



## Culturae Vitae

June 2018

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

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### CULTURE OF LIFE STORIES

#### CULTURE OF LIFE FAREWELL MESSAGE

This will be our last issue of *Culturae Vitae*. On July 1, 2018, Arline and I will step down as State Culture of life chair couple after four years of serving in this position. Current District Deputy Chris Davis from Council 10728 in Shreveport will take over as State Culture of Life Director. Chris is a pro-life veteran, and he is very involved as a leader in 40 Days for Life and Sidewalk Advocates for Life. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience, so we could not be more pleased with this choice.

It is appropriate at this time express our gratitude to God for the people that we have worked with to build a Culture of Life.

First, we want to thank PSD Vernon Decote and State Deputy James Riente for giving us this opportunity to serve. They were very supportive of our efforts and provided us with the resources needed. We have really enjoyed meeting so many dedicated pro-life people and council chair couples throughout the state. By the grace of God, their energy and drive have fed us in our day-to-day work to save human lives from the moment of conception to natural death.

If you read this newsletter on a regular basis, you know that we have taken advantage of information

and resources provided by the USCCB and Diocesan pro-life offices. We want to especially recognize and thank Danielle Van Haute, Debbie Shinskie, and Trista Littell who have each worked closely with us.

Over these four years, we have had an opportunity to work closely with Louisiana Right to Life. This has to be one of the finest pro-life organizations anywhere. They have organized innovative events, and they have been so effective in enabling the passage of pro-life legislation in our state. We strongly encourage everyone to support their efforts through donations and participation in their events. You will definitely see Arline and me at many of their future events.

We are also grateful for the councils who led efforts to obtain ultrasound machines for pregnancy centers in Louisiana through the Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Initiative, as well as all of the councils and individuals who made monetary donations to those efforts. Within the past year, we have worked with Council 8147 in Gonzales, Council 1905 in Gretna, Council 13632 and Council 9016 in Baton Rouge to successfully obtain funding for three ultrasound machines. We are now focused on placing ultrasound machines in north Louisiana, and Chris Davis will be working to make that a reality. Please support these new efforts to save lives.

We are really looking forward to continuing our pro-life work and supporting the new initiatives from Chris. We will keep you in our prayers, and we hope to see many of you at upcoming pro-life events.

Vivat Jesus!  
 Sam and Arline Mistretta



### BABY SHOWER DRIVE AT CONVENTION

The 114th Annual Knights of Columbus State Convention was held from May 4th through May 6th at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Baton Rouge.

Again this year a Baby Shower Collection Drive was held at the state convention to support crisis pregnancy centers and Catholic Charities. We are happy to report that this year's collection was another big success!

We received donations from councils, auxiliaries and individuals from around the state consisting of play pens, diapers, wipes, clothing, towels, blankets, bottles and various other items. For example, Council 9000 and their auxiliary donated several gift baskets. We also received monetary donations of \$485. The donated items were distributed to crisis pregnancy centers in Shreveport/Bossier, Monroe, Lafayette, Houma/Thibodaux, New Orleans and the Baton Rouge area.

Thanks so much to everyone for your overwhelming support!



### PRO-LIFE ORATORY CONTEST FINALS

The finals of the Louisiana Right to Life Pro-Life Oratory Contest was held at the Knights of Columbus State Convention in Baton Rouge on May 6th. Four Louisiana students competed for a \$500 prize and a chance to represent Louisiana in the National Right to Life Oratory Contest in Milwaukee on July 1st. This competition was coordinated by Shanon Snyder with Louisiana Right to Life.

Please join us in congratulating the contest winner Henry Nguyen of Lafayette and Celeste Lirette from Shreveport who took second place. As the contest winner, Henry gave his speech at the convention banquet later that night.

Congratulations to Joseph Kelly of Slidell and Ben Finicle of New Orleans for reaching the finals!



### STEPS TO HEAVEN FUNDRAISER

Wade and Melissa Simon (Council 8870)

Stanley S. Hebert Sr. Council 8770 in Maurice held a Shrimp Boil Dinner fundraiser at St. Alphonsus Church Hall on April 15th to benefit [Steps to Heaven](#). We sold and prepared 650 dinners to raise \$2,600.00 that will help Steps to Heaven in their wonderful work. Steps to Heaven is a local non-profit organization that provides support for FAMILIES IN CRISIS.

They provide burial remembrances (burial gowns, pocket blankets, keepsake pillows, and Holy Land Stone angels from Jerusalem) free of charge to those who have experienced a loss of an infant through a miscarriage, still birth, or infant death. These items are created by recycling gently used baptismal gowns, First Holy Communion dresses, party gowns, and wedding gowns which are white or cream colored. They also provide day gowns for infants in the NICU of Women's & Children's Hospital. In addition, they provide isolette/incubator blankets to local hospitals for needy babies who need a quiet, controlled environment for continued healthy growth and development. Please check Steps to Heaven out on Facebook ([link](#)).



USCCB RELIGIOUS LIBERTY CHAIRMAN  
ANNOUNCES RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK  
FROM JUNE 22-29, 2018

Catholics across the United States are encouraged to pray and act in support of religious liberty at home and abroad during **Serving Others in God's Love: Religious Freedom Week 2018**, which begins on June 22, the Feast of Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher, and ends on June 29, the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul.

The chairman of the USCCB's Committee for Religious Liberty, Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, states: "Religious freedom allows the space for people of faith to serve others in God's love in ministries like education, adoption and foster care, health care, and migration and refugee services. We encourage people of faith to reflect on the importance of religious freedom so that we might have the space to carry out our mission of service and mercy, and we invite everyone to pray for our brothers and sisters who face intense persecution in other parts of the world."

Resources for Religious Freedom Week and other religious liberty resources can be found at [www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek](http://www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek) and [www.usccb.org/freedom](http://www.usccb.org/freedom).



TRUTH IS FREEDOM

Vickie Brumley, Executive Director,  
Care Pregnancy Center

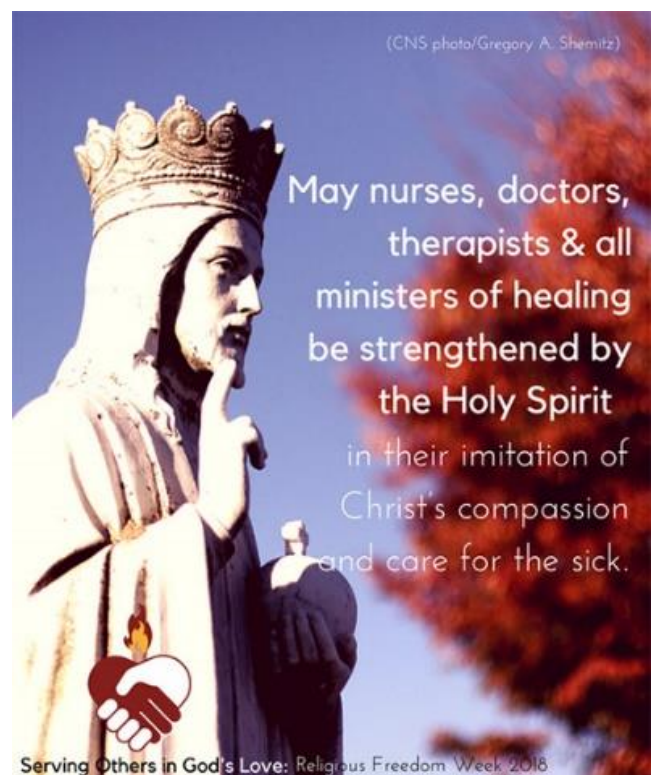
Many years ago, I spent time with a client who had strayed not only from Jesus, but from her husband. She found herself pregnant with another man's baby. She cried as she told me that she had made a mess of things. She said that her choices were ruining her marriage and hurting her children. We talked in depth about her options. She and her husband were

considering abortion even though they believed it was wrong. I encouraged her to think about the option of adoption. I gave her some information to take with her but when she left, she was still unsure about what they would choose.

She came in for a second visit and brought her husband. She said that many things had changed spiritually for both of them. They were reading the Word together and seeing a counselor. They said that their marriage was better than it had been in a long time. They decided that adoption was the best plan for everyone. Baby saved!! Marriage saved!! Family saved!!

Restoration and new life came out of a very bad situation. Only Jesus can do that. How powerfully he watches over us and helps us when we stay next to Him.

You can find out more about Care Pregnancy Center at their [web site](#).



## CONSPIRACY AGAINST LIFE

Chelsy Gomez, USCCB

In recent weeks, the eyes of the world were drawn to Liverpool, England as the life of 23-month-old Alfie Evans hung in the balance.

Despite drawing support from across the world, including from Pope Francis and the Italian and Polish governments, Alfie's ventilator was removed against his parents' wishes on April 23. Alfie suffered from an undiagnosed neurological condition and was not expected to survive long after the removal of the ventilator. However, Alfie surprised doctors as he breathed on his own for minutes, then hours, and then days, until he ultimately passed away on April 28.

Pope St. John Paul II warned that, "A person who, because of illness, handicap or, more simply, just by existing, compromises the well-being or life-style of those who are more favored tends to be looked upon as an enemy to be resisted or eliminated. In this way a kind of 'conspiracy against life' is unleashed" (Evangelium vitae, 12).

This "conspiracy against life" has a long history that runs deep and, over the centuries, has risen to the surface in many different forms. It is unleashed when a society equates human dignity with human ability, when we no longer focus on the burdens experienced by a person, but rather view the person as a burden.

The forced removal of Alfie's ventilator happened to take place on the same day that the royal family and the British people rightly welcomed and celebrated the birth of a new little prince.

The juxtaposition of these two events is striking. Mere hours separated the happy announcement of a safe delivery of the healthy royal baby from the tragic news of the government-forced removal of life-sustaining care from little Alfie Evans.

The painful irony is that in the days that followed, as the world eagerly awaited the naming of this new royal child, it lost sight of the fact that every child deserves to be celebrated, cherished, and welcomed--regardless of their class, status, or medical condition.

The story of Alfie Evans is the most recent example of a growing hostility toward those whose lives are, for one reason or another, deemed to be "lesser," "futile," or "not worth living."

Consider the staggering abortion rates of preborn children diagnosed with Down syndrome (nearly 100 percent in Iceland) or patients who, diagnosed with serious illnesses, are offered insurance coverage for assisted suicide, but not for treatment. All too often, efforts to end a life are cloaked in arguments of false compassion. These lives are construed as burdensome to those around them and not recognized as the unrepeatable gift that they are to the world. The feigned desire to end a person's suffering ends a person's life instead.

Human life--created in the image and likeness of God--is always a good, sacred in all stages and circumstances, and deserving of respect and protection from all that would threaten it.

It has often been said that we can measure a society by how it treats its weakest and most vulnerable members. We must never cease to witness to the dignity of human life, especially the most vulnerable among us. May Alfie's memory support us in our efforts to end this "conspiracy against life."

*Chelsy Gomez is Program Associate for the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. For more information on the bishops' pro-life activities, please visit [www.usccb.org/prolife](http://www.usccb.org/prolife).*



## LOUISIANA ABORTION RATE FALLS FOR THE 3RD STRAIGHT YEAR!

Louisiana Right to Life

The number of abortions in Louisiana decreased by 3 percent from 2016 to 2017, according to preliminary figures provided to Louisiana Right to Life recently by the Louisiana Department of Health. It was the third straight year abortion numbers have dropped.

There were 8,706 abortions performed in Louisiana in 2017, down from 8,972 abortions reported in 2016, 9,362 abortions reported in 2015, and 10,211 abortions reported in 2014. The number of abortions performed in the state had increased steadily since Hurricane Katrina before the abortion rate began to decline.

The number of abortions performed in Louisiana on women from another state, as well as parish by parish figures, have not yet been released by the state.

Some quick facts about the 2017 statistics in Louisiana:

- There were 8,706 abortions performed in 2017. That means there were, on average, 24 abortions per day.
- 27 girls under the age of 15 had abortions in 2017. Another 791 girls between the ages of 15-19 aborted their babies.
- The largest number of abortions – 2,532 – were performed on women between the ages of 25-29. There were also 11,132 women ages 35 and older who had abortions in 2017.
- Women categorized as “non-white” accounted for 69% of abortions performed in 2017.
- 84% of women who had abortions in 2017 were unmarried.
- Nearly 70% of babies were aborted within eight weeks of pregnancy.

[Click Here for More Statistics](#)

“We are excited that for the third straight year abortion has decreased in Louisiana,” said Benjamin Clapper, executive director of Louisiana Right to Life. “This decrease means that children were born

in 2017 who may have been aborted in previous years. These babies now get to enjoy their life in the great state we call home. We believe that every life deserves a lifetime, and that no matter the circumstances that mothers in our state face, our communities can provide support to assist them both before and after birth.

“Moving forward, we hope that the option of adoption will flourish in our state and lead to an even greater decrease in abortion, giving those who are considering abortion another option that will benefit them and their unborn baby. Together, we can build a future where every baby is protected by law and welcomed into our state with love.”

Even with numbers down nearly 15 percent since 2014, an average of 24 abortions per day were performed in Louisiana in 2017. Louisiana Right to Life will continue working hard to reduce these numbers until every baby is saved.



## ACTIVITIES AT DELTA IN BATON ROUGE

Jamie Johnson

A brief exchange of dialogue occurred between a pro-life sidewalk counselor and a lovely, young black woman named Dianna, on Friday, May 18th, 2018.

She was probably in her twenties or thirties and had a healthy glow about her. The exchange took place outside Delta abortion murder death camp mill "clinic" in Baton Rouge, LA. The conversation was recorded to encourage others to come to the defense of those still in the womb.

"Don't ever think what you're doing out here is in vain," the young woman said. "Let me tell you something," she continued. "About a year ago, I came in here [Delta], and a man standing right over there [gesturing toward the pine trees near the entrance] shouted, 'God never makes mistakes.' He said, 'Look at me!' 'Cause I was hanging my head in shame. 'Look at me!' I walked in there and something came over me. I started crying at the counter. She [presumably the receptionist] asked, 'What are you doing?...What are you doing?' [Her response to the employee's inquiries was uncaptured.] 'Well don't do it!' the employee behind the counter said. "So I walked back out," Dianna continued, "and nobody said anything to me." "My baby is ten months old and he is the most perfect [again, exact wording uncaptured]." "What you're doing out here is not in vain," she reiterated. "His name is Jaris," she said, when asked, 'What is his name?' "I was 12 weeks pregnant when I came here."

After conversing about what day it may have been, she said, "I can tell you exactly what day it was: December 22nd, 2016. "You're not going anywhere until you give me a hug," the sidewalk counselor said. She and I hugged tightly. "I was gonna pass by but I said, 'No, let me go tell him.'"



### END OF LIFE ISSUES – HELP NEEDED

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

HELP is needed! [Angels' Place](#) is a beautiful organization that assists children with terminal illnesses & their families. Their mission is to provide on-going respite care and support services to a child with a life threatening disease and their family in a loving caring manner.

We are in need of respite care workers to help our families at Angels' Place, as we have had an increase in referrals of children from Children's and Ochsner hospitals. This does require training from the hospital and with Mary Kantlehner, our Children's Program Director. Your schedule after training is flexible.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Mary at 504-455-2620 Help us make a difference in a child's life and their family. Visit their [website](#) to learn more about their work.



### ABORTION PILL REVERSAL WORKS!

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

Abortion Pill Reversal works! If you are on the sidewalk, please be sure you have literature on **Abortion Pill Reversal** because many of our women are given this, and we have two local physicians who can provide them with the reversal protocol! Contact the Respect Life Office if you need literature: [respectlife@arch-no.org](mailto:respectlife@arch-no.org).

"Of the 547 patients who took progesterone within 72 hours of taking mifepristone and had outcomes that were known, there were 257 live births..."

Read more [here](#).



ARCHDIOCESE OF  
**NEW ORLEANS**  
Respect Life

NEW ORLEANS BORN TO RUN

The Knights of Columbus were well-represented at the Woman's New Life Center Born to Run event in New Orleans. The New Orleans Born to Run event was the biggest it's ever been! This year there were almost 1,000 racers registered, and they raised over \$70,000!

PRO-LIFE CORNER

Don and Dee Caskey (Council 1905)

The Community Center for Life in Gretna will be holding the ribbon cutting for their new ultrasound machine on Friday, June 8th at 10:30 AM. This will take place at their center at the corner of Lafayette and Sixth Streets. This ultrasound machine was provided through the Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Initiative. I would like to see some brother knights in attendance (wearing their council shirts) to show how important the center's life saving work is to us.

This whole adventure has been an extreme witness to me on how God's love for life is manifested through so many people. I DO BELIEVE in miracles! We received our major financial boost when two church parishes in Baton Rouge merged

along with their respective KC councils. Out of that loss and their generosity new lives will literally be born. Do I hear an AMEN!

There is another pro-life activity that I would like to share with you. The Justice and Life ministries at Infant Jesus of Prague and St. Martha parishes would like to join with us for the Access Pregnancy Center's Baby Bottle Campaigns that are scheduled at all masses on June 9-10, 2018 at Infant Jesus and again at St. Martha on June 23-24, 2018. They focus on several aspects of the Culture of Life. I believe that pro-life starts with the respect for all human life from the moment of conception to when the Lord calls us home.

One final note, the Woman's New Life Center's Born to Run 5K/ Fun Run was an extreme success. They had 1,000 entries, but due to rain that morning right up to the start, many runners remained at home and missed a great time. There were as many K of C councils there as last year. During the race, I asked the different KC booths to let me take their photo like I did last year. A large portion of their crews were running and by the time things slowed down, enough for me to pass around again, many were packing up to leave. Oh well, there is always next year.

Yours in Christ,  
Don and Dee Caskey

PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES

Michael & Catherine Abbate (Council 9623)

In May, the council Culture for Life chair couple sponsored a pro-life Baby Shower with the Middle School Students with all of the gifts given to the Women's New Life Center in Metairie. Also in May, the couple sponsored the Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine for our Church. The Shrine was displayed at all Masses. This was the Pro-Life Shrine. The couple also participated in the annual Mother's Day Rosary Crusade for Life at the Abortion Facility in New Orleans.



WITNESS TO LIFE

Mary Rose and Ryan Verret

In the past 4 months we had the joy of training over 600 leaders in marriage formation in the US and Canada. We wanted to share with you the exciting renewal that many of you are beginning to experience in your (arch)dioceses! A special shout to the (arch)dioceses of San Diego, Tyler, Detroit, and Cincinnati.

Read three great articles on what the (arch)dioceses of [San Diego](#), [Tyler](#), [Detroit](#), and Cincinnati (same as Detroit news link) are doing to renew marriage formation using [Witness to Love](#). These articles are each beautiful examples of how the Church is serving today's engaged and married couples. At our most recent trainings we continue to see the Holy Spirit at work!

In April we had the joy of presenting with Cardinal Arinze. He is such a gift to the Church! It is your hard work and kindness that make our mission to renew marriage preparation and formation possible - thank you! Thank you to each mentor couple who shares their marriage and to each leader who has stepped out to work in their communities. Thank you to every donor who has helped to make this urgent work possible!



The Verret Family with Cardinal Arinze

Just last week we participated in our first "giving day." If you feel called to support our mission to renew marriages please consider giving a onetime or monthly donation [here](#).

We have been busy blogging at the National Catholic Register and you can read some of our recent blog posts on family, prayer, healing and holiness [here](#). Let us know what you think we should blog about next!

Our next training is in Detroit on June 30th. Please register [here](#). Prior to that training we will be traveling through Canada for a number of meetings as part of our French Witness to Love pilot. Please keep us in prayer and if you know of anyone involved in marriage ministry in Canada please forward this newsletter to them and invite them to contact us.

Please keep us in your prayers as we begin a busy summer of traveling.

Come Holy Spirit and renew the face of the earth!



**witness to love**

A Catholic Marriage Prep Renewal Ministry



LIFE-SAVING ULTRASOUNDS

Woman's New Life Center

Katie could not believe she was sitting in our office. She was abortion-minded in the face of her unplanned pregnancy. But here she was. Then upon seeing her baby in the ultrasound, she had a change of heart. "Okay, how do I do this mother thing?" she exclaimed.

Because of you, Katie was able to see the life within her with her own eyes.

—

Robert and Clare were scared when faced with the news of their pregnancy. This was not in their plans, and they felt ill-prepared to be parents. However, upon seeing their baby in the ultrasound, Robert could not contain his excitement. "Just saw my baby boy!" he exclaimed.

Because of you, Robert and Clare chose to continue with their pregnancy and embrace parenthood.

—

Alicia was shocked to discover she was pregnant. Her family disapproved as well. She thought abortion was her only option. But then she came to Woman's New Life Center and saw her little one in the ultrasound. "I was abortion-bound when I arrived at Woman's New Life Center. Then I saw my baby on ultrasound. I saw his hands and his feet. That's all that I could think of after that, his little hands and feet. Even when my family kept pressuring me to abort, I said, no, I can't... I saw his hands and his feet."

Because of you, we were able to provide Alicia with the ultrasound that helped her choose life for her baby.



Did you know? Most women who see their baby on an ultrasound CHOOSE LIFE.

At Woman's New Life Center, we're here to offer this ultrasound for free and couple it with free professional counseling. We show women the truth of the life within them and give them the space to find a moment of calm amidst the crisis of an unplanned pregnancy. Through this, lives are being saved and changed.

And this happens because of YOU.

Because of you, we can continue to offer free ultrasounds and other services to women who need help recognizing the goodness of the little life within them.

Click [here](#) to save a life today.

SUPPORT WNLC ULTRASOUNDS

**Did you know \$250 provides a life-saving ultrasound for a woman in an unplanned pregnancy?**

**This glimpse at the life within her can save her baby's life.**

Every life saved and every soul changed begins with you.

The number one way you can help is to join our monthly giving club.

If just 10 people join at \$25/month, that's another life-saving ultrasound every month! A small donation affects generations to come.

**Will you be the next member?**

**Help Save a Life Today!**



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

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**PULSE**  
PRO-LIFE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE  
June 18 - 22

**WHAT?**

- College and High School students!
- PULSE is an intensive training week! You will be educated on ALL the issues!
- You learn and practice skills for logical and compassionate dialogue!
- You will visit with national speakers and Pro-Life legislators!
- You will become an effective activist, the PULSE of the pro-life generation!

**WHERE?**

**BATON ROUGE**  
Bishop Robert E. Tracy Center  
&  
Laser Tag  
LSU  
LA State Capitol  
Woman's New Life Center  
Nursing Home

**REGISTER TODAY**  
ProLifePulseLa.com  
1.866.463.5433

be the PULSE of the pro-life generation  
is capable of changing HEARTS and MINDS

## June Respect Life Gathering

### End of Life Issues

Pray together ~ Learn more about the issues ~ Network

Tuesday June 19, 2018

6:30pm

St. Jane de Chantal Catholic Church



Please join us!

Hosted by

St. Jane de Chantal Catholic Church  
in the St. Jane Center  
70420 Maple ST, Abita Springs

Mary Kantlehner will present on  
**Angels' Place, help for  
families of young children  
with terminal illness**

Light refreshments provided



Respect Life Office  
1000 Howard AVE, New Orleans LA 70113 | 504-286-1119 | [respectlife@arch-no.org](mailto:respectlife@arch-no.org)  
[respectlife.arch-no.org](http://respectlife.arch-no.org)

## RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREATS

[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.

The next retreats in New Orleans will be held on November 2, 3, 4, 2018. If you or someone you love is hurting from abortion, Rachel's Vineyard can help. All faiths are welcome! The retreats are open to women and men. Price is \$190/person (Financial Assistance Available). Facilitators are Pam Richard and Donna Sheuermann and Fr. David Seid, O. P. is the Priest Facilitator. To register or for more information, please contact the retreat facilitators: Pam Richard at 504-460-9360 or [richj504@bellsouth.net](mailto:richj504@bellsouth.net) & Donna Scheuermann at 504-258-9183.

We are always in need of groups or individuals who would like to sponsor one of the women who will make our Rachel's Vineyard Retreats. The total cost to sponsor a retreatant is \$190. Sponsorships can be full or partial & can be made at anytime. Contact the Respect Life Office to make arrangements: [respectlife@arch-no.org](mailto:respectlife@arch-no.org).



HELP PROMOTE PULSE!

Krista Corbello & Alex Seghers (LRTL)

Thank you so much for your dedication to your communities and for LIFE! As you may remember, we at Louisiana Right to Life host PULSE Camps, formerly Camp Joshua. We could not have the success of youth programs today without the support and sponsorship of the Knights!

We kindly ask that you consider the following:

1. Invite students of your parish to register for PULSE Leadership Institute on June 18-22 in Baton Rouge! We will have presentations and testimonies on topics like abortion, euthanasia, third-party reproduction, and more! Visit [ProLifePulseLA.com](http://ProLifePulseLA.com) to register and for more information.
2. Sponsor a student! Several KC groups have both sponsored students in need from their parish [or] students from around the state. Registration cost is \$199 per student.
3. Advertise in your parish! Attached are items that can be included in your church parish bulletin + the PLI flier that can be distributed digitally or in print!

Again, thank you so much for your continued support for the cause of life. We are honored to work alongside such dedicated people, and we look forward for the opportunity to form the next pro-life generation!

CAMPIONS FOR LIFE

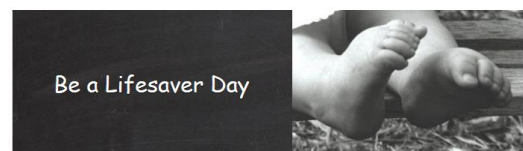
[Care Prenancy Center](#) is organizing a **Champions for Life** Liaison Breakfast and Walk/Run on June 9, 2018 in Shreveport. You can learn more about the event and register using this [link](#).

BE A LIFESAVER DAY!

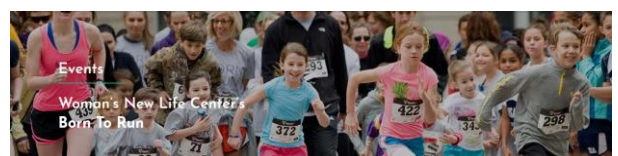
Natasia T. Kissinger Founder/President,

Happy Summer! Please help me share this fun & faith-filled day! [Be a Lifesaver Day](#) 🐾  
 "Cultivating a Culture of Life in our Children"  
 A day of Pro-Life Activities, Fun & Prayer!  
 We will create items to be donated to various Respect Life Ministries in our community & learn how we can be the change!

Saturday, June 23rd from 9:00am – 3:00pm  
 1004 Cheval Place, Kenner ~ Ages 8-12

SAVE THE DATE: BORN TO RUN

Help the Woman's New Life Center (WNLC) continue to save and change lives by participating in their annual Born to Run 5K Run/Walk (with a one mile option) on Saturday, November 10, 2018 at North Boulevard Town Square in Baton Rouge. The Run/Walk will conclude with a 'Birth' Day Party featuring food, live music, and family activities. Be sure to take advantage of the early bird registration rates and register now! THERE WILL BE GREAT PRIZES!



## 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](#).



### 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](mailto: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](http://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**

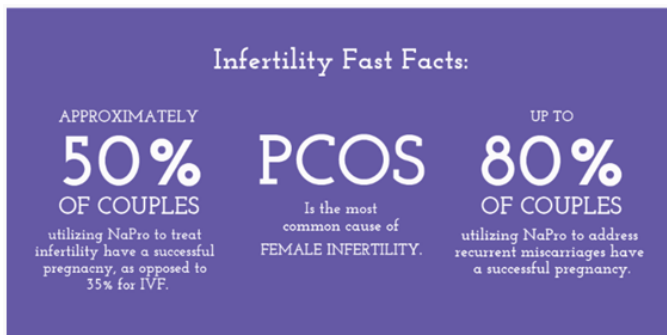
### 2017-2018 USCCB RESPECT LIFE PROGRAM THEME: BE NOT AFRAID!

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 God-given 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





### BE AWARE OF THE SIGNS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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

Please be aware of the signs of trafficking:  
<http://polarisproject.org/recognize-signs>



If you see something, SAY SOMETHING! It is  
better to report a suspicious incident & be wrong  
than to be right & say nothing.

#### **National Human Trafficking Hotline**

888-3737-888 — keep this number in your phone!

You can learn more about Human Trafficking from  
our Archdiocesan Human Trafficking Committee  
([link](#)) as well as the Archdiocese [website](#).



### INTERNET ARTICLES OF INTEREST

[New documentary exposes big lie behind euthanasia  
movement](#)

[Science Is Giving the Pro-Life Movement a Boost](#)

[Janet Smith, Fearless Defender of 'Humanae Vitae'](#)

['Terrible blow' to abortion lobby as they fail to  
legalize abortion in El Salvador](#)

[U.S. Episcopal Church bows to gay pressure,  
deletes 'husband and wife' from marriage liturgy](#)

[Boy Scouts to drop 'boy' from program name,  
launches new 'inclusiveness' campaign](#)

[Yet Another Pro-Life Leader Converts to  
Catholicism. What's Going On?](#)

[Hundreds of Dead Newborn Girls Dumped in  
Garbage Piles in Pakistan Because of Preference for  
Boys](#)

[Alfie Evans and Our Moral Crossroads](#)

[The Sins of Chick-fil-A](#)

[Company Hates Misery](#)

[Same-Sex Parenting: The Child Maltreatment No  
One Mentions](#)

[Pronouns, Prefixes, and the Cult of the Self](#)

[Is Planned Parenthood Stalling U.S. Abortion Rate  
Decline?](#)

[Does California's Anti-Conversion Therapy Bill  
Take Aim at the Bible?](#)

[Abortionist Headed to Prison After Killing Woman  
in Botched 26-Week Abortion](#)

[Will 'love win' at the Supreme Court in 2018?](#)

[13-Year-Old Wakes Up as Doctors Prepare to  
Harvest His Organs](#)

[March for Life: the day the pro-life movement came to London](#)

[Assisted suicide of old married couples romanticized by mainstream media](#)

[Abortion Activists Demand Google Remove Pregnancy Centers From Search Results](#)

[Amazon Bans Pro-Life Group From Its Approved List of Charities in AmazonSmile](#)

[Disability groups oppose using botanist's death to advance assisted suicide agenda](#)

[CALIFORNIA GAY THERAPY BILL CENSORS SPEECH](#)

[YouTube suspends abortion pill reversal videos, silencing women who chose life](#)

[Amazing: New ultrasound device lets moms see their babies using smartphones](#)

<https://www.crisismagazine.com/2018/england-child-mere-creature-state>

[AMA Rebuffs Advocates of Physician-Assisted Suicide](#)

[Pope Paul Said No](#)

[Judge Overturns California Law Legalizing Assisted Suicide](#)

[Bishop of Paisley complains to BBC Scotland over video mocking Communion](#)

[Baby Bust: Fertility is Declining the Most Among Minority Women](#)

[Catholic therapist sues over firing after refusing to counsel gay couple](#)

[Save Marriage, Save the World!](#)

[Foster parents join Philadelphia's Catholic Social Services in discrimination lawsuit](#)

[Crusaders for Life Host "In Their Shoes" Kickball Tournament](#)

[Contraception and the Manipulation of Language](#)

[My Problem With Expanding Pro-life Definitions](#)

[Leave No One Orphaned](#)

[The 7 Best Pro-Life TV Commercials of All Time](#)

[U.S. Rebukes World Health Organization for its Abortion Activism](#)

[Ireland votes to legalize abortion, repeal the Eighth Amendment](#)

[Keeping Catholic schools Catholic in a "love is love" culture](#)

[Humanae Vitae needs no update, commission chair says](#)

[Report: Pope Affirms Church Practice Against Admitting Gay Men to Seminary](#)

[Marital Friendship and the Procreation of Children](#)

[NFP, God's Faithfulness, and Family Size](#)



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

The American Medical Association (AMA) Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs recently released [report](#) 5-A-18: “Caring for Patients at the End of Life CEJA Reports.”

“In the council’s view, despite its negative connotations... the term “physician assisted suicide” describes the practice with the greatest precision. Most importantly, it clearly distinguishes the practice from euthanasia. The terms “aid in dying” or “death with dignity” could be used to describe either euthanasia or palliative/ hospice care at the end of life and this degree of ambiguity is unacceptable for providing ethical guidance.”

Quote taken from “AMA Rebuffs Advocates of Physician-Assisted Suicide” by Cullen Herout, Crisis Magazine May 8, 2018 ([link](#)).

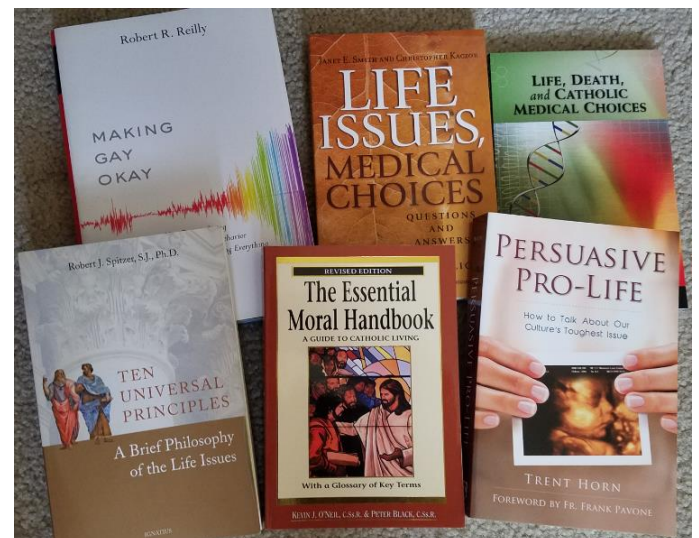
VIDEOS OF THE MONTH

Abortion Pill Reversal has had their YouTube account suspended because their videos have been designated as “harmful or dangerous content.” See for yourself the absurdity of this claim ([link](#)). You can find out more about the organization’s work using this [link](#) to their website.

MY TOP TEN PRO-LIFE BOOKS

Pro-life (as well as many moral) issues can be complex, so careful study can help clarify the truth. In general, books can provide a systematic and more complete treatment of a particular issue than news articles and pamphlets. Many of you who read this newsletter are called upon to make arguments to those who do not agree with the Church’s teaching on Culture of Life issues. Therefore, I am providing you with my top 10 pro-life books for your consideration.

1. Persuasive Pro-Life by Trent Horn
2. Ten Universal Principles (A Brief Philosophy of the Life Issues) by Robert J. Spitzer
3. The Essential Moral Handbook (A Guide to Catholic Living) by Kevin J. O’Neil and Peter Black
4. Life Issues, Medical Choices by Janet E. Smith and Christopher Kaczor
5. Life, Death, and Catholic Medical Choices (50 Questions from the Pews) by Kevin O’Neal and Peter Black
6. Catholic Bioethics and the Gift of Human Life by William E. May
7. The Right to Privacy by Janet E. Smith
8. What is Marriage? (Man and Woman: A Defense) by Sherif Girgis, Ryan T. Anderson, Robert P. George
9. Getting the marriage conversation right (a guide for effective dialog) by William B. May
10. Making Gay Okay (How Rationalizing Homosexual Behavior Is Changing Everything) by Robert R. Reilly



## 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 [William.obrien@kofc.org](mailto:William.obrien@kofc.org).

### KC ULTRASOUND INITIATIVE

Is your council interested in providing an ultrasound machine for a local pregnancy center? If so, there is a program and resources from the Knights of Columbus available to help you successfully do just that. Use this [new link](#)!

The Supreme web site provides an 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](mailto:smistretta2@cox.net)) for assistance.



## YOUR FIRST STOP FOR PRO-LIFE RESOURCES IN LOUISIANA

Louisiana is one of the more pro-life states in the union. That is no accident, and continuous efforts are needed to avoid losing ground. While the attacks on the human person are global, we should start our efforts locally. There is no better place to look for help than Louisiana Right to Life (<http://www.prolifelouisiana.org/>). Their web site includes a number of helpful resources and their staff is ready to help you. They also provide pro-life speakers and presentations, free of charge, for your council meetings, banquets, and other events. I encourage all councils to contact Louisiana Right to Life and find out how they can help you build a Culture of Life in your community.



## DIOCESAN PRO-LIFE RESOURCES

Many of the Dioceses in Louisiana have pro-life information 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

### **Pro-Life Prayer**

Lord, we ask for the strength, courage, wisdom, determination and stamina to carry out this mission according to Your will. Guide us, we pray, as we go forth and proclaim Your truth, always doing so with a spirit of love and compassion, as was demonstrated to us through the work of Your Son, Jesus Christ. In His name we pray, amen.

Source: [40 Days for Life](#), Devotional Guide

