parishes - 371,948



At the same time abortion and revenue was on the rise:

- Prenatal services dropped from 17,419 in 2014-15 to 9,419 just one year later.
- Cancer screening and prevention services dropped from 682,208 in 2014-15 to 665,234 just one year later.
- Contraception services dropped from 2,945,059 in 2014-15 to 2,808,815 just a year later.



While adoption referrals increased in 2015-16 (from 2,024 to 2,889), they accounted for just 0.8% of Planned Parenthood's pregnancy services. Prenatal care accounted for just 3% of the pregnancy services provided, while abortion accounted for 96%.

[The Susan B. Anthony List](#) compared Planned Parenthood's annual reports for the past five years (2011-2016) and found:

- Planned Parenthood's total services are down nearly 13%.
- Unique patients have dropped by 600,000 - a 20% decline.
- Total cancer screening and prevention services, breast exams, and pap tests all dropped by nearly 50%.
- Contraceptive services are down 18%.
- Planned Parenthood performed approximately 145 abortions (1,641,130) for every one adoption referral (11,290)

### VICTORY CELEBRATED!

Louisiana Right to Life

#### *Victory Celebration is Last Event at Bossier Address*

About 50 people gathered under the hot sun Saturday to celebrate the closure of the Bossier City Medical Suite, one of two abortion facilities in North Louisiana.

The celebration was organized by the Shreveport-Bossier 40 Days for Life group. Chris Davis, who leads the Shreveport-Bossier group, called it the "Last Event Ever" they would hold on the sidewalk in front of the facility at 1505 Doctors Drive, where sidewalk counselors and prayer warriors have been a fixture for many years.

"The closing of the abortion facility in Bossier is without a doubt the greatest thing to happen to the Shreveport-Bossier pro-life community ever!" Davis said. "Tremendous gratitude goes out to everyone who has taken part in this effort in every way. Special thanks go out to all of the sidewalk ministries and pregnancy resource centers throughout our area.

"Our PRCs now outnumber abortion facilities at least four to one. When combined with all of the pro-life groups in our area, we outnumber them a dozen or more to one!"

40 Days for Life President Shawn Carney and Lauren Muzyka, executive director of Sidewalk Advocates for Life, spoke at the celebration.



### ULTRASOUND MACHINE NEEDED IN NORTH BATON ROUGE

John Hauler (Council 9016)

Barbara Thomas, Director of the North Baton Rouge [Women's Help Center](#), sent a message to me asking for help in obtaining a new ultrasound machine.

The one that they have is outdated, and she says the company will only service it for the next year or so. I know one council by itself cannot afford to do this, but I am putting out a call for help.

If your council would like to obtain an ultrasound machine for this center through the Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Initiative, then please contact John Hauler at [jehauler@yahoo.com](mailto:jehauler@yahoo.com) or call 504-812-8753.



### 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](mailto: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).

### REQUEST FOR HELP TO END ABORTION

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

This is a **request from Archbishop Aymond**: With the recent closures of facilities in Bossier City and Metairie, there are three remaining abortion clinics operating in the state of Louisiana, one within the city of New Orleans — Woman's Health Care Center on General Pershing Street. On any Tuesday through Friday mornings, there are upwards of 25 women waiting in line to enter the clinic, while there may be at most only one sidewalk counselor present to offer support.

If you are interested in becoming a sidewalk counselor at the General Pershing Street abortion facility, please contact the Archdiocesan Respect Life Office at 504-286-1119 or [respectlife@arch-no.org](mailto:respectlife@arch-no.org). The need is urgent; training and ongoing support will be provided.

If you feel called to help in any way with these great needs, we have help for you to get started:

This is a note from Wilson, veteran sidewalk counselor who is at General Pershing most weekdays: "Like I have done in the past at Ridgelake, if anyone wishes to go out to the General Pershing mill at anytime after we leave to pray, witness, or whatever on a regular schedule, I will be glad to come out & help them 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 Delta 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, the machine is outdated and it is unable to provide clients with clear and accurate pictures of the baby.

Council 8147 in Gonzales (GK Ralph Roger) will participate in the Ultrasound Initiative to obtain the ultrasound machine. They are looking for additional councils to pledge \$1,000 or more to help raise the required amount of money. Their goal is to raise, \$20,000.

If your council is willing to accept the challenge, please contact your State Culture of Life Director Sam Mistretta ([smistretta2@cox.net](mailto:smistretta2@cox.net) or 225-975-1501). Thank you for your support!



### 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](mailto:maryshouse.sport@gmail.com)



### REQUEST FROM THE DESORMEAUX FOUNDATION

Trista Littell, Diocese of Lafayette

The Desormeaux Foundation has seen and consulted with 15 abortion seeking clients, 21 non-abortion clients, and conducted 18 ultrasounds since May 1st.

They are in need of the following baby items for a client who was seeking an abortion and decided to choose life for her baby:

1. Mini Crib
2. Mini Sheets
3. Car Seat with Stroller
4. Baby Bottles
5. Baby Clothes
6. Any Baby Essentials

The DesOrmeaux Foundation also wants to offer Theology of the Body classes at their new building located at 1334 Jefferson St. in Lafayette and are in need of the following to facilitate Theology of the Body classes as well as Baby and Me classes:

Flat Screen Smart TV (40"- 48") Max size 52" (Suggested brands: Samsung, Vizio, Sony etc.) with multiple inputs: Composite, S, HDMI 1, HDMI 2, and Cable.

The Baby and Me Boutique is in need of items listed below to fill "vouchers" for their clients:

- Diapers - sizes newborn, 4, 5, and 6
- Bibs
- Socks
- Wipes
- Receiving blankets

General Housekeeping items are also needed:

- Clorox wipes
- 33 gallon black trash bags

The Desormeaux Foundation is located at 1331 Jefferson Street; Lafayette, LA 70501. The phone number is 337.289.9366.

Please keep them all in your prayers.

May God reward you!

### CULTURE OF LIFE MONTHLY REPORT Michael & Catherine Abbate (Council 9623)

In June, Council 9623 Culture of Life chair couple sent e-mails to State Representatives and Senators about the new Federal Health Care law. They also sent an e-mail to the CEO of Target asking him to stop the bathroom madness: men should use the Men's room and women use Women's bathroom.

At all of the masses on the weekend of June 3<sup>rd</sup>, the council Culture of Life chair couple collected needed items for a New Orleans safe house for young women who are victims of human trafficking. The items included canned foods, toiletries, clothes, and toilet paper. These items were delivered to the Safe House on Wednesday June 7, 2017 by the chair couple.

Council Culture for Life Couple also sponsored four young people so that they could attend the Louisiana Right to Life's PULSE pro-life camp in Baton Rouge.

Later in the month, the chair couple participated in the peaceful, prayerful walk at the Women's Health Care Center at 2701 General Pershing Street in New Orleans.

### PRO-LIFE CORNER

Don and Dee Caskey (Council 1905)

Brother Knights and Ladies,

Baby Boomers (us old folks) will remember an old Cher song "The Beat Goes On" or there is a classic story "The Never Ending Story." They both may be used to illustrate the way that the Baby Bottles from our campaigns actually make their way home.

Last week I received one from the St. Anthony Catholic Church in Gretna. That drive was rolled out on March 25-26<sup>th</sup>, and there has still been a trickle from St. Joseph Catholic Church in Gretna. This is great. The wonderful people at Access Pregnancy center are very grateful for every cent donated. The only problem is that it is difficult to credit the proper church. Speaking of which, St. Joseph is close to or may have even passed the \$700 mark. YEA!

On Father's day weekend, we kicked off the Access Pregnancy center's Baby Bottle Campaign at St. Martha Catholic Church in Harvey, and the people were quite eager to participate in this event. Brother Knights Robert Rau and Vincent Solideo helped me man the exits, and we were very busy.

I still do not have the date for the fourth and final church of our 2017 combined Access Pregnancy Center Baby Bottle Campaign, that being my home church Infant Jesus of Prague Catholic Church in Harvey. Both Harvey churches held a month long "Baby Shower" in January, and I needed to make several trips when delivering the supplies. That is the reason that they are last for this campaign.

Some of the people have asked "what are we doing next?" That is what helps fuel my passion to serve the most defenseless of all people.

I am now asking my fellow (I hope that is gender neutral) Culture of Life Couples that have active programs to talk with their District Deputies and see if they can mentor the other councils in their home district.

Jesus said that faith, even as small as a mustard seed can move mountains. Use that faith to apply a little work and coaching to a council that needs help, and we can eliminate this evil that is consuming our country. Do not overlook the wonderful resource that we have in our Ladies Auxiliaries and older Squires/ Squire Rose.

Yours in Christ,  
Don and Dee Caskey

### RELATIVISM AND THE CULTURE OF DEATH

Vaughn Gibson (Knights of Columbus)

We live in a world of relativism. In other words, many people today think it does not matter what others are doing: They say: "I'll do what I want and they can do what they want as long as it does not bother me." This is a very dangerous way of thinking and without getting into politics, I will explain why.

Many evils have come about because of this way of thinking. Abortion came about because of the sexual revolution, and people have defended it in the name of freedom. "It's my body and I can do with it what I choose" was the cry of the pro-abortionist. These individuals have always said they had the freedom to do this.

Another issue that is very prevalent in our society today is the gay and transgender question. Just recently a march was held in Washington D.C. with this group screaming freedom to do as they please and even crying for equal rights and representation. Why should I worry myself with what others are doing? Shouldn't I focus on my life and not worry about others? This is the relativist way of thinking.

The bottom line is while many of these people and other groups speak out in the name of freedom, little do they realize that they are slaves. Slaves to the sin of abortion, slaves to the sin of homosexuality, slaves to sin. Freedom is not about doing whatever



you want. Freedom is about living a life free from persecution. Sin persecutes not only the sinner, but others as well.

If we are forced to all use the same bathroom, then my freedom is violated. If we are forced to pay for abortions as taxpayers, then my freedom is violated. True freedom does not help one group while persecuting another. This is where Satan uses a bad thing to make it look like a good thing. Satan is very cunning. Do not become a slave to sin. I know. I have been there. Freedom only comes with God! I have embarked on a journey and my destination is Heaven!

### ACTIVITIES AT DELTA

Chris Sellars

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

Our counselors work very hard at trying to save babies. They spend long hours out on front lines trying to convince these moms that we have alternatives for them and they do not have to take their babies' lives. It is somewhat of a miracle when they do change their minds, because they are prepared to have the abortion when they arrive at Delta. Please pray for these women.

Remember to always give thanks for babies saved; known and unknown.

God Bless!

### REQUEST FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE THROUGH ULTRASOUND INITIATIVE

**Hope. Help. Support. Love. A Safe Haven.** This is [Community Center for Life](#) in Gretna. Community Center for Life serves women and their families everyday to promote life. We provide pregnancy testing, confidential counseling, pre-natal and postpartum classes, educational literature, baby items, ultrasounds and an emergency shelter. As we are actively providing these resources that so many of the women in our community depend on, it is devastating to us that our ultrasound machine no longer works.

The Community Center for Life is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that was founded in 1995 by Dagmar Mueller. The vision of the center was born from Dagmar's passionate concern for ladies who had been overlooked and abandoned when they found themselves in a crisis pregnancy. Through her efforts and so many that have served through Community Center for Life, we have been able to **serve and educate thousands of women** in our community and the surrounding areas.

Would your organization be willing to partner with us in providing funding to acquire a new ultrasound machine? An **ultrasound machine** provides so much more than a picture. It provides pertinent medical information. It allows an expectant mother, especially one who has many stresses such as homelessness, toxic family and/or partner relationships, etc, to be able to have some reassurance that the life inside of her is thriving. We want to be able to continue to provide that reassurance.

The cost of a new machine is estimated to be around \$33,500. This cost would include the machine, the tools associated with operating the machine, installation, training on use and also shipping.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

We are greatly appreciative of organizations such as yours and businesses and individuals in the community whose compassion through donations allows us to continue serving our community in the capacity that we do.

Sincerely,  
Deya Onsotti, Executive Director

**If your council can help, please contact Sam Mistretta ([smistretta2@cox.net](mailto:smistretta2@cox.net), 225-975-1501).**



KCLS CULTURE OF LIFE SESSION

Knights of Columbus Leadership Seminar (KCLS) will be held on Saturday, July 15, 2016 at Dutchtown High School in Geismar, LA. Again this year, there will be a special breakout session for Culture of Life chair couples and any others who are pro-life leaders in their councils.

This year, we will kick-off the session with a special pro-life speech from 15 year old **Anna Starnes**. The session will also feature a pro-life talk by **Ben Clapper**, Executive Director for Louisiana Right to Life. We will have lots of pro-life information that you can share with your council. There will also be a detailed review of the new grading form with plenty of time for questions. We will also have **special gifts** for those in attendance, and free pro-life materials will be available on a first-come, first served basis. The session should wrap-up before lunch. Please make sure that your council is represented. We look forward to seeing you there!

UPCOMING EVENTSA SPECIAL EVENT MOVIE**Outcasts**

**Thursday, July 13, 2017 - 6:00 pm**  
**Catholic Life Center - Main Auditorium**  
**1800 S. Acadian Thruway, Baton Rouge, 70808**

*"A bold example of social justice in action."*

Follow the cameras of Grassroots Films, the Award-Winning producers of "The Human Experience" and "Child 31" on an unexpected journey across the globe. Travel with the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal to the prisons of Central America, walk the dark city streets of London, New York and Ireland's most treacherous neighborhoods as they attempt to affirm the dignity of all those they encounter. Step beyond your comfort zone and into the lives of our modern day "outcasts."

Immediately following the film, there will be time for discussion and a Q&A session with one of the films producers.

This is a free event. For more information, contact Danielle Van Haute, Respect Life Coordinator, at 225-242-0323 or [dvanhaute@diobr.org](mailto:dvanhaute@diobr.org).

**WARNING:** This documentary is for mature audiences only.

View the trailer [here](#).



What reviewers are saying:

The film promises to prick our consciences and to consider the radical message of the Gospel, which is

rooted in God's profound love for every person, and the call to kindness - to find humanity in everyone, especially the desperate and forgotten. - Aleteia

This is a film that lives on in the consciousness long after viewing. - The Catholic World Report

### JAZZED FOR LIFE!

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

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!

The event will feature:

- Prayer -- Archbishop Hughes
- Speakers on Respect Life issues - Disabilities & End of Life Issues
- Information on Respect Life Sunday, Respect Life Week in the schools, & other Respect Life events throughout the year
- Networking with each other & with local organizations (there were 20 display tables in 2016!)

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](mailto:respectlife@arch-no.org) or go to this [web site](#).



### WNLC BORN TO RUN BATON ROUGE

Save the Date: November 4, 2017 ([Link](#))

Join us for the Woman's New Life Center's Born to Run—Baton Rouge Run 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run on November 4, 2017. Have fun, get a great workout, and help women and babies all at the same time!



### DINNER FOR LIFE

The NOLA East Dinner for Life will take place on Saturday, July 29th from 5:30 to 7:00 PM at the St. Maria Goretti Parish Hall (7300 Crowder Blvd, New Orleans, LA 70127).

New Orleans Right to Life, in conjunction with Louisiana Black Advocates for Life, will host a "Dinner for Life," featuring guest speakers Dr. Kathy Allen and the Rev. Corey Hicks.

Dinner is \$5 per person. First-come, first-serve! Call us for more information: 504.835.6520.





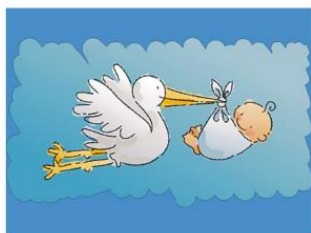
UPCOMING RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT

Trista Littell, Diocese of Lafayette

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat for Post Abortion healing will be held October 6-8, 2017. Rachel's Vineyard Retreat is an extraordinary opportunity for any person who struggles with the emotional and spiritual pain of abortion. The weekend is a unique and effective process designed specifically to help you experience the mercy and compassion of God. This process is extremely helpful for those who have difficulty forgiving themselves or others. The weekend will help your soul find a voice and transform the pain of the past into hope!

For more information and to register call 337.261.5607 or email [tlittell@diolaf.org](mailto:tlittell@diolaf.org). All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

Project Rachel - Individual post abortion healing sessions are held regularly. For more information, please call Karol or Trista @ 337.261.5607.



***Our clients have chosen LIFE!**  
Please help us celebrate  
the arrival of their little bundles of joy...*

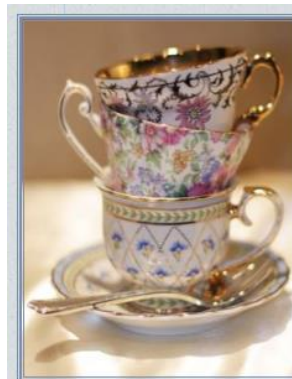
*Announcing*

### **The ACCESS Virtual Baby Shower**

To participate, simply click on the Baby Registry at Walmart.com, then enter ACCESS into the first and last name fields. We have registered for the items we most need (larger size diapers, wipes and baby clothing in 3-12 mos. sizes).

You may order items and ship them to ACCESS or go to a Walmart store, make a purchase and drop off at our Metairie location, 921 Aris Avenue, Metairie, LA 70005.

*Thank you for your prayers and support as we continue to  
provide compassionate care to women throughout  
their pregnancies.*



*Bring your daughters, grand-  
daughters or nieces!  
All ages welcome!*

*Please Join Us  
for  
"Tea Time for Life"  
Benefiting the  
Community Center for Life  
Crisis Pregnancy Center*

*La Maison Creole  
Garden Room*

*1605 8th St., Harvey, LA  
(Behind Best Buy on Manhattan)*

*Saturday, July 22, 2017  
Two o'clock—Four o'clock*

**Please RSVP by Thursday, July 13th  
(504) 227-9090**

### "COME TO THE WELL" A DAY OF HOPE FOR THOSE SUFFERING THE LOSS OF A LOVED

#### ONE.

Karol D. Meynard and Trista Littell,  
Diocese of Lafayette

Please spread the word about this special day for those who have lost loved ones, "Come to the Well". Ask permission from your pastors to insert in bulletins or consider giving a short altar talk after Mass.

"Come to the Well" A Day of Hope for those  
suffering the loss of a loved one.

August 12, 2017 - 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Diocese of Lafayette - Immaculata Center - 1408  
Carmel Dr. - Lafayette, LA 70501

Today's fast paced society provides little time, space or support for those who have suffered loss. "Come to the Well" is a day of hope for those suffering the loss of a loved one, including loss by suicide, accidental death, infertility, miscarriage, illness, stillbirth, SIDS, adoption placement, abortion, and any other life losses. Those who work in bereavement ministries or reproductive grief are also invited.

The day is filled with prayer utilizing meditation "Living Scripture", music, journaling, and personal sharing to honor and acknowledge the reality of shared loss. "Come to the Well" offers opportunities for retreatants to find strength in the



sharing to move through the losses of life with hope for a renewed vision.

- Guest Speakers are Bishop J. Douglas Deshotel and Camille Pavy Claibourne, RN, PhD
- Guest musicians for the day will include Lisa Shannon, Suzanne Babineaux, and Benny Littell.
- “Living Scripture” will be enacted by Jeff Aycock and Tina Hebert
- The team of volunteers and facilitators include professional counselors and those who have suffered various life losses.

Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$20 per person (includes lunch). RSVP with payment by August 3, 2017. Checks are to be made payable to: DOL-Office of Pro-Life Apostolate. Address: 1408 Carmel Dr. – Lafayette, LA 70501 • Contact: Trista Littell at 337.261-5607 for more information.



Join community leaders at this special event recognizing the preciousness of life from “womb to tomb!”

#### *Honoring*

- Donald Thompson, Chief of Police, City of Opelousas
  - Bambi Polotzola, Founder, St. Landry Abilities Director, Governor's Office of Disability Affairs
- For promoting pro-life programs and values in the community.

A complimentary dinner will be served.

#### RSVP:

Kathy Allen at 337.290.9595 or [kathy@lblackadvocates.com](mailto:kathy@lblackadvocates.com)  
 Letitia Peyton at 337.308.9120 or [letitiapeyton@gmail.com](mailto:letitiapeyton@gmail.com)

#### Guest Speaker



Pastor Corey Hicks  
 New Orleans Director,  
 La. Black Advocates for Life

**stand up. speak out. save lives.**

## EDUCATION CORNER

### 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 [news story](#)). They need your support! Go to their [web site](#) to find out how you and your council can help. This [resource](#) from *Sisters Against Trafficking* will also be helpful.



### STEM CELL RESEARCH

Do you want to learn more about human cloning and stem cell research, then check out this [web site](#). StemCellResearch.org is an on-line resource dedicated to promoting accurate information related to advances in ethical human stem cell research and is maintained through the collaborative work of both individuals and organizations represented by Do No Harm: The Coalition of Americans for Research Ethics.

## 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>.



## SIX THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT PLANNED PARENTHOOD'S LATEST REPORT

Jeanne Mancini, President, March for Life

Planned Parenthood typically releases its annual report in December or January each year, but only made their latest report, for 2015-2016, available earlier this week, six months late. Could it be that they sought to delay or hide the truth about the “services” they provide?

As Congress considers healthcare reform legislation that would redirect the federal funding Planned Parenthood currently receives to Federally Qualified Health Centers, this latest report from the nation's largest abortion provider gives information that pro-life Americans need to know.

Here are six points from Planned Parenthood's latest annual report:

1. In the last year,\* Planned Parenthood performed 328,348 abortions. This is an increase of over 4,300 more abortions from the prior year. Note that the national number of abortions decreased during this time. Planned Parenthood is increasing its market value for abortions.
2. Total revenue (\$1.354 billion) and government funding (\$554.6 million) in 2016 are the highest they have been for Planned Parenthood.
3. Planned Parenthood made more than \$77 million in profit. This is an increase of \$19 million more than the year prior. Keep in mind that Planned Parenthood is a non-profit organization. Additionally, Planned Parenthood invests heavily in electing abortion advocates. A recent article revealed that Planned Parenthood's political arms spent over \$38 million in election funding between 2012 and 2016.
4. Non-reproductive health care services have greatly decreased. Cancer screenings have dropped by half since 2011, abortions now outnumber basic breast exams for the first time in its history.
5. The number of patients and prenatal services continues to decrease. Prenatal services have dropped by almost half since last year alone, and the number of patients is down by four percent.
6. They falsely claim that the Center for Medical Progress Video footage containing damning evidence of Planned Parenthood's involvement in the trafficking of baby parts was “heavily edited” and “widely discredited”. However, a forensic analysis and congressional investigation have disproven these erroneous talking points. Read more [HERE](#).

As you can see abortion and revenue numbers continue to go up, and women's health services continue to decrease, and yet government funding has increased over the past year.



FERTILITY/INFERTILITY/ASSISTED  
REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES (ART/IVF)

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

In the month of June, we celebrate fatherhood, but parenthood doesn't always happen for loving couples after they say "I do." The USCCB's Respect Life Program article offers consolation to those struggling with infertility: "Seven Considerations While Navigating Infertility."

You can obtain a free copy of the article on-line using this [link](#).



INTERNET ARTICLES OF INTEREST

[This new technology could produce babies from skin cells. And that's bad.](#)

[The Fungibility Factor: Yes, your tax dollars fund abortions at Planned Parenthood](#)

[Here's an abortion facility's fake drawing of a baby at nine weeks compared to the reality](#)

[Why Sterile Heterosexual Acts and Homosexual Acts Are Not the Same](#)

[Time for a "Populist" Bioethics Commission](#)

[Planned Parenthood's services are declining...except for abortion](#)

[Banning Anti-Gay Fruit](#)

[I'm pro-life. And that means I'm against contraception and gay marriage. Here's why](#)

[Another Foolish Idea We Should Challenge](#)

[Do-It-Yourself Biology](#)

[Does the Catholic Faith Permit Artificial Wombs?](#)

[Ireland elects first openly gay Prime Minister](#)

[The Organization Every Parent Needs to Know About](#)

[A Priest Found Blasphemous Graffiti on His Church & His Reaction Is Going Viral](#)

[Africa-China Conference on Population and Development Raises Questions](#)

[Harvard Law Journal concludes: The preborn child is a constitutional person](#)

[CRISPR: The Eugenitopia is Here](#)

[The Limits of Planned Parenthood's Storytelling](#)

[US Enhances International Pro-Life Commitment](#)

[How natural family planning honors God... and my wife](#)

[What The Economist Could Learn From Solomon](#)

[The New Darling of the Abortion Rights Movement](#)

[A False Dichotomy](#)

[Christian soccer star refuses to wear rainbow uniform promoting LGBT](#)

[Cardinal Sarah: Bishops, priests cannot shy away from 'hard sayings' on homosexuality](#)

[U.S. Embassy promotes LGBT propaganda at the Vatican](#)

[Abortion increasingly common for multiple pregnancies, English statistics show](#)

[Pro-Abortion Theologian Picked as Pontifical Academy for Life Member](#)

[Be Kind, But Don't Kill People With Kindness](#)

[The Church needs a unified strategy to counter gender ideology, expert says](#)

[Please Don't Ask Me About My Sex Life](#)

[Prepare for twisted words promoting assisted suicide](#)

[Insurance companies denied treatment to patients, offered to pay for assisted suicide, doctor claims](#)

[Canadian nurse forced out for refusing to participate in euthanasia](#)

[Jefferson City School Guidelines Spark Debate Over 'Nontraditional' Families](#)

[Fordham Won't Pull the Plug on Pro-Euthanasia Efforts](#)

[This pro-life talk at Google's headquarters was a hit](#)

[Report: New Treatment for Children With Gender Issues Not Supported by Science](#)

[Illinois Bishop Decrees: No Communion and No Funeral Rites for Same-Sex Couples](#)

[New Book's "Sexual Reality" Bursts LGBT Catholic Bubble](#)

[New UN Database Pressures Countries on Abortion](#)

[British Medical Association endorses decriminalization of abortion](#)

[How Sentimentality Leads Young Catholics Astray About Homosexuality](#)

[Taxpayers Are Funding Animal Tests for Homemade Abortions](#)

[What's Love Got to Do with Transhumanism?](#)

[Our Outdated Debates](#)

[The Carnage of Divorce](#)

[Bishop Paprocki responds to controversy, criticisms over decree on same-sex "marriage"](#)

[Christians Must Rally Behind Faithful Pastors like Thomas Paprocki](#)

[When the "Right to Die" Becomes a Death Sentence](#)

[Germany legalizes same-sex marriage after Merkel U-turn](#)





STRENGTHEN MARRIAGE IN YOUR PARISH

Mary-Rose &amp; Ryan Verret

Dear Marriage Champion,

Thank you for the work you do every day in strengthening marriages! Your tireless dedication and personal testimony are a vital component in the renewal of marriage prep in our Church. We want to encourage you to persevere in this effort and know that we are here to support you in your service to Christ and the Church.

We are happy to share this new video with you. It tells the story of how this new vision for marriage prep is renewing parishes and marriages one couple at a time! This is our story and we invite you to make it your [story](#).

For a set period of time, each parish in the USA will have the opportunity to review Witness to Love at no cost! Would you please consider sharing this offer with any priest or deacon that you know who is passionate about strengthening marriages? Simply forward this email to them or let them know there is a request button on our home page. [Order a Free Parish Review Pack!](#)

Once they click the Review Pack link they will have access to the workbook video content for the program, a PDF of the Parish Renewal Plan, and they will receive in the mail a copy of our workbook in English and/or Spanish.

Please share this with all of your priests, deacons and parish marriage prep coordinators and encourage them to review this program that is changing so many lives and renewing parishes throughout our nation!

Thank you again for your work in renewing marriages and families.

His Love Endures Forever!

VIDEO PICKS OF THE MONTH

Social Media Campaign Against Assisted Suicide: #AccessDenied. Assisted Suicide has become the new way for some insurance companies to save money. Legalizing assisted suicide is dangerous. Insurance companies are now denying care to patients with treatable illness, while offering suicide drugs instead. Dr. Callister's experience is beyond disturbing.

Please watch & share his one-minute [story](#).



This Live Action [video](#) shows there's only one option for pregnant women at Planned Parenthood – abortion. But that's not what the abortion giant wants you to believe – in fact, CEO Cecile Richards even stated on national television that “some women also come to us because they have an unintended pregnancy and they need to make a decision, and we counsel them on all their options.”

That would mean Planned Parenthood advises women about more than just abortion - it also means they would provide counseling about adoption or prenatal care. So, Live Action's investigative team put her words to the test.



## LOUISIANA ABORTION RATE

### DROPS 4% IN 2016

#### Louisiana Right to Life

The number of abortions in Louisiana decreased by 4 percent from 2015 to 2016, according to preliminary figures provided to Louisiana Right to Life recently by the Department of Health.

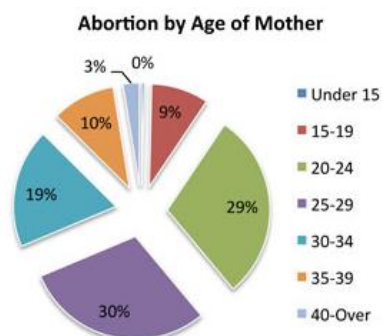
It was the second straight year we saw a decline in the number of unborn babies killed by abortion in our state.

There were 8,972 abortions performed in Louisiana in 2016, down from 9,362 abortions reported in 2015 and 10,211 abortions reported in 2014. The number of abortions performed in the state had increased steadily from 2008-2014 as population numbers returned to pre-Katrina levels.

Even though abortion numbers are going down, there are still, on average, 25 abortions performed each day in Louisiana. Louisiana Right to Life will continue working hard to reduce these numbers until every baby is saved.

#### SOME QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE 2016 STATISTICS:

- There were 8,972 abortions performed. That means there were, on average, 25 abortions per day.
- Women categorized as "non-white" accounted for 70% of abortions performed.
- 85% of women who had abortions were unmarried.
- Nearly 70% of babies were aborted within eight weeks of pregnancy.
- 34 girls under 15 had abortions, and another 811 were between 15-19.



## HOW TO TALK ABOUT RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

In this time of increasing polarization in our culture, we can contribute to a better understanding of religious freedom in a way that respects all people. [This short guide](#) aims to help Christians speak with friends and neighbors about religious freedom and work to clear up misconceptions about it.



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF  
CATHOLIC BISHOPS

### QUOTES OF THE MONTH

The Catechism of the Catholic Church on Abortion:

2271 Since the first century the Church has affirmed the moral evil of every procured abortion. This teaching has not changed and remains unchangeable. Direct abortion, that is to say, abortion willed either as an end or a means, is gravely contrary to the moral law:

*You shall not kill the embryo by abortion and shall not cause the newborn to perish (Didache).*

*God, the Lord of life, has entrusted to men the noble mission of safeguarding life, and men must carry it out in a manner worthy of themselves. Life must be protected with the utmost care from the moment of conception: abortion and infanticide are abominable crimes (GS 51 3).*

2272 Formal cooperation in an abortion constitutes a grave offense. The Church attaches the canonical penalty of excommunication to this crime against human life. "A person who procures a completed abortion incurs excommunication latae sententiae," "by the very commission of the offense," and subject to the conditions provided by Canon Law. The Church does not thereby intend to restrict the scope of mercy. Rather, she makes clear the gravity of the crime committed, the irreparable harm done to the innocent who is put to death, as well as to the parents and the whole of society.

PRAYER OF THE MONTH**Prayer For Those Close to Death**

Lord Jesus Christ,

As You stood by the bed of good Saint Joseph and gently led him home to heaven, so shepherd every soul about to die to a paradise of perfect peace. Let the tears we shed upon their passing stand witness to our love for them and the depth of our thanksgiving for the gift of their lives and the grace of a good death. For You are Lord, forever and ever. Amen.

Source:

<https://www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/prayers/PrayerForLife.htm>

