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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

BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE

BABY DIAPERS NEEDED

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

ACCESS Pregnancy distributes 12,000-15,000 diapers EACH MONTH? Let's show mothers our love & support by filling their diaper bank during the month of January. Any size diaper is welcome, but they have a particular need for size 6 & pull ups. For more information or to make a drop off, contact Michelle Black at mblack@ccano.org or 504-885-1141. You can find out more about their work on their website.



HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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

Save the date! The Respect Life Office & Office of Justice & Peace & the Archdiocesan Human Trafficking Committee are hosting a Human Trafficking Symposium — A Light in the Darkness — Saturday March 3 from 9am-3pm at St. Maria Catholic Church in New Orleans. Goretti Archbishop Aymond will open the event with prayer. You don't want to miss the awesome group of experts we have lined up from the Department of Justice, the FBI, the Free Indeed Home, the Times-Picayune, & Catholic Relief Services. symposium is free & lunch is included, first come, first serve. For more information contact the Life Respect Office at 504-286-1119 respectlife@arch-no.org.

A Light in the Darkness: Human Trafficking Symposium

Date: Saturday March 3, 2017
Time: 9am - 3pm
St. Maria Goretti in New Orleans



Please join us!
Hosted by St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church
7300 Crowder BLVD, New Orleans

Time: 9am - 3pm

A Light in the Darkness: Human Trafficking
Symposium

Opening Prayer: Archbishop Gregory Aymond Guest Speakers: Edward J. McAndrew (DOJ consultant), Lenny Carollo (FBI), Kevin Litten (Times-Picayune), Beth Salcedo (Free Indeed Home), Martha Hall (CRS)

Light Breakfast & Lunch provided



Catholic Charities Office of Justice & Peace and Respect Life Office 1000 Howard AVE, New Orleans LA 70113 | 504-286-1119 | respectlife@arch-no.org

CULTURE OF LIFE STORIES

CHECKS DELIVERD FOR ULTRASOUND

St. Mark's Council 8147 in Gonzales led a successful effort to obtain a new ultrasound machine for the Woman's New Life Center in Baton Rouge. Ultrasound machines are an essential tool in helping mothers with a crisis pregnancy to choose life. Today, the council delivered two checks to enable the center to purchase the machine.

This machine was obtained through the Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Initiative. The council was able to raise the necessary funds with help from several local KC councils. We want to particularly thank Baton Rouge Council 9016 that made the largest single contribution to this effort.

Through the Ultrasound Initiative, when a state or local council raises 50% of the cost of an ultrasound machine, the Supreme Council will provide the other 50% of the cost to complete funding for purchase of an ultrasound machine that will help a Crisis Pregnancy Center to provide for the health of mothers and their unborn children.

Please join me in celebrating this accomplishment.

Pictured (L to R): Sam and Arline Mistretta (State Culture of Life Chair Couple), Keith Gautreau (Council 8147), Donna Ashcraft and Allison Millet (WNLC), Ralph Roger (Council 8147), Dale Tureau (Council 8147), and Cydney Gautreau.



A PRO-LIFE STORY

Vickie Brumley, CPC Executive Director

She came in with downcast eyes, hardly able to look at the receptionist. Star* was a very pretty young lady with very sad eyes. Her name was called and she went back with her client advocate. The advocate could see she was closed off. Star didn't make eye contact and gave short answers to the questions she was asked. When the advocate asked her if she had a job, she reluctantly said, "Yes." She said that she was a dancer at a strip club. The tears began to fall. What seemed like a good way to make great money was now a trap.

Her pregnancy test came back positive. She said that having a baby was not an option because she would lose her job and thus, her apartment. Star listened while her advocate told her about a place where she could live during her pregnancy. She would have the time to look at her options and decide if she wanted to parent or place her baby for adoption. It was the first time her advocate saw her smile.

Thanks to you, Care Pregnancy Center can offer women options - real options. Most women do not want to have an abortion but believe there is no other choice for their situation. Your passion for reaching others makes it possible for us to help others, month after month.

*name changed to maintain confidentiality

Click <u>here</u> to find out more about their work.



RECENT PRO-LIFE CONGRESSIONAL AND ADMINISTRATION ACTIONS

Brian Duggan, Executive Director NCHLA

Dear Friend, we are pleased to bring to your attention several positive Congressional and Administration actions from late last week.

First, last Friday, on the day of the March for Life, the House of Representatives voted 241-183 to pass the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act (H.R. 4712). You can see how your Representative voted here. Thanks to all who quickly responded to our action alert last week. Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities issued a statement thanking and praising the House and calling on the Senate to pass it as well. We urge you to send a note of thanks if your Representative voted for the bill and a note of disappointment if they voted against it.

Second, last Thursday, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights announced its establishment of a Division on Conscience and Religious Freedom. This new Division was created to more vigorously and effectively enforce existing laws protecting the rights of conscience and religious freedom. More information on this new Division can be seen here.

Third, on Friday, in his address to the March for Life, President Trump announced two additional actions:

HHS' Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is issuing new guidance to state Medicaid directors restoring state flexibility to decide program standards. The letter issued last Friday rescinds the Obama Administration's 2016 guidance that specifically restricted states' ability to take certain actions against family-planning providers that offer abortion services.

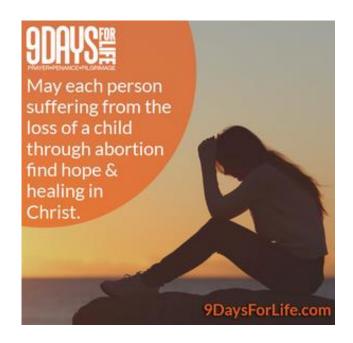
HHS' Office for Civil Rights (OCR) is announcing a new proposed rule to enforce 25 existing statutory conscience protections for Americans involved in HHS-funded programs, which protect people from being coerced into participating in activities that violate their consciences, such as abortion, sterilization, or assisted suicide.

Cardinal Dolan and Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, Chairman of the USCCB's Committee for Religious Liberty, offered a joint <u>statement</u> applauding these actions but also pointing out the need for Congress to enact the Conscience Protection Act to provide permanent legislative protections for victims of discrimination, as well as the ability to defend their rights in court. Without further action from Congress, the protection of these rights may only be short-lived.

Fourth, President Trump issued a proclamation naming January 22nd Sanctity of Human Life Day. The proclamation can be seen here.

Finally, we anticipate that the Senate will soon take up the Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act, though a vote has not yet been scheduled by Leader McConnell. We will be in touch when a date has been confirmed. Thanks for all you are doing to urge your Senators to vote for it. Please continue contacting them until the vote occurs. You can read Cardinal Dolan's letter to the Senate here.





HELPING MEN BE FATHERS Mary McClusky

Many will offer reflections as we approach the 45th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion throughout pregnancy. It's a good time to consider past efforts and how to continue to build a culture of life. Early on, we focused on the child destroyed by abortion. Then we learned how best to encourage and support the mothers experiencing an unexpected pregnancy. As we look to the future, we need to also consider another person who needs more attention and assistance: the father.

Fathers of unborn children have no recognized legal rights. In some cases, a father doesn't know of his child's existence or is not given an opportunity to weigh in when a mother is considering abortion. As it is for all those touched by an abortion experience, healing after abortion is complicated for fathers as well. The U.S. bishops' "9 Days for Life" novena intention on January 22nd asks that "each person suffering from the loss of a child through abortion find hope and healing in Christ." (To participate, visit www.9daysforlife.com.) This prayer effort recognizes that when a child dies because of an abortion, many feel the loss and pain, including the father.

Contraception, pornography, no-fault divorce, sexual abuse, domestic violence, and many other societal evils also contribute to the fatherhood crisis in society and have a connection to abortion. Our society often conditions men to view women as objects and to think that sex is little more than a pleasure-seeking adventure. When a child is conceived from this mindset, rather than within an exclusive, permanent relationship between husband and wife, both the mother and her child often suffer. In many cases, the mother is abandoned and the child destroyed.

By recognizing the unique role of fathers, we more effectively highlight the humanity of the unborn child. We also affirm marriage--what St. John Paul II called the "sanctuary of life"--that more effectively welcomes children into the world. And we bear witness to the crucial role of a father in raising children. Consideration of the father's role is important to pro-life efforts.

Some might argue that encouraging masculinity and fatherhood harms women's empowerment and personal autonomy; however, these false dichotomies can distract us from the truth that men and women were designed to "cling" to each other (Genesis 2:24) in marriage and depend upon each other for support in family life. Authentic masculinity and fatherhood are pro-woman and profamily.

As we consider future pro-life efforts, collaboration on fatherhood initiatives between chastity, family life, and social justice efforts is key. Programs that develop authentic masculinity and support men's growth in holiness are popular in many dioceses. The Knights of Columbus offers the "Fathers for Good" initiative for men, a key part of their larger "Building the Domestic Church" program.

Consider St. Joseph's example. He embraced the role of husband and father in very difficult and challenging circumstances. Let us pray for his intercession in our efforts to advance fatherhood and promote a culture of life, both during "9 Days for Life" and throughout the year.

Mary McClusky is Assistant Director for Project Rachel Ministry Development at the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. For confidential help after abortion, visit www.hopeafterabortion.org or www.esperanzaposaborto.org.





HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Ben Clapper, Executive Director Louisiana Right to Life

Happy New Year! As you are making resolutions for the new year, consider making a pro-life resolution. Whether you commit to wearing your precious feet pin more often, making sure you have a Choose Life License Plate, or be present more often to pray at an abortion facility near you, each of us can do something extra in 2018 to help unborn babies and their mothers!



BABY ITEMS FOR CENTER

Michael & Catherine Abbate (Council 9623)

KC Council 9623 Culture for Life Couple delivered a truckload of pro-life infant gifts to the Access Pregnancy and Referral Center in Metairie at 921 Aris Street. These gifts were collected for the Pro-Life Giving Tree at Ascension of Our Lord Church in Laplace in December. In the Picture are Michael Abbate, Catherine Abbate and Michelle Black with the Archdiocese of New Orleans and the Access Pregnancy Center.



COUNCIL 7856 DONATES TO PREGNANCY GROUPS

Daniel and Linda Dore (Council 7856)

Martin Macdiarmid (1) and Daniel Dore' (r) members of Knights of Columbus Council 7856 affiliated with Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in St. Francisville and Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Jackson are shown presenting a donation to help defray operating expenses to Michele Gates, Event Coordinator, Woman's New Life Center located at 760 Colonial Drive, Baton Rouge, La 70806. Woman's New Life Center provides an alternative to abortion to expectant mothers. The donation is made by the council as part of its annual participation in the national KC Culture of Life Program.



SIDEWALK ADVOCATES FOR LIFE IN ACTION

Chris Davis (District Deputy 58)

December 28th: I was inspired by a post from Abby Johnson's ministry page calling for a greater presence on the sidewalk even in cold weather. She and the Sidewalk Advocates leader Pamela Whitehead and their team got three saves today outside Houston PP! Some of you may be tempted to say 'it's not as cold in Houston'. It's really not that much different. You could have been in Minnesota yesterday with Brian Gibson in DOUBLE DIGIT

BELOW ZERO weather outside the St. Paul abortion facility!

So, it was relatively warm today in Shreveport. After my workday, there were only two cars in the parking lot, both workers. One of them waved to me, but neither took the ATTWN flyer I offered.

I'll be there at noon tomorrow, who's with me?





SUCCESSFUL BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN David and Anne Gregory (Council 8342)

KC Council 8342 completed our Baby Bottle campaign at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Prairieville, and contributed \$1,000 combined with several other local councils that also contributed a \$1,000 each to help to purchase a new ultrasound machine for the Women's New Life Center in Baton Rouge through the Ultrasound Initiative program. We (Council 8342) also donated an additional \$1,000 to the Women's New Life Center, and the council donated another \$5,800 to the Pregnancy Problem Center.

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

In January, the Council Culture for Life Couple led a pro-life Rosary after the 7:30 am Mass at Ascension of Our Lord parish in Laplace as well as in their Adoration Chapel. Also in January, the chair couple collected cash, gift cards, and various items for the victims of human trafficking in New Orleans.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

Don and Dee Caskey (Council 1905)

I am beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. This past month on Friday, January 19th, our country had perhaps the most significant National Pro-Life March in Washington ever. Our President (The first to do so) "attended" the march live via television. He opted to do it this way for the security of the marchers. Vice President Pence also invited some of the march's key speakers to several events, including the White House.

Also on this day, the House passed the "Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act. This forces abortionists to CARE FOR any baby that is delivered alive in a botched abortion. The Supreme Court ruled in favor of Fr. Frank Pavone and Priests For Life in a lawsuit that was trying to force them to provide birth control and other negative services for employees through their health care plan.

On Saturday January 20th, a few of our brother Knights from good old #1905 went to Baton Rouge for Life March South. There was also one held in Shreveport on January 27th. In Baton Rouge, it was extremely impressive to see our 4th Degree Brothers leading the march in Full Regalia. There were quite a few councils represented there, some with just a few knights and some with small armies. We need to turn out in force to "Vote" for life by being present, showing what we know to be true that ALL LIFE is sacred.

Nationwide, on the very same January 20th, there were marches in about 100 cities for Women's Rights. The abuse by some men in position of power, be it political or in the work place has recently brought down quite a few men that either DO NOT RESPECT women or just simply cannot

think beyond their own desires. I find it hard to believe that any man that truly LIVES HIS FAITH will do the things that have happened. We all have or know wives, daughters, sisters and a MOM! and we would do anything to protect them. This stems from our knowing the difference between love and lust and having RESPECT for All Women. I just wish that All Women would realize that there are no rights unless you are allowed to BE, beginning with the right to life.

I am beginning to set up the 2018 Access Pregnancy Center's Baby Bottle Campaign and will keep you all informed with the dates as soon as possible.

I have had delays in making the current batch of Pro-Life Garden Angels. When they are completed, I will need help in the sales department. We still have a ways to go to raise enough money for our portion of the Ultrasound Machine for the Community Center for Life.

Yours in Christ, Don and Dee Caskey





CULTURE OF LIFE MONTHLY REPORT

Fr. Dan Cook (Diocese of Alexandria)

Don't give up chocolate this Lent. Instead, preform a corporal act of Mercy! Pray where the holy martyrs of the unborn enter eternal life. Your love, prayers, and presence may save a life at an Abortion Mill this Lent.



L to R: Rev. Brian, Father Fidel, Father Dan and a pro-life Yorkie, Cheetheoh.



This was a great gathering of God's beloved folks praying at the Abortion Mill in Shreveport on January 7, 2018. The group came to share their love for the unborn as we prayed for transformation of the abortion mill to a pro-life center.

My 1st baby picture was June 20th 1961, when my parents brought home... the most adorable baby born in Michigan. Fast forward 56 years, the first picture children see of themselves is a ultrasound photo...a

picture taken months before they are born into this great life we all share. Most young people GET IT. They are not fooled by the culture of lies and deceit that tell us its a blob of cells. Even a first grader will say that's little 'ole me in my mother's womb. I thank God for the New Pro-Life Generation with faith & science working to form wisdom and a passion for truth.



ATTENDING THE BATON ROUGE MARCH LeRoy and Ellen Brandow (Council 14614)

Members of Most Holy Trinity Parrish in Covington going to Life March South in Baton Rouge, Saturday Jan 20th. The bus was sponsored by Most Holy Trinity Council 14614. The knights attending were: LeRoy Brandow (Culture of Life Chairperson), Bob Meyer, and Charles Roesvally.





PRO-LIFE WORK John and Elaine Hauler (Council 9016)

Every year, pilgrims from across the country travel to Washington D.C. to mark the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision of the Supreme Court. Every year, tens of thousands gather there to hear various speakers before they march to the Supreme Court building to demonstrate against that decision. The fact that the government of the United States sanctions the death of millions of unborn babies stirs the souls of these people, young and old from all walks of life, faith and color. South Louisiana is among those thousands.

Under the direction of State KC Events Chairman Vince Whittington and an assist from LLAA President Cheryll Thomas, St. Thomas More Council 5530 gathered its people together to prepare breakfast and lunch for nine busloads of those pilgrims. Six people got together this January on a Wednesday morning at the parish life center at St. George Parish in Baton Rouge to slice one hundred fifty-three pounds of ham and weigh and package it into bags of four ounces each. This procedure took about four hours to complete. Then the following Sunday twenty-two people from four councils got together at the same facility to make five hundred po-boy sandwiches using the packaged ham along with slices of cheese. These sandwiches were individually wrapped and placed in nine Styrofoam ice chests. Others sliced tomatoes, gathered pickle slices and lettuce and packaged these also into zip lock bags while still others counted out bananas, oranges and apples to separate and divide into nine groups. While this was going on, more people gathered bags of chips, boxes of cookies as well as packets of mustard and mayonnaise which were placed into bags and divided into nine groups. Along with this were packets of yogurt and pop tarts.

The entire package of food was divided and marked for each of the nine buses carrying five hundred

pilgrims to make the fun filled arduous trip to Washington D. C. for the annual prolife march. This endeavor took about three and one-half hours to complete, but because of this dedication breakfast, lunch and snacks were provided. Then dark and early the next morning, six of the men met at 5 AM again at St. George to load the eighteen ice chests, twenty-seven boxes of fruit as well as the other odds and ends mentioned above into their pickups, SUVs and vans. They scattered to the three bus departure points where they met the travelers as well as what looked like a ton of baggage to load onto the buses. These dedicated knights and lady workers came from Fr. Maynard Hurst (9016) St Thomas More (5530), St. George and St. Jean Vianney (9247) It was heartening to know that the workers and the pilgrims thanked one another for their part in getting the trip together.















LOUISIANA LIFE MARCH SOUTH 2018

Louisiana Life March South took place on Saturday, January 20, 2018 in downtown Baton Rouge, marking the 45th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade U.S. Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion in our country. Louisiana Life Marches are held yearly to unite the pro-life people of Louisiana, across all denominational lines, to take a stand for life in our state and mobilize them with resources to go make a difference in their communities.

It was a beautiful day, and thousands of people from around the state gave public witness for the protection of human life from conception to natural death. Participants marched from the State Capitol to the stage near the USS Kidd where several speeches were given. Many knights and their families came out in support for the pro-life cause. We thank all the knights and their families who came to the march this year.

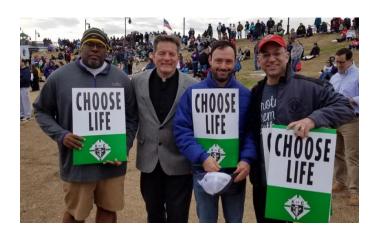














PRO-LIFE IN ALBANY

John and Mary Gaeta (Council 10178)

St. Margaret KC Council 10178, Albany, displays their Pro-Life banner in front of church every January. In addition, the St. Margaret KC Ladies Auxiliary sponsored their annual Respect Life Baby Bottle Campaign. Proceeds will support Women's Life Ministries, a local organization that promotes local respect life efforts.

Aside from the Knights and Ladies Auxiliary, the youth from St. Margaret joined other youth from the Baton Rouge Diocese and attended the annual March For Life in Washington, D.C.

A new ministry coming to St. Margaret Queen of Scotland, Albany is the Respect Life Ministry. Finally, Jim & Pat Aldredge have a pro-life prayer group meet at their home in Springfield every Thursday morning at 9:00 AM.

DONATION TO PREGANCY CENTER

Kevin and Jeannie Gauthier (Council 14657)

John Paul II Knights of Columbus council from Pineville LA. donated \$1,800 to the Cenla Pregnancy Center. You can find out more about the center at their <u>website</u>. The council will also participate in Life March Central on February 3rd.

MEMORIAL FOR THE UNBORN

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

It was a beautiful day for the annual Memorial for the Unborn in the New Orleans Catholic Cemeteries (St. Patrick #1) new Holy Innocents Prayer Garden. Thank you, Archbishop Gregory Aymond, for blessing this new garden for parents who have lost an unborn child through abortion, miscarriage, or stillbirth. Thank you to the lovely 7th grade students from Holy Name of Jesus School for participating in the music & laying of the roses. Thank you, Louisiana Right to Life for this annual local collaboration to pray for the protection of the unborn. To memorialize a child with a plaque on the statue base, please contact New Orleans Catholic Cemeteries. Pictures were taken by Andy Wayne Photography.

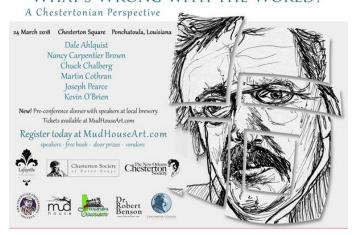






UPCOMING EVENTS

2018 Louisiana Chesterton Conference
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE WORLD?



2018 PRO LIFE ORATORY CONTEST

Trista Litell, Diocese of Lafayette

The Lafayette Diocesan Pro-Life Oratory Contest for high school juniors and seniors will be held **February 22, 2018** at Immaculata Center – 1408 Carmel Dr., Lafayette, LA from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. The topics include one of the following:

- The Tragedy of Abortion, or
- The Tragedy of Euthanasia, or
- The Tragedy of Infanticide, or
- The Tragedy of Embryonic Stem Cell Research

1st Prize is \$250 and the opportunity to participate in the state Pro-Life Oratory Contest at the Knights of Columbus State Convention, May 5, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Executive Center; 4728 Constitution Avenue; Baton Rouge, LA 70808 (Delta Queen Mississippi Room).

This is a great opportunity for students to research important pro-life issues. Topics may be found on the USCCB.org website under the Pro-Life Activities section.

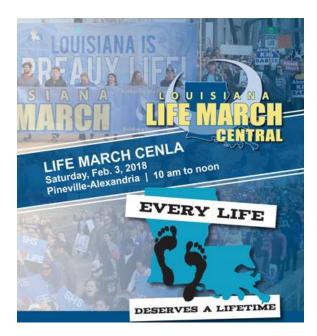
Please encourage your high school junior and senior students to participate in the Diocesan Pro-Life Oratory Contest. Entry forms are to be submitted prior to the deadline of February 9, 2018. You can get more information and access the entry form using this <u>link</u>. For additional information, please contact Trista Littell at (337) 261-5607.

2018 LOUISIANA LIFE MARCH CENTRAL

Louisiana Life March Central Saturday, February 3, 2018

Pineville to Alexandria, 10 AM to Noon

It is not too late to join a Life March in Louisiana! The event will begin on the grounds of Louisiana College in Pineville. The 1.6-mile march will go down Main Street toward the Jackson Street Bridge, cross the bridge and conclude at the amphitheater on the Alexandria side of the Red River, where speakers and musicians will lead the audience in prayer for life.



UPCOMING MEN'S CONFERENCE

The Men of the Immaculata will host the 2018 Men's Conference at St. George Catholic Church on **Saturday, February 17th.** This event was very popular last year, so hundreds of men are expected to attend again this year. Don't miss your chance to experience it. You can get tickets on-line.



LOUISIANA PULSE IMMERSIONS

High School and College students, be educated, trained, and inspired to become a Pro-Life Leader at a PULSE Immersion Weekend!

PULSE will be an exciting weekend to immerse yourself in the pro-life cause. With engaging speakers and testimonies, you will be educated on the pro-life issues and inspired to make a difference. With hands-on activism, games, our famous PULSE Coffee House, and a number of field trips and onsite activities, you will have a blast!

Dates: Baton Rouge: February 23-25, 2018
Covington: March 23-25, 2018
You can find out all of the details at their web site.



RACHEL'S VINEYARD

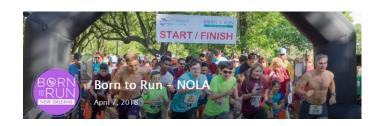
Rachel's Vineyard is a retreat for those who have suffered the wounds of abortion. It is an extraordinary opportunity for any person who struggles with the emotional and spiritual pain of abortion. The weekend is a unique and effective process designed specifically to help you experience the mercy and 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!

The next retreat in Lafayette will be held April 6-8, 2018. Pre-registration is required. All inquiries are kept strictly confidential. Contacts: Karol or Trista @ 337.261.5607 for more information.



BORN TO RUN – NEW ORLEANS

On **April 7th**, the 2018 Born to Run NOLA 5K and Fun Run is a great opportunity for runners and walkers alike to take an active role in Woman's New Life Center's mission. Woman's New Life Center (WNLC) is a life-affirming counseling and medical center that serves women facing unplanned pregnancies in the New Orleans and Greater Baton Rouge areas. Along with its expansion of Hope Woman's Clinic, its goal is to serve women in all areas need. You can help WNLC continue to save and change lives by participating in Born to Run/NOLA. Hope is for YOU! To learn more about our health services, please visit this web site. REGISTER ONLINE



LENTEN MISSIONS!

A Lenten Parish Mission by Dumb Ox Ministries will break open the Paschal Mystery through the lens of the Theology of the Body and invite participants into a renewed life of faith! This mission will transform your understanding of yourself, your family, your relationships, your vocation, and your purpose in life! Regardless of your age or state in life, this message is for you!

Open dates for Lenten Parish Missions for 2018:

March 25, 2018 (one-night mission) March 26, 2018 (one-night mission) March 28, 2018 (one-night mission)

For more information or to inquire about how to bring a mission to your parish or school community, click here!





THEOLOGY OF THE BODY CLASSES "INTO THE HEART" LEVEL II

WHAT IS "THEOLOGY OF THE BODY"? ANDTIDOTE TO THE CULTURE OF DEATH.

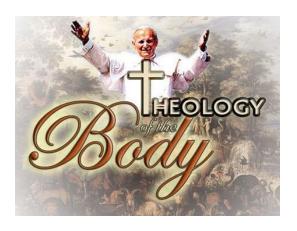
TOB classes are offered to adults 18 yrs and older. There is NO charge for this class! It consists of eight 60 minute videos based on the teaching of St. John Paul II on Marriage and Family Life. An optional workbook can be purchased for \$20. If you have questions or, information and to registration, then call: 337-289-9366 or 337-335-4652 or email: maguillot27@gmail.com or desormeauxfoundation1@gmail.com.

Facilitator: Adele Guillot

Location: Henriette DeLille Room, Immaculata

Center, 1408 Carmel Drive, Lafayette, LA

Remaining dates: **February 5, 19 March 5, 12, 19, 26 April 9** from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm each day.



LIFE FEST

I am happy to announce our FIRST LIFE FEST this year! Mark your calendar for **April 21, 2018**! Spring is the perfect time to celebrate the gift of life, so let's celebrate it!

The main focuses of the event will be:

- Support for Local Pregnancy Centers (through diaper/supply donations)
- Acadiana Pro-Life Education
- Celebration of Life

Our vision for the event is the following:

- 5K
- Live Music with local bands/musicians
- Food Trucks/Stands/Drinks, etc.
- Booths of local vendors, artists, etc.

We're in need of some support in order to make this event a success, and we hope that you and your networks will be willing and able to be there!

Here are our primary goals:

- Form a Life Fest Board
- Identify Local Sponsors
- Find Local Artists, Bands, Musicians, etc. to perform/have a booth
- Find Local Restaurants, Food Trucks, etc. to be there

Feel free to pass along this information to all those you think would like to be involved, perform, have a booth, need service hours, etc!

Please contact me at krista@prolifelouisiana.org or at my work cell 337.366.1681!

For Love of Life, Krista R. Corbello LRTL Youth Programs Co-Director



Volume 5 Number 2 **CULTURAE VITAE**

ENTERING CANAAN: DAY OF PRAYER AND **HEALING FOR THOSE TOUCHED BY ABORTION**

Come begin your healing journey and experience God's love and mercy. You are not alone. There is hope. There is healing.

A Day of Prayer and Healing will be held on Saturday, February 17, 2018 for women and men who have been touched by abortion. This one-day retreat marks the beginning, in the Diocese of Baton Rouge, of Entering Canaan Ministry - a multifaceted program that offers days of prayer, monthly gatherings and more. Entering Canaan Ministry was developed by the Sisters of Life and Theresa Bonapartis and is supported by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

For more information, confidential inquiries or to register, please contact Tara at 225-938-3858 or EnteringCanaanBR@yahoo.com. Sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge- Office of Marriage & Family Life. If you have any questions, please contact Danielle Van Haute 225-242-0164 or dvanhaute@diobr.org.



CELEBRATE LIFE BANQUET 2018

This banquest presented by THE is DESORMEAUX FOUNDATION, INC. (a pro-life, pro-family, non-profit organization) It will take place on Friday, February 16, 2018, 6:30 PM at the Petroleum Club (111 Heymann Blvd., Lafayette, LA). The event will feature a live auction, silent auction, entertainment, camaraderie, and raising funds for saving lives.

Their special guest speaker is Jennifer O'Neill, internationally acclaimed model, actress, film and television star, producer, author, keynote speaker, proud mother of three, and grand-mother of four, Jennifer O'Neill has been noted as "one of a kind." She recently updated her auto-biography "Surviving Myself" and filming her post-abortive healing documentary.

Tickets \$75 Individual; Table for eight \$550 Sponsorship (Patron's) Packages are available.

All proceeds remain local to help support women in unplanned pregnancies and to support our maternity home for homeless pregnant mothers. Call 337-289-9366 or visit www.desormeauxfoundation.org to purchase tickets.



The DesOrmeaux Foundation 🅉





EDUCATION CORNER

ACTION ALERTS – USCCB RECOMMENDED

For many years, the USCCB has partnered with the National Committee for a Human Life Amendment (NCHLA). You can use their Action Center to receive email notifications of pending pro-life legislation. It makes it easy to contact your senators and representatives. They provide a modifiable message to send. You can sign-up for notifications at their web site.



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.







WHEN IS IT TIME TO "TROT OUT A TODDLER?"

Catholic Answers

In his groundbreaking Pro-Life book, **Persuasive Pro-Life**, Apologist Trent Horn teaches pro-life ambassadors how to stay on message using a technique called "Trot Out A Toddler."

Most failed conversations about abortion happen when the pro-life advocate doesn't stay on the one question that matters most: "What are the unborn?"

In order to help stay on message, I use a tool created by pro-life apologist Scott Klusendorf called Trot out a Toddler (TOAT). My favorite articulation of TOAT was created by my former JFA colleague Steve Wagner, which he calls "the four A's." They are Agree, Apply, Ask Why, and Ah! Here's how they work.

Step One: Agree

Whenever possible, agree with the sentiments behind the reason being given to keep abortion legal. Some pro-life advocates think that agreeing to anything is a sign of weakness, but pro-choice advocates see it as a sign of compassion and understanding. For example, when poverty is mentioned, you can agree that caring for an impoverished child is difficult. When the "right to choose" is invoked, you can wholeheartedly agree that women should be able to choose all sorts of things. Invoking many areas of agreement at the beginning of the conversation will create rapport and a sense of good will that can help ease tension when you discuss areas of disagreement. But your agreement should not be merely used as a strategy way to win the argument. Instead, genuinely show concern for the lives of both the born and unborn people who are affected by an unintended pregnancy.

Step Two: Apply

Next, take the reason being given to justify abortion and use it to justify killing a two-year-old. This takes practice, and I recommend that when you describe the example, extend your hand two or three feet off the ground, as if you were touching the top of a two-year-old's head. If you get stuck, remember

that the "apply" always starts the same way: Extend your hand and say, "Imagine I have a two-year-old here, and his mother . . ."

This works for almost any reason that does not answer the question "What are the unborn?" For example, regarding poverty, you might say, "Imagine I have a two-year-old here, and his mother is poor and feels like she cannot care for him. Should she be allowed to kill him?" This may seem like a silly question, but that is precisely the point. If unborn children are as human as toddlers, then it should be just as silly to ask the question, "Imagine I have a poor pregnant woman who feels like she cannot care for another child, should she be allowed to have an abortion?" The only difference is the age of the child who is being killed.

No matter how silly it sounds, ask the person only if the reason women need legal abortion (poverty, choice, women's rights, etc.) would also be a good reason to kill a two-year-old. Then be quiet. Just let the question hang in the air until the pragmatist responds.

Step Three: Ask Why

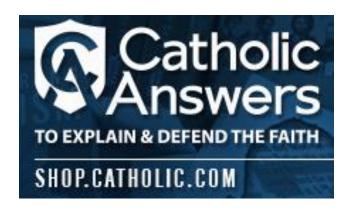
When the pragmatist responds to your question and says that it is wrong to kill the two-year-old, ask "Why is it wrong?" You can even preface this question by saying, "I know this is a stupid question, but humor me. Why is it wrong for the woman to kill her two-year-old?" Sometimes the pro-choice advocate will answer, "Because it's illegal." You can then ask if killing two-year-olds should be illegal. If he says yes, ask, "Why do you think killing two-year-olds should be illegal?"

In rare cases you may encounter a pro-choice advocate who says that it would not be wrong for a mother to kill her two-year-old. There are two reasons people say this. The first is they don't want to have a real conversation. They don't actually believe in killing two-year-olds, but they will say they do to provoke you. Don't fall for it. Simply say, "Well, if you don't have any respect for human life, then why should I have any respect for what you believe?" You can also ask, "Do you want to have a serious conversation or do you just feel like wasting my time?"

Even though a few odd people will answer otherwise, this step is the easiest of the four A's. Most people agree that killing a two-year-old is wrong, because two-year-olds are innocent human beings, and it is wrong to kill innocent human beings. The pragmatist may even anticipate where your questions are leading and say it is wrong to kill a two-year-old because he is a person, or a born human, or he is breathing, or he is in some way different than an unborn child, who we are allowed to kill. This is exactly where you want the conversation to go.

Step Four: Ah! (That's the issue!)

The last part of "trot out a toddler" is the most complicated but also the most important. It narrates the epiphany the pro-choice person should be having in relation to the pro-life position. In this step, the pro-life person responds to the answer to step three and says, "Ah [or "Oh," or any other appropriate exclamation], so that's the issue. The issue is not about poverty [or choice, or age, or health, or whatever original reason was offered as to why abortion must remain legal], because you wouldn't justify killing a two-year-old for that reason. If the unborn are just as human as a two-year-old, then we shouldn't kill them for that reason, either. You and I just disagree over whether unborn children should have the same rights born children possess."



PRO-LIFE PERSUASION

We Can Bring Our Pro-Life Persuasion Crash Course to You!

Louisiana Right to Life can bring our Pro-Life Persuasion Crash Course to your church or area upon request! Contact us for information at info@prolifelouisiana.org or call (866) 463-5433.



SIGN-UP FOR LACCB ACTION ALERTS

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.

Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops

"Part of building a culture of life is advocating for the dignified treatment of every man, woman, and child at every moment, no matter the circumstances. This doesn't end in the birth room."



- MARY HASELTINE

2017-2018 USCCB RESPECT LIFE PROGRAM THEME: BE NOT AFRAID!

This program provides a set of tools help build a Culture of Life. The materials are meant to supplement existing methods of sharing the Faith and to help integrate the joyful message of our Godgiven dignity across the breath of Catholic life, work, and ministry. Go to the website for more.

The new brochures developed for the years' program include:

- What to Do When a Friend is Considering Abortion
- How to Build a Culture of Life
- Top Reasons to Oppose Assisted Suicide
- Catholic Considerations for Our Earthly Passing
- Death Penalty: Catholic Q & A
- Understanding Conscience



HOW DO I ORDER MATERIALS?

If you are only ordering 2017-2018 Respect Life Program materials...

- 1.) Fill out the enclosed postcard order form.
- Fax the completed postcard orer form to 301-779-8596, or put it in the mail. (It's already addressed and postage-paid.)
- OR Call toll-free 866-582-0943 to place your order by phone.

If you are ordering additional materials from the catalog...

- Fill out the order from from the back of the catalog.
- 2. Send the completed order form by fax or mail to the number or address listed on the form.
- OR Call toll-free 866-582-0943 to place your order by phone.

INTERNET ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Mail Order Abortion Pills Allow Pimps to Further
Exploit Sex Trafficking Victims

Rep. Trent Franks' Scandal Exposes Corrupting
Effects of Surrogacy

In Manassas, a closed abortion clinic made new

Members of Knights of Columbus Council 7856 donates to pregnancy groups

<u>Planned Parenthood Celebrates Killing 7.6 Million</u>
Babies in Abortions

Report: Government Funds Largest Source of Planned Parenthood Revenue

Odium Naturae: The Thread of Madness

Why everyone should oppose surrogacy

Court strikes down law punishing pro-life pregnancy centres

Appeals Court Strikes Down Baltimore Law Targeting Pregnancy Centers

New York Pro-Lifers Counter Culture of Death at Margaret Sanger Center

Joseph Fletcher's Dark Dreams Becoming Our Reality

Man up! A #BroLifer's Guide to Defending Life in a Culture of Death

Assisted suicide laws are creating a 'duty-to-die' medical culture

Here's why we're still not cloning humans, 20 years after Dolly the sheep

This brave surrogate mother saved a tiny boy from abortion

<u>Don't Turn Off the Lights: New Study Questions</u> Modern Brain Death Guidelines

How Abortion Pills Upend the Politics and Practice of Abortion

Good news from CDC: Teen sexual activity drops
12% in two decades

Appeals Court Strikes Down Baltimore Law Targeting Pregnancy Centers

Bill to aid victims of child pornography passes US

Senate committee

Planned Parenthood Evolution Underway Thanks to Influx of Private Donors

Our Culture is Wrong About Sex, and Chastity is Needed Now More Than Ever

Test-tube babies are all grown up...and they're not happy

Netflix Accused Of Glamourizing Sex Trafficking Over Italian Drama Baby

Paul VI in 2018

The Dangerous Supreme Court Case Nobody Is

Talking About

The Church Needs Honesty About Sexuality

America is a Pro-Life Nation After All!

Gene editing – and what it really means to rewrite the code of life

<u>'I Lived on Parker Avenue' Seeks to Revive the</u>
<u>Adoption Option</u>

What's Wrong with the New NIH Study on Transgender Kids?

Take Heart — The March for Life is Worth It

Full text: President Trump's historic speech to 2018

March for Life

Netherlands Allows Doctors to Euthanize Dementia Patients Without Consent

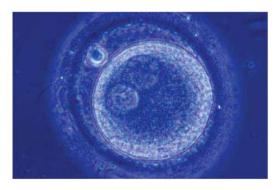
WHEN DOES HUMAN LIFE BEGIN? By Sam Mistretta

When it comes to establishing the morally illicit nature of abortion, a fundamental question that must be answered is: When does human life begin?

This is a very important question because nearly everyone will agree that it is wrong to kill innocent human life. This statement is based on a fundamental ethical principle of nonmaleficence which basically states that we should avoid unnecessary harms. In making its Roe v. Wade decision, the Supreme Court decided that the question of the beginning of human life could not be answered.

Today, medical science has advanced to the point where the question of the beginning of human life can be answered definitely. A unique human being begins to exist at the moment of conception. A white paper written by Maureen L. Condic, Senior Fellow at the Westchester Institute for Ethics & the Human Person provides a solid scientific basis for this position (link to white paper). Dr. Condic is also an Associate Professor of Neurobiology and Anatomy at the University of Utah School of Medicine. This is a very helpful resource for the scientific skeptic.

When Does Human Life Begin? A Scientific Perspective



Maureen L. Condic
Senior Fellow
Westchester Institute for Ethics & the Human Person

Associate Professor of Neurobiology and Anatomy at the University of Utah School of Medicine

Foreword by

Richard John Neuhaus

Editor in Chief, First Things

QUOTES OF THE MONTH

"It is impossible to further the common good without acknowledging and defending the right to life, upon which all the other inalienable rights of individuals are founded and from which they develop. A society lacks solid foundations when, on the one hand, it asserts values such as the dignity of the person, justice and peace, but then, on the other hand, radically acts to the contrary by allowing or tolerating a variety of ways in which human life is devalued and violated, especially where it is weak or marginalized." Taken from *Evangelium Vitae*, Saint Pope John Paul II, 1995.

"Never tire of firmly speaking out in defense of life from its conception and do not be deterred from the commitment to defend the dignity of every human person with courageous determination. Christ is with you: be not afraid!" Taken from the address of John Paul II to the Bishops and Apostolic Administrators of Albania on their "Ad Limina" Visit, February 3, 2001.

"[W]e are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the 'culture of death' and the 'culture of life'. We find ourselves not only 'faced with' but necessarily 'in the midst of' this conflict: we are all involved and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life." Taken from Pope John Paul II, *Evangelium Vitae*.



VIDEO OF THE MONTH

Shawn Carney, President/CEO 40 Days for Life



On January 22, the United States marks the 45th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court ruling that unleashed abortion on demand.

There are many events in the weeks ahead that will honor the memory of the estimated 58 million babies who have been aborted since that infamous 1973 decision was announced, and we encourage you to take part.

We are thankful to God that 40 Days for Life has helped keep a prayerful focus on the issue ... and has seen nearly 14,000 lives spared from abortion.

You can read about the many blessings God has shared with us in the expanded edition of the 40 Days for Life book!

Learn the moving, behind-the-scenes inspiration for 40 Days for Life ... the story of how the closed abortion facility where the campaign began became 40 Days for Life's headquarters ... and how two former abortion doctors now support life in that shuttered Planned Parenthood center.

You can order the book at: https://40daysforlife.com/book

I had the opportunity to talk about the book with Doug Keck on an episode of EWTN's Bookmark program. Click here to watch the video.



CULTURE OF LIFE RESOURCES

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.

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/

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

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.



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 <u>William.obrien@kofc.org</u>.

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 related 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 on-line. Here are links:

Baton Rouge: http://www.mfldiobr.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

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Prayer for Babies in Their Mother's Wombs

O God of all creation, nurture and protect tiny children and keep them safe in the sanctuary of their mother's wombs. As You so wondrously form their hearts and minds, and lungs and souls, so strengthen our wills to lovingly nurture and protect them.

Give us the eyes to see them as our brothers and sisters, the minds to welcome them as our own, and the faith to defend them as Your children.

We ask this through the intercession of Mary, our Blessed Mother, and the mother of all the little ones, through Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Source: EWTN

