



Culturae Vitae

August 2017

Volume 4 Number 8

<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 and 2016 presentations are also available on the web site. The 2017 presentation provides updated information on pro-life topics and the grading form guidance.

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.mflidiobr.org/>

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

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

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

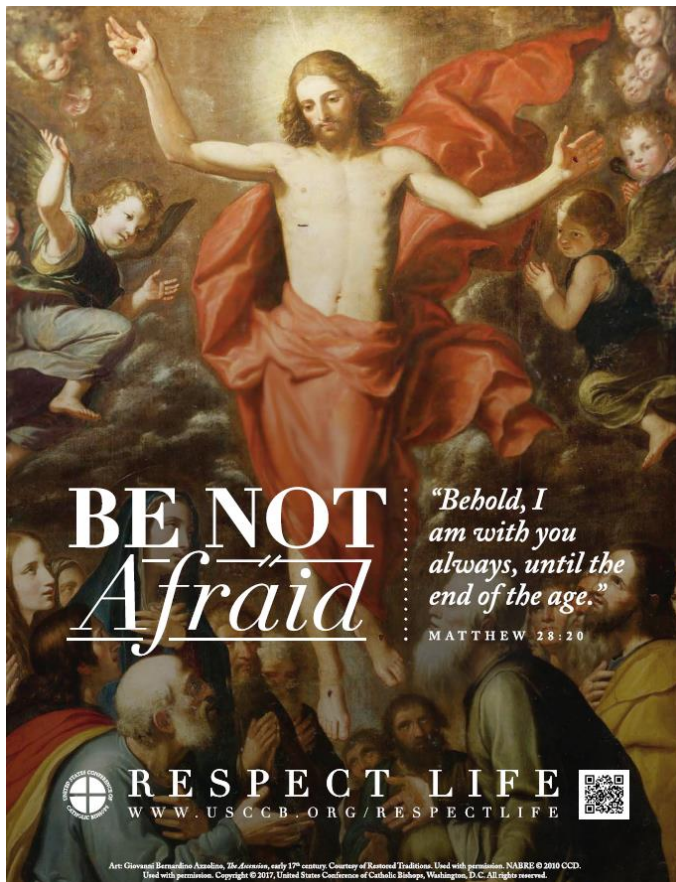
Houma-Thibodaux: <http://htdiocese.org/fm>

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



GOOD NEWS! ABORTION RATE DROPS

Benjamin Clapper, Executive Director for
Louisiana Right to Life

Let's Keep Helping Moms, Saving Babies!

I've got good news!

Abortion decreased by 4% in Louisiana from 2015 to 2016!

This means that ONE BABY who would have been aborted every day in 2015 was saved in 2016!

There were 9,362 abortions in Louisiana in 2015, and there were 8,972 in 2016. The 2016 total also means there has been a 14% decrease in abortions since 2014. (You can read more about the statistics [here](http://www.louisianarighttolife.org).)

Just like you, we hope (and work) for a tomorrow without any abortions. We pray that comes sooner rather than later. But for today, we are thankful for the lives saved that will enjoy the blessings of Louisiana!

Let's continue to work together to help moms and save babies!

For a Pro-Life Louisiana,
Ben Clapper



NEW ARCHDIOCESE MINISTRY

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

The Archdiocese of New Orleans has a new ministry: LIGHT (Living in God's Holy Truth). This is a ministry for individuals with same-sex orientation and their families or those who have questions about the Catholic Church's teaching about sexual orientation and gender identity. Contact information can be found [here](#).

Statements from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops about homosexuality may be found [here](#).

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).

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. 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 Ridgeland, 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."



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 or call 504-812-8753.



ULTRASOUND NEEDED FOR GRETNA PREGNANCY CENTER

The [Community Center for Life](#) in Gretna provides pregnancy testing, confidential counseling, pre-natal and postpartum classes, educational literature, baby items, ultrasounds and an emergency shelter. Their ultrasound machine no longer works, and it needs to be replaced. This instrument is essential to their pro-life work.

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.

Archbishop Blenk Council 1905 in Gretna is leading the effort to obtain a new ultrasound machine through the Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Initiative. Their council is asking other councils in

the New Orleans area to make a donation to this effort.

If you can help, please contact Grand Knight Glenn Esteve (gfe1905@yahoo.com, 504-405-2576) or Don Caskey (dcaskey53@yahoo.com, 504-884-0101).



ULTRASOUND NEEDED 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 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 Ralph Roger (rroger@dow.com, 713-306-6984). 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



MEMORIAL TO THE UNBORN

Michael Kirby (Council 8703)

Recently Fr. Floribert Blank Council 8703 of Port Sulphur, La. assisted with the acquisition of a Memorial to Unborn Children for St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Port Sulphur, La. Pictured is Grand Knight Nolan Encalade making the formal presentation of the artwork to Fr. Gerard Stapleton, pastor of St. Patrick Catholic Church.

The sculpture is a replica of the original sculpture created by Slovakian artist Martin Hudáček who also presented another replica to Pope Francis at the Vatican in 2015. Instead of morosely focusing on the grave of the aborted baby, as many pro-life memorials do, the emphasis here is on the overwhelming sorrow of the mother as she laments her abortion. She is approached by the figure of her aborted child in an extraordinarily tender and poignant way. By placing its hand on her head, the child evokes an impression of forgiveness and reconciliation. The work has earned acclaim for its sensitive and effective portrayal of post-abortion suffering.

Following completion of some ongoing repair work inside the Church, the artwork will be installed in an appropriate place there.

CULTURE OF LIFE MONTHLY REPORT

Michael & Catherine Abbate (Council 9623)

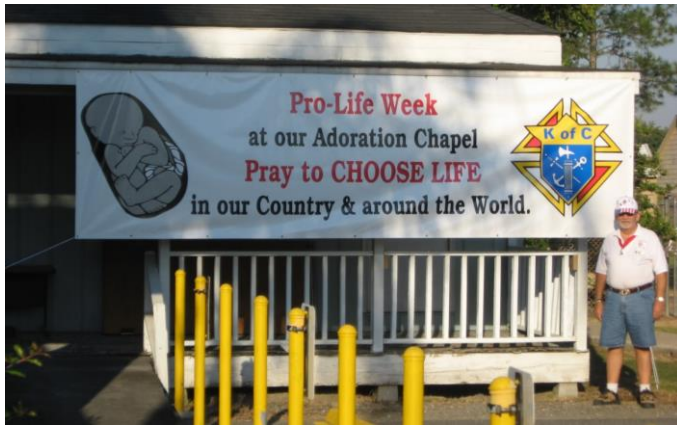
Council 9623 Culture of Life chair couple is regularly meeting with the River Parishes Pro-Life Group which consist of several Church groups. We meet every third Tuesday of each month to plan Pro-Life Activities.

In July, Council 9623 Culture of Life chair couple made a \$ 250.00 donation to the National Pro-Life Alliance to help in the battle for Life at Conception Act. They also attended the Peaceful Prayer Vigil at the New Planned Parenthood site at 4636 South Claiborne Ave. in New Orleans.

Later in the month, the Culture of Life chair couple sponsored NFP Awareness Week with a Pro-Life Prayer and write up in the Church Bulletin.



Once a month, the Culture for Life couple also promotes prayer 24 hours a day, 365 days a year in their Adoration Chapel for Pro-life. (Pictured below is with the Council Membership Director Larry Larousse standing outside the chapel.)



PRO-LIFE CORNER

Don and Dee Caskey (Council 1905)

Brother Knights and Ladies,

Father's day weekend we kicked off the Access Pregnancy Center's Baby Bottle Campaign at St. Martha Catholic Church in Harvey. By July 16th, the collection had raised \$1,780. This couldn't come at a better time because their mobile clinic needs repairs to its generator. This mobile unit is the big pink van that provides the special care needed by young mothers and their babies.

The fourth and final church drive of our 2017 Combined Access Pregnancy Center Baby Bottle Campaign was held on the weekend of July 29-30th at Infant Jesus of Prague Catholic Church in Harvey in conjunction with our "Fifth Sunday" Rosary.

At the July KC meeting, our Grand Knight brought a letter from The Community Center For Life asking for donations to replace their broken and obsolete ultrasound imaging machine. We proposed to donate \$1,000 because we know the importance of that machine. The cost of a new machine is in the mid-\$30,000 range. I visited this center on July 13th, and it was a very nice and friendly place that offers all the services anyone could ask for, including an apartment the young mother can use for a couple of months until she can get stable.

They just received an old obsolete machine that was borrowed from a center in Florida. I think that they need to return it so that it can be used at the lender's other clinic. At this time, this is the ONLY full time "brick and mortar" pro-life free services clinic on the West Bank.

I want to use this opportunity to ask other councils to participate in a Yard Angel campaign. Below is a photo of one that I made 21 years ago at Council 9384, and we raised about \$800. I made them with donated fence board pieces. We will need to be the "Sponsor" council to send all the collected money to Supreme for the KC Ultrasound Initiative, doubling the results of our labors. There is only one possible issue: the Archdiocese needs to check with them and confirm that if they are operating consistent with Catholic teaching.

This year the Knights of Columbus is invited again to have a table at the New Orleans "Jazzed for Life" information day. This will be held on September 9th starting at 9 AM at Holy Cross College in Algiers (New Orleans Westbank), located on Woodlawn Drive next to the six story elderly residence on the corner of General De Gaulle Dr. and Woodlawn (that is where I met my bride 42 years ago). The director, Debbie Shinskie liked my 21 year old angel and asked me to bring one. I am planning to make instructions available.

Yours in Christ,

Don and Dee Caskey



KCLS CULTURE OF LIFE SESSION

Knights of Columbus Leadership Seminar (KCLS) was held on Saturday, July 15, 2016 at Dutchtown High School in Geismar, LA. Again this year, there was a special breakout session for Culture of Life chair couples.

The session started with a special pro-life speech from 15 year old **Anna Starnes**. The session also featured a pro-life talk by **Ben Clapper**, Executive Director for Louisiana Right to Life. The presentation entitled “Embryos at Risk...Bioethics and Culture” covered several bioethics topics such as IVF, human embryonic stem cell research, cloning, and surrogacy. His presentation helped us better understand how these immoral activities are related. Both speakers were full of energy and enthusiasm. We want to thank both Anna and Ben for being a part of KCLS this year. Please let us know if you would like a copy of Ben’s presentation.

We also shared information about end of life issues. The session ended with a detailed review of the new grading form with plenty of time for questions. Attendees received a copy of the book *Life, Death, and Catholic Medical Choices* by Kevin O’Neil, CSsR and Peter Black, STD as well as free pro-life materials.

Thanks to everyone who participated this year!



CULTURE OF LIFE Mike Algero (Council 9240)

Now more than ever, there is a need for us to pray for life. Please pray this Prayer for Life found in Pope John Paul II encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*:

O Mary, bright dawn of the new world, Mother of the living, to you do we entrust the cause of life: Look down, O Mother, upon the vast numbers of babies not allowed to be born, of the poor whose lives are made difficult, of men and women who are victims of brutal violence, of the elderly and the sick killed by indifference or out of misguided mercy. Grant that all who believe in your Son may proclaim the Gospel of life with honesty and love to the people of our time. Obtain for them the grace to accept that Gospel as a gift ever new, the joy of celebrating it with gratitude throughout their lives and the courage to bear witness to it resolutely, in order to build, together with all people of good will, the civilization of truth and love, to the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of life. Amen.

UPCOMING PRO-LIFE FILM

Adopted at birth and raised in Louisiana, David Scotton is on a journey to Indiana to meet the birth parents he's never known. His tattooed birth mother, Melissa, and reserved birth father, Brian, anxiously wait for him, concerned David will reject them for decisions they made before he was born. *I Lived on Parker Ave.* is a short documentary about a mother's agony in choosing what's best, the joy of a couple starting a family, and young man's search for where his life began. Watch the trailer ([web site](#)).

LIFE MARCH 2018

Life March South in Baton Rouge will take place on January 20, 2018, Life March North in Shreveport will take place on January 27, 2018, and Life March Central in Alexandria will take place on February 3, 2018.

Make plans for your council to participate!

UPCOMING EVENTS40 DAYS FOR LIFE LAUNCH PARTY

Come join us for the 40 Days for Life Launch Party on Thursday, August 25th from 6 PM to 8 PM at the Blessed Trinity Church & Activity Center (4230 S Broad Ave in New Orleans). This year's speakers include Archbishop Aymond and Corey Hicks, New Orleans director of Louisiana Black Advocates for Life. Learn more about this year's 40 Day for Life Vigil coming in September! Contact the Respect Life Office for questions: respectlife@arch-no.org.




Pre-Campaign Party
Thursday, August 24 at 6:00 PM
Blessed Trinity Catholic Church
3900 S General Taylor St., NOLA 70125

**Dinner Provided
First-Come, First-Serve!**

Join us for food, fun and fellowship as we prepare for the 40 Days for Life campaign Sept. 27-Nov. 5!

Open to All!

40DaysForLifeNOLA.com 504.835.6520



Archbishop
Gregory
Aymond



Rev. Corey Hicks

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!



JAZZED FOR LIFE!

Jazzed for Life! Respect Life Coordinators' & Volunteers' Day will take place Saturday, September 9, 2016 from 9 AM to 1 PM 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 Emeritus 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 or go to this [web site](#).

GALA FOR LIFE

Woman's New Life Center invites you to our annual Gala for Life. Join us for a charming evening as we dance the night away and enjoy an exquisite selection of Louisiana cuisine at club XLIV in Champions Square on Friday, October 6, 2017 (Patron Party 7:00 – 8:00pm; Gala 8:00 – 11:00pm) Use this [link](#) to register for the event.

Sponsorship opportunities available. Please call (504) 496-0212 for more information.

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. 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.

ARK-LA-TEX FUNDRAISER

Ark-La-Tex Crisis Pregnancy Center will hold their annual fundraising banquet on Tuesday, October 24th at the Shreveport Convention Center. The keynote speaker will be Ryan Bomberger, Founder of the Radiance Foundation. Seating begins at 6:30 PM with a complimentary dinner and program from 7 to 9 PM. An opportunity to make a financial donation will be extended. Call 318-861-4600 for more information.

To find out more about their pro-life work, click on this [link](#).

**“COME TO THE WELL” A DAY OF HOPE FOR
THOSE SUFFERING 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 your pastor’s permission to insert in bulletins or consider giving a short 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.

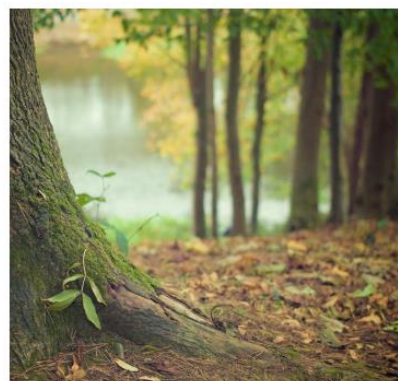
Diocese of Lafayette - Immaculata Center - 1408
Carmel Dr. – Lafayette, LA 70501

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.



END OF LIFE MATTERS

Rev. Keith LaBove

Pastor, St. Patrick Catholic Church, Lafayette
Hospital Chaplain, Diocese of Lafayette

Whose life is it, anyway? Must we do everything? Who decides? Does a living will help? These and other questions will be discussed at a seminar to be offered by Fr. Keith LaBove, Pastor of St. Patrick Church and long-time hospital chaplain. We will explore basic church teaching on the stewardship of life and end of life care, look at some specific issues that arise, and talk about advanced directives. This one night session will be repeated at 4 locations. All are invited and welcome to attend any of the presentations. Pre-registration is not required, and there is no cost to attend. Please join us!

END OF LIFE MATTERS WORKSHOP SESSIONS

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2017

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church
224 West 5th Street, Crowley
6:00-7:30 pm – Parish Hall

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2017

St. Patrick Catholic Church
406 East Pinhook Road, Lafayette
6:00-7:30 pm – In Church

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017

Holy Ghost Catholic Church
747 North Union Street, Opelousas
6:00-7:30 pm – Parish Hall

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2017

Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church
2514 Old Jeanerette Road, New Iberia
6:00-7:30 pm – Parish Hall

For more information, please contact:

Mary Bergeron
Hospice of Acadiana
Office: 337-232-1234
Cell: 337-344-3885
mbergeron@hospiceacadiana.com

These workshops are presented
in partnership between
St. Patrick Catholic Church, Lafayette,
and Hospice of Acadiana



*Compassionate Burials
for Indigent Babies*



Compassionate Burials for Indigent Babies
Presents a Gala at the Historic



Music, Dancing, Food & Drinks

Sunday, October 22, 2017
6pm-9pm

402 Lafitte Street Mandeville, La 70448

Silent Auction

-50/50 Raffle

\$50/Ticket

cocktail attire

Register early for complimentary bus transportation!

CBIB
P.O. Box 778
Lacombe, La. 70445

504-202-3111
lisejnaccari@yahoo.com

www.cbibinc.com



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>.

SIGN-UP FOR LACCB ACTION ALERTS**Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops**

Do you want to know about pending legislation important to Catholics? If so, then go to the Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops web site: www.laccb.org. They have a [web page](#) to inform you about active advocacy campaigns. You can also sign-up for email alerts so that you can contact your government officials about important issues in a timely manner.

BE READY TO TAKE ACTION ON PRO-LIFE LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

Are you interested in an easy way to contact your senators and U. S. representatives regarding pro-life issues? If so, then you should check out the Human Life Action (www.humanlifeaction.org).

Human Life Action is a project of the National Committee for a Human Life Amendment, Inc., (NCHLA). Since their founding in 1974, they have:

- Enabled the grassroots to advocate at the federal level for pro-life legislation;
- Educated citizens about the need for a Human Life Amendment to the U.S. Constitution;
- Created pro-life legislative networks to assist dioceses, state Catholic Conferences, and Catholic lay groups;
- Worked closely with the Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in support of their pro-life legislative agenda.

You can sign-up for email action alerts so that you can provide timely input to your government representatives about pending pro-life legislation.

FERTILITY CARE SERVICES

“The NaProTechnology doctors seek to treat the underlying cause of a woman’s reproductive health issue and not just mask or ignore the symptoms...” Learn more about NaPro Technology and how it can help with a variety of women’s health issues, including infertility ([link](#)).



RESOURCES FROM THE USCCB

Pro-life materials are available for purchase from the USCCB. Use this [link](#) to obtain an electronic copy of their catalog of pro-life publications and resources.



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF
CATHOLIC BISHOPS

INTERNET ARTICLES OF INTEREST

[See for yourself the pro-life messages Twitter is suppressing](#)

[German Bishops Criticize Parliament's Approval of Same-Sex 'Marriage'](#)

[Religious Liberty Wins Again in the Supreme Court](#)

[Why young Christians can't grasp our arguments against gay 'marriage'](#)

[Shocking Study: 431 People Were Involuntarily Euthanized in the Netherlands in 2015](#)

[Bishops Vote on Permanent Committee for Religious Liberty, Revised Guidelines for Celebration of Sacraments for People with Disabilities](#)

[80,000 rally for life in Ireland: 'We can do better' than 'killing children before they are born'](#)

[Symptoms, Causes and Loving Those with Same-Sex Attraction](#)

[Oregon governor to sign unprecedented bill providing free abortions for all](#)

[8 Surprisingly Pro-Life Quotes from Wonder Woman](#)

[I'm a Pediatrician. How Transgender Ideology Has Infiltrated My Field and Produced Large-Scale Child Abuse.](#)

[Archbishop criticizes pro-gay Vatican advisor for book normalizing homosexuality](#)

[Father Martin's 'LGBT' Approach Sparks Concerns](#)

[Pediatrician: 'Transgender' ideology has created widespread child abuse](#)

[Father James Martin Proposes an Alternate Catechism](#)

[Melinda Gates says she is 'optimistic' Pope Francis will change teaching on contraception](#)
[Malta to legalise gay marriage over Catholic church protests](#)

[Top Canadian Official Calls Abortion a "Tool to End Poverty"](#)

[What if Your Child is "Gender Confused"?](#)

[Is the UK Heading Toward Abortion Free-Fall?](#)

[We Need To Recover a Natural Understanding of Human Sexuality](#)

[Do Not Be Deceived: Christ Forbids Homosexual Acts, and the Church Cannot Teach Otherwise](#)

[Court sides with NY archdiocese in major religious liberty decision](#)

[The New Totalitarian Laws of Canada](#)

[Je suis Charlie, Once More](#)

[Archbishop rips Vatican-approved magazine's 'ignorant' attack on pro-Trump Catholics](#)

[Marrying Later, Staying Single Longer](#)

[An Effective Weapon to Reach Pro-Abortion Advocates](#)

[The Natural Law is Written and Engraved on Your Soul](#)

[Thomas More Society Continues to Defend The Rights of Sidewalk Counselors](#)

[Herbert Ratner: Apostle of the Culture of Life](#)[Putting the “You” in Eugenics](#)[Why 'Sidewalk Counselors' Are Crucial to the Pro-Life Movement](#)[Putting Infants “Down Like Dogs”](#)[People to be allowed to pick their own gender without doctor's diagnosis, under Government plans](#)[When the ‘Right to Die’ Becomes the ‘Duty to Die’](#)[UN Committee Excludes Unborn From Right to Life, Opens Door to Euthanasia](#)[How mothers can end abortion](#)[Italian Abortionist Speaks in Church; Catholics Ejected, Silenced](#)[10 Things You Really Need to Know About IVF Before Using It](#)[Scientists Use CRISPR to Edit Human Embryos](#)[Small Blessings: Volunteers Give Proper Burials to Babies](#)[‘Inloveness,’ Virtue and NFP](#)[VIDEO PICKS OF THE MONTH](#)

There is a new video from the April 2017 Respect Life Gathering “Approaching Infertility with Faith & Science.” It is available to view on the Respect Life website ([link](#)).



The Archdiocese of New Orleans Respect Life Office also produced a video from the May 2017 Respect Life Gathering “Healing after Abortion.” It is available to view on the Respect Life website ([link](#)).



What can you do to strengthen marriages? Check out this short [video](#) to find out!



QUOTES OF THE MONTH

Question: What would you say is the greatest societal challenge standing in the way of ending abortion in America?

Fr. Paul Scalia: "Sexual promiscuity and contraception. That might be shocking to people. Abortion is there, as the Supreme Court itself acknowledged in the *Casey vs. Planned Parenthood* decision, when contraception fails. That was actually one of the reasons the court upheld *Roe vs. Wade* in *Casey*. John Paul II makes the same observation about the connection between contraception and abortion. When you find John Paul II and the Supreme Court agreeing, you should probably take notice because they're not likely to agree on a whole lot of things."

Question: I was recently with a friend, and we went out to grab a bite to eat. As we drove down the road he remarked, 'It just hit me. Millions of babies are being slaughtered. Should we even go out to dinner? Should we just be working full time?' There are a lot of ways to be pro-life. Being pro-family, putting your nose to the grindstone at work, and getting home and eating dinner with your family. Can you think of other practical ways?

Fr. Paul Scalia: "It's a great question. Let me just pick up on one thing that you said there. Should we even go about our daily lives? Should we even go out to dinner? The answer might sound callous, but the answer is yes. In my ministry, I've seen people who neglected their families in service to the pro-life movement. The devil encourages us to take our strengths to an extreme, at which point they become a weakness. That's what I saw in people who were so zealous they actually neglected their own families. I think living good, authentic lives is the first thing, causing people to think, 'Gosh, that person is living a good, authentically human life, and that person's pro-life. I want to know why.' We do what we can to the extent we can. 40 Days for Life is a great thing to be involved in, the March for Life, pregnancy centers. These are all very good things. But before any of them has to be that holiness, that integrity of life that gives our witness meaning."

Taken from **Day 41**, a publication of 40 Days for Life.

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Prayer for the Protection of Religious Liberty
O God our Creator, from your provident hand we have received our right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. You have called us as your people and given us the right and the duty to worship you, the only true God, and your Son, Jesus Christ.

Through the power and working of your Holy Spirit, you call us to live out our faith in the midst of the world, bringing the light and the saving truth of the Gospel to every corner of society.
We ask you to bless us in our vigilance for the gift of religious liberty.

Give us the strength of mind and heart to readily defend our freedoms when they are threatened; give us courage in making our voices heard on behalf of the rights of your Church and the freedom of conscience of all people of faith.

Grant, we pray, O heavenly Father, a clear and united voice to all your sons and daughters gathered in your Church in this decisive hour in the history of our nation, so that, with every trial withstood and every danger overcome—for the sake of our children, our grandchildren, and all who come after us—this great land will always be "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

(Source: <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/religious-liberty/prayer-resources.cfm>)