



Culturae Vitae

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

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PRELIMINARIES

COUNCIL CULTURE OF LIFE CHAIR COUPLES WANTED!

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

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

Please send the filled-out form to us by mail or email at smistretta2@cox.net.

KCLS CULTURE OF LIFE PRESENTATION

Were you unable to attend KCLS this year? If not, then you can view the PowerPoint presentation given by the State Culture of Life Chair Couple. It is available on the state KC web site:

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

This presentation provides an overview of the main Culture of Life issues. We hope that the content will provide a good starting point for further study. Also, we hope that you will be motivated to publically defend the Church's teaching on these Culture of Life issues. Please contact us if you have questions or need more information.

WHAT IS A CULTURE OF LIFE?

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

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

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

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

We want this monthly newsletter to be an opportunity for councils to share the good work that they are doing to build a Culture of Life. Please send an email telling us what your council is doing and send us pictures. Email us at smistretta2@cox.net. We want your council highlighted in the next issue!

CULTURE OF LIFE SURVEY RESULTS ARE AVAILABLE

The results of a recent survey of Culture of Life chair couples is now available on the state KC web site:

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

FREE MATERIALS FROM SUPREME

The Supreme Council has a number of Culture of Life materials to aid you. All of these are free of charge except for the shipping. A list of materials can be found at the website:

http://www.kofc.org/un/en/prolife/programs/support_materials.html

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.

CULTURE OF LIFE RESOURCES**NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING**

By Danielle Van Haute (Council 9692)

The prevailing message from our secularized society is that fertility is something to be feared and suppressed as though it were a disease. The Church, on the other hand, sees fertility as a gift, part of our innate design as men & women and something that we must learn to incorporate into our daily lives, according to our state in life. The Church's teaching on the meaning of human sexuality, so beautifully laid out in Saint Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body, recognizes the Creator's intent in establishing sexuality as an authentic gift of self, including the gift of fertility and openness to life. As a Creighton Model FertilityCare Practitioner, I have the privilege of working with women and couples learning to do just that.

The Creighton Model is one method of natural family planning or fertility awareness. By observing various biological markers, a woman is able to identify her time of fertility and infertility in each cycle. We are also able to gather other important information about her overall reproductive health from her charting. We may see certain indicators of low progesterone, low estrogen, lack of ovulation, etc... that warrant further evaluation by a physician trained in NaProTechnology (Natural Procreative Technology). NaProTechnology is a relatively new reproductive health science that is based on Creighton Model of charting. NaProTechnology seeks to identify the root cause of the symptom and correct it. This holistic, restorative form of health care is what women and men deserve; thorough investigation, diagnosis, and treatment, all while respecting the dignity of the woman, the man and the marital act.

One of my greatest joys is sharing with others the Church's teaching on human sexuality, including Natural Family Planning. In *Evangelium Vitae*, Saint Pope John Paul II tells us, "It is an illusion to think we can build a true culture of human life if we do not...accept and experience sexuality and love, and the whole of life according to their true meaning and their close interconnection" (n. 97). As we

work to build a Culture of Life, let us not forget that we must address this fundamental connection. More information on the Creighton Model and NaProTechnology can be found at www.creightonmodel.com and www.naprotechnology.com.

A few recommended introductions to Theology of the Body - *Theology of the Body for Beginners* by Christopher West and *The Body Reveals God: A Guided Study through John Paul II's "Theology of the Body"* by Katrina Zeno.

Danielle is the Respect Life Coordinator for the [Diocese of Baton Rouge](http://www.dioceceofbatonrouge.org) and a Creighton Model FertilityCare Practitioner with [Hope FertilityCare Center](http://www.hopefertilitycare.com). Her husband, Ed, is a member of St. Jude the Apostle Council #9692 in Baton Rouge.

**MARCH FOR LIFE**

Many of you have seen the incredible scenes from the annual March for Life in Washington, D. C., and you may even have participated in this march. This is an wonderful testimony to the inviolable right to life by hundreds of thousands of people of good will.

The March for Life Education & Defense Fund is responsible for organizing this event each year. Their web site includes information about upcoming pro-life events, educational information, and opportunities to take action. At their web site, you can sign-up for March for Life updates. Check out their web site at: <http://marchforlife.org/>.



LOUISIANA BLACK ADVOCATES FOR LIFE

Abortion statistics show that black Americans are disproportionately impacted by abortion. This situation must be better understood by the public. A community has been established to address this problem. Their web site states: “The black community of Louisiana is a diverse population, united by a shared history of struggle, and greatly impacted by strong spiritual values and family traditions. Poverty, violence, and racism are persistent issues our state, and black community stakeholders are working on many fronts to overcome these challenges. There is, however, a major challenge facing the black population that receives little attention – an issue with life or death consequences. The rate of abortion among black women in the state of Louisiana is higher than that for any other group of women.” The web site has resources to help get the word out: <http://www.lablackadvocates.com/>.

CULTURE OF LIFE STORIESJANUARY IS PRO-LIFE MONTH

By John Hauler (Council 9016)

January 2015 marks the arrival of the 42nd year of legalized abortion. Over 56 million babies have been killed by abortion since this legal decision with the consent and encouragement of the United States government. This is the same government that puts labels on beer, whiskey and wine bottles stating that alcohol may damage a pregnancy. The news media and talk shows that uses terms like baby-bump and expresses excitement over the news that a celebrity is pregnant is the same media that ignores the fact that nationwide hundreds of thousands converge on Washington D.C. each year to prayerfully and peacefully ask for the end of abortion on demand. It is hardly ever reported that so many are marching for life. The media will gush over the fact that a doctor operates on a baby within the womb performing such delicate surgery on a little heart, but then expresses dismay when state governments

try to stop Planned Parenthood (such a nice name for an awful business that destroys babies while putting the mother’s life at risk).

We, as the largest Catholic men’s organization, must continue to stand strong in the defense of life. We must stand up for life not just once a year, but all year long, and every year, until our government removes itself from the business of promoting and supporting this destruction of human life.

However, the good news is that in 2014 3,336 individual 40 Days For Life campaigns that have taken place with more than 650,000 people taking part. Reports document that 9,699 lives have been spared from abortion, and these are the ones that are known. One hundred seven abortion workers have walked away from the abortion industry, quitting their jobs and 59 abortion facilities have shut down. David Bereit of 40 Days For Life says that “we must rededicate our lives to continue to change the hearts and minds of the people of this country.”

If we are impressed by the young speakers who participate in the annual pro-life oratory contest at the KC convention each year, then we should encourage these youngsters by our presence. Over the past five years, the audience attendance at these contests has averaged only about 20 people. Many of those are family members of the speakers. The Knights of Columbus are rightly proud of their pro-life stance. However, we need to express that stance physically by attending these contests at our own convention. This year, the winners of these contests will not take part in the convention banquet as was done in the past. The only way any Knight of Columbus or ladies auxiliary member will hear these speeches is by attending the contest on Saturday afternoon. This will also provide you with an opportunity to hear all of the talks, not just the winners. Remember, all of the participants are winners of their own Diocesan competition. Therefore, they are all fantastic and should be heard. Frankly, ten or so teenage speakers addressing an almost empty room is an embarrassment. The Fourth Degree Honor Guard does itself proud with its attendance at the two Louisiana Life Marches in Shreveport and Baton Rouge. However, these teens and their families need to know that the Knights of Columbus, who invited them to attend the

convention, does indeed care about them. Please come out to support this important effort!

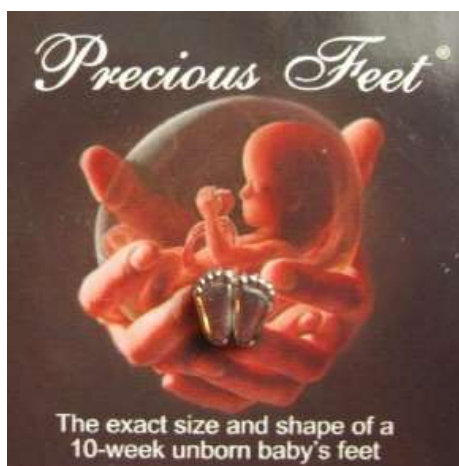
PRECIOUS FEET!

By John Hauler (Council 9016)

“What a cute little pin!” “What is it for?” The statements and questions like this are heard when people see the Precious Feet® pins worn by many pro-life people. And, that is their purpose: to provoke a conversation about the right to life. If these pins were worn everyday by every pro-lifer everywhere, just imagine the wonderful opportunities to promote and spread the pro-life message.

To be sure, some people are so set in their ways that it seems that nothing could be said to them that will change their minds. However, that one conversation may just plant a seed of doubt that will grow over time into a changed heart and mind. Forty-two years of abortion on demand cannot be changed quickly. In her book “Unplanned,” Abbey Johnson, the one time director of a Planned Parenthood death chamber, thought she was working for the right people and for the right cause. After eight years of such labor, she realized what an abortion does when she was asked to assist a shorthanded abortionist with an ultra sound machine and saw the horrors of abortion first hand.

Wear those pins and start that conversation. A small start can lead to a big finish!



BATON ROUGE DIOCESAN RESPECT LIFE RALLY

The Baton Rouge Diocesan Respect Life Rally was held on Sunday, January 11 from 2 to 4 pm in the Main Auditorium of the Bishop Tracy Center in Baton Rouge. The event started with a prayer by Bishop Muench and a Living Rosary led by the Knights of Columbus Honor Guard.

This event featured keynote speaker Bobby Shindler who gave a compelling presentation entitled: "The Terri Shiavo Case." The pro-life oratory winner Stephanie Verdin gave her impassioned speech. Presentations were also given by representatives of various Diocesan outreach programs. A number of tables were setup by pro-life organizations to provide literature and information to those in attendance. Our very own John and Elaine Hauler represented Baton Rouge Right to Life. A very good article on the event may be found at: <http://thecatholiccommentator.org/pages/?p=23754>



LOUISIANA LIFE MARCH NORTH

On Saturday, January 17th, the Louisiana Life March North was held in Shreveport-Bossier City. It was a beautiful day for the march and the turnout was high, estimated between three to four thousand.

The march began at the Bossier City's Louisiana Boardwalk where there were several speakers to get the crowd ready to go. Our own Chris Davis did a great job of talking about 40 Days for Life. The participants then walked across the Texas Street bridge to Shreveport's Festival Plaza, where speakers and musicians led us in prayer and gave presentations. The testimonies were powerful. The march was led by the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus and Christian Motorcycle Association. It was truly an exciting experience.

These marches provide an opportunity to take a public stand against our culture of death, particularly the evil of abortion. It also provides an opportunity to become better educated on Culture of Life issues. One striking fact was shared at the event. In 2013, there were 9,976 abortion in Louisiana and 60% of those were performed on black women. In fact, one in five black babies are aborted. Margaret Sanger would be proud! Her eugenics vision is now being carried on by others.



LOUISIANA LIFE MARCH SOUTH

On Saturday, January 24th, the Louisiana Life March South was held on the LSU campus in Baton Rouge. It was a beautiful and chilly day for the march and thousands turned out for the event.

A special program for the LLM South was held at the outdoor LSU Greek Theatre located on Dalrymple Drive which included a keynote speech from Governor Bobby Jindal and a closing prayer by Bishop Shelton Fabre of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodeaux. The Life Ministry Mobilization area opened at 9:30 AM and the rally began at 10 AM. At 11 AM the march began, led by the Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Honor Guard.





Thanks to councils 15133 (Madisonville), 14657 (Pineville), and 3743 (Baton Rouge) for providing pictures from the march in Baton Rouge.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Each month, we would like to highlight council Culture of Life activities. Please send us a brief description of your event and pictures of the event to share with other Culture of Life chair couples. We want to share successful events with others so that they can also conduct effective programs. We also welcome opinion articles from chair couples.

FEEDING HUNGRY PILGRIMS

By John Hauler (Council 9016)

On January 14th, members of Fr. Hurst Council 9016 with the help of Vince Whittington and Larry Aiken of St. Jean Vianney Council 9247 came together to prepare four hundred eighty-six poor boy style ham and cheese sandwiches and delivered them to the nine bus loads of pilgrims traveling to Washington D.C. from the Baton Rouge area for the annual Pro Life March on the Supreme Court building on January 22nd. This will be the 42nd anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision. This event was made possible by a monetary donation from St. Pius X Council 6531.



SOUTH REGION MARCH FOR LIFE

By John A. Manes (Council 1208)

On January 20th, St. Peter's Knights of Columbus Council 1208 hosted the South Region's March for Life in New Iberia. The march began at the Grotto on Main Street. A Rosary was prayed at the beginning fo the march. The march ended at St. Peter's Catholic Church with evening Mass. The Eucharistic procession and Mass was celebrated by Fr. Nicholas Dupre from the Community of Christ Crucified in St. Martinville.

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN AND MORE

by Daniel and Sue Hake (Council 15133)

The St. Anselm Council 15133 in Madisonville, has been assisting with the disbursement and collection of baby bottles at St. Anselm Catholic Church to support the Access Crisis Pregnancy Center (www.accesspregnancy.com). The bottles were handed out at masses on January 17th and 18th. Parishioners place their donation in the bottles and return them the following week at all masses. We have participated in this fundraiser annually.



Also, our council was represented at the Louisiana Life March and Response Louisiana prayer event in Baton Rouge on January 24th. We were on hand to supply Preaux Life wristbands and pro-life calendars.

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN AND ACCESS PREGNANCY CENTER

by Don & Dee Caskey (Council 1905)

Don & Dee Caskey are coordinating a Baby Bottle Campaign for two parishes and their mission churches which the KC Council #1905 represents. The campaign raises money for Access Pregnancy Center and their mobile bus. The campaign will be conducted in February and March (2 weeks at each of the 4 churches) to hand-out and collect the baby bottles. Access Pregnancy Center provides prenatal and post natal care, ultrasounds and supplies to mothers and infants. Our intent is to continue education and support for pro-life activities throughout the year.

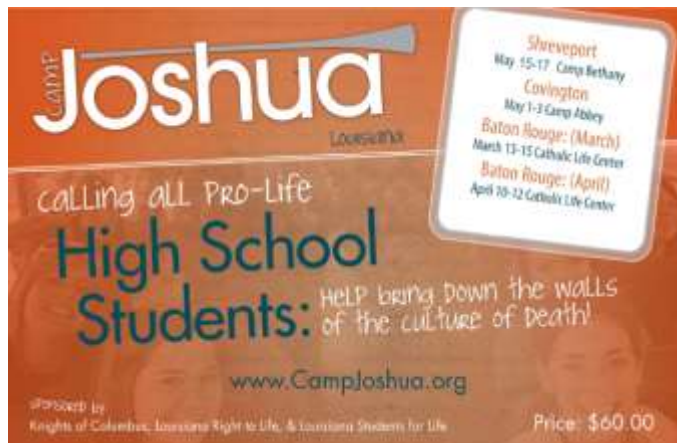
The Women's Auxillary also hosted a baby shower at their January meeting. This annual event collects layettes and baby supplies. A corresponding wine & cheese tasting added to the participation. Pro-Life speaker and Access Pregnancy Center representative, Margaret Murphy provided information and expressed gratitude for the women's continued support.

As a part of Catholic Charities, Access Pregnancy & Referral Center of New Orleans provides pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, on-line Medicaid application assistance, education, and case management. The ACCESS Mobile Pregnancy Center provides services to over 1,000 women who suspect they are pregnant and are in need of support. A fully equipped 35 foot mobile unit expands services to more vulnerable populations in underserved areas of our community. The unit is also utilized for education including on-site school tours, program outreach and health fairs. It is funded through Baby Bottle Fundraisers and donations. At present, they need \$125,000 annually for operational costs.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**CAMP JOSHUA**

Camp Joshua is an action-packed weekend training high school students to be pro-life leaders of today. The camp features dynamic speakers and hands-on experience. Attendees will make new friends from around the state and connect with pro-life leaders.



The following is the list of dates and locations for the camp:

Shreveport, May 15-17th at Camp Bethany
 Covington, May 1-3rd at Camp Abbey
 Baton Rouge, March 13-15th at the CLC
 Baton Rouge, April 10-12th at the CLC

The camp is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Louisiana Right to Life, and Louisiana Students for Life. The cost to attend is \$60 per student. For more information, go to www.CampJoshua.org.

PRO-LIFE BANQUET

The 5th annual Bishop Michael Duca's Pro-life Banquet will be held on March 11, 2015 at the Bossier Civic Center (620 Benton Road, Bossier City, LA). Fr. Jonathan Morris will be the keynote speaker. Fr. Jonathan is a priest of the Diocese of New York, and he is the Program Director of the The Catholic Channel and Fox News Analysis. He is also an accomplished author.

Tickets can be purchased for \$60 each, and a table of 8 costs \$500. More information can be found at www.dioshpt.org (click on "Pro-life Ministry").

For sponsorship contact:
prolifedioshreveport@dioshpt.org.

**NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE CONVENTION**

NRL Convention 2015 will be held in New Orleans July 9, 10, and 11, 2015. The convention will take place at the New Orleans Marriott located at 555 Canal Street in the French Quarter.

Please save the date and spread the word for this awesome opportunity to be a part of the national movement to stand for life!

More information can be found on-line at: <http://nrlconvention.com/>



EDUCATION CORNER**BOOK RECOMMENDATION**

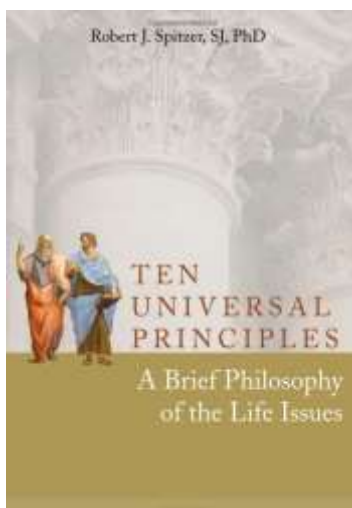
Standing up for Culture of Life issues can require a lot of courage and sacrifice. All of these issues are highly controversial. Furthermore, those who have opposing views automatically reject all religious based arguments. In these situations, how can you possibly make the case and find common ground?

One important requirement is to establish reasonable principles as a foundation for our actions. A recent book written by Fr. Robert J. Spitzer, S.J., Ph.D. titled: **Ten Universal Principles, A Brief Philosophy of the Life Issues** is a great place to start. The book helps us clearly understand the moral principles that enable us to explain the Catholic position on Culture of Life issues to non-believers.

Do not be put off by the title. This book is very readable and clear. You do not need to have any specialized knowledge to understand the content. The book is not big and the material is broken up into small sections to make it easy to read in short bursts. The content is essential to clear thinking.

I was particularly shocked at the similarity between the Roe v Wade decision legalizing abortion and the Dred Scott v Stanford decision which held that African Americans, whether enslaved or free, could not be American citizens.

The clarity of this book made it a joy to read. In a society that has lost the belief that there is moral truth, we need this book. I highly recommend it.

**INTERNET ARTICLES OF INTEREST**

Ethicist says abortion after birth is moral:

<http://liveactionnews.org/horrifying-ethicist-says-abortion-after-birth-is-moral/>

This article provides shocking statistics on Planned Parenthood (thanks Randy Mobley from council 3779):

<http://dailysignal.com/2015/01/03/planned-parenthood-performed-327653-abortions-2013-accepted-528-million-taxpayer-funds/>

Check out the results of the latest Marist Poll on Abortion:

<http://www.kofc.org/un/en/news/polls/index.html>

This article identifies 18 states that are “extremely hostile” to abortion:

<http://liveactionnews.org/good-news-for-pro-lifers-gutmacher-says-18-states-extremely-hostile-to-abortion/>

This article provides insights into the thinking of abortion providers in their own words:

<http://liveactionnews.org/pro-choice-author-interviews-abortion-providers-reveals-horror-of-abortion/>

Ricki Lake will produce a documentary exposing the dangers of contraception:

<http://thepapist.org/ricki-lake-to-produce-documentary-exposing-the-dangers-of-contraception/>

U. K. bishop stands up for marriage:

<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/no-human-invention-marriage-is-a-divine-plan-u.k.-bishop-says/>

Miami Archbishop takes a courageous stand against so-called same-sex marriage:

http://www.patheos.com/blogs/kathyschiffer/2015/01/miami-archbishop-to-staff-support-same-sex-marriage-lose-your-job/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+KathySchiffer+%28Blog+-+Kathy+Schiffer%29

This is an article on the impact of Obamacare on abortion:

<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/pro-lifers-face-treacherous-landscape-under-obamacare-mandate/>

A short commentary to set the record straight on abortion clinics:

<http://www.ncregister.com/blog/simcha-fisher/the-abortion-lie-that-just-wont-die/>

This is an article about euthanasia in Europe:

<http://www.firstthings.com/web-exclusives/2015/01/europes-euthanasia-craze>

This is a good article on the March for Life:

<http://www.firstthings.com/web-exclusives/2015/01/march-on-for-life>

If you publicly witness to Church Teaching on sexuality, then you will be persecuted:

<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/speakers-withdraw-from-legatus-event-over-homosexuality-issue/>

This is an article about Pope Francis' comments on Contraception:

http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/paul-vi-was-right-to-warn-against-contraception-pope-francis-says-71589/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+catholicnewsagency%2Fdailynews+%28CNA+Daily+News%29&utm_term=daily+news

An article on C-FAM's work to train pro-life advocates at the United Nations:

<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/training-the-next-generation-of-u.n.-pro-life-advocates/>

Pope Francis warns about gender ideologies:

<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/pope-francis-warns-west-over-ideological-colonization/>

This is an article on "same-sex marriage and religious freedom:

<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/same-sex-marriage-issue-cited-in-bid-for-more-state-religious-liberty-bills/>

This is an article on what abortion has done to us:

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/publiccatholic/2015/01/what-are-you-doing-january-22/>

Here is a thoughtful take on the March for Life:

<http://www.crisismagazine.com/2015/funeral-march-life>

Cardinal Sean O'Malley at the opening Mass of the National Prayer Vigil for Life:

<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/cardinal-theres-no-pro-life-victory-without-reaching-the-marginalized/>

Prediction: Roe v. Wade will be overturned!:

<http://www.aleteia.org/en/religion/article/alan-sears-we-will-see-roe-v-wade-overturned-in-the-united-states-5903010089664512>

Are you interested in thoughtful and unique Catholic commentaries? If so, then check out Crisis Magazine at www.crisismagazine.com.



A NEW SMART PHONE APPLICATION

The Life App shows people how to respond with compassion and hope when encountering a woman in a crisis pregnancy situation who is feeling alone and afraid. You can download the app at: <http://www.focus.org/lovelife/>.



(Thanks to Darryl Barrios for sharing this.)

QUOTES OF THE MONTH

Here is the most profoundly absurd statement that I have ever run across: "At the heart of liberty is the right to define one's own concept of existence, of meaning, of the universe, and of the mystery of human life." This statement was made by Justices O'Connor, Kennedy, and Souter in the Planned Parenthood v. Casey decision. I would like to share with you two responses to this statement from two men that I respect greatly. Sam Mistretta

"One of the most remarkable and disturbing expressions of this Hobbesian freedom is the Planned Parenthood v. Casey decision handed down by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1992, dealing with abortion rights. The majority of the justices determined that "at the heart of liberty is the right to define one's own concept of existence, of meaning, of the universe, and of the mystery of human life." What we see here, with breathtaking clarity, is the complete eclipse of truth by freedom and hence the subjectivizing of any and all moral, metaphysical, or religious claims." Taken from **The Difference God Makes** by Francis Cardinal George, O. M. I.

"Moral positivism is now the official philosophy of the United States of America. The Supreme Court said so, in Planned Parenthood v. Casey. They explicitly repudiated the appeal to a natural moral law. That was an even more radical decision than Roe v. Wade, because Roe v. Wade only legalized killing unborn human beings on the basis that a few Supreme Court justices claimed that they knew that nobody knew whether human babies were human or not. But Casey established the positivist premise that can justify any immoral conclusion: abortion and sodomy today, infanticide and suicide tomorrow, necrophilia, bestiality, incest, and cannibalism next year, or whenever Hollywood decrees our next moral conversion." Taken from **A Refutation of Moral Relativism** by Peter Kreeft.

PROMOTE CULTURE OF LIFE PRAYER IN YOUR PARISH

By Allen Kliebert (Council 10613)

I would like to encourage others talk to their church pastors about praying the Culture of Life prayer from Pope Saint John Paul II's encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*. The St. Agnes Culture of Life Committee got an agreement from our pastor to say the pro-life prayer after each Sunday mass during the month of January (Pro-life month). It replaces the hurricane prayer a lot of churches say during hurricane season.

Culture of Life Prayer:

O Mary, bright dawn of the new world, to you do we entrust the cause of life. Look down O Mother, upon the vast number of babies not allowed to be born, of the poor whose lives are made difficult, of the men and women who are victims of brutal violence, of the elderly and the sick killed by indifference or out of misguided mercy.

Grant that all who believe in your Son may proclaim the Gospel of life with honesty and love to the people of our time.

Obtain for them the grace to accept that Gospel as a gift ever new, the joy of celebrating it with gratitude throughout their lives, and the courage to bear witness to it resolutely, in order to build together with all people of good will, the civilization of truth and love, to the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of life.

Taken from Saint John Paul II encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*.

