



Culturae Vitae

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

Please send all correspondence to:
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 6346 Riverine Drive
 Baton Rouge, LA. 70820
 Email: smistretta2@cox.net

PRELIMINARIES

COUNCIL CULTURE OF LIFE CHAIR COUPLES WANTED!

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

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

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

KCLS CULTURE OF LIFE PRESENTATION

Were you unable to attend KCLS in 2014? 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**NCHLA ACTION CENTER**

By Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

The National Committee for a Human Life Amendment (www.NCHLA.org) provides an easy way to become aware of federal legislative action regarding Pro-life and conscience protection issues. Through email alerts, you can easily contact your representatives to make them aware of your concerns.



In the great civil rights struggle to secure the right to life for all, Archbishop John Roach, testifying on behalf of the Catholic Bishops, expressed the guiding vision in his November 5, 1981 statement before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution: "We are committed to full legal recognition of the right to life of the unborn child, and will not rest in our efforts until society respects the inherent worth and dignity of every member of the human race."

The National Committee for a Human Life Amendment is dedicated to pursuing this vision. The organization's objectives include educating citizens, developing pro-life legislative networks, and offering programs in support of pro-life legislation. Among its various activities, NCHLA produces educational and program resources, communicates with leaders about legislative priorities, and presents legislative seminars throughout the year. In a special way, NCHLA assists dioceses, state Catholic conferences, and Catholic lay groups. The Committee also works closely with the Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Please take a moment to go to their web site and sign-up for free email alerts at nchla.org.

AMERICANS UNITED FOR LIFE

By Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

Well established organizations with knowledgeable and energetic people are needed to counter the constant media messages supporting the Culture of Death. Fortunately, there are a number of solid pro-life organizations challenging those damaging messages. One of those organizations is Americans United for Life (www.aul.org).

Their legal team has been involved every abortion-related case before the Supreme Court since *Roe v. Wade*. AUL plays a key role in developing legislation protecting human life.

Their web site provides media reports as well as pro-life assessment and ranking of each state in the union. The web site provides a number of different pro-life resources, so check it out.

**KC ULTRASOUND INITIATIVE**

By Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

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: <http://www.kofc.org/un/en/prolife/ultrasound/>.

The Supreme web site provides overview and guidelines documents. There are also two forms that must be submitted to determine if your situation qualifies for this program: 1) Diocesan evaluation (form 9884) and 2) Application to Supreme (form 4886).

Your State Culture of Life Chair Couple is ready to assist your council in participating in this program. Please contact Sam Mistretta (225-975-1501 or smistretta2@cox.net).

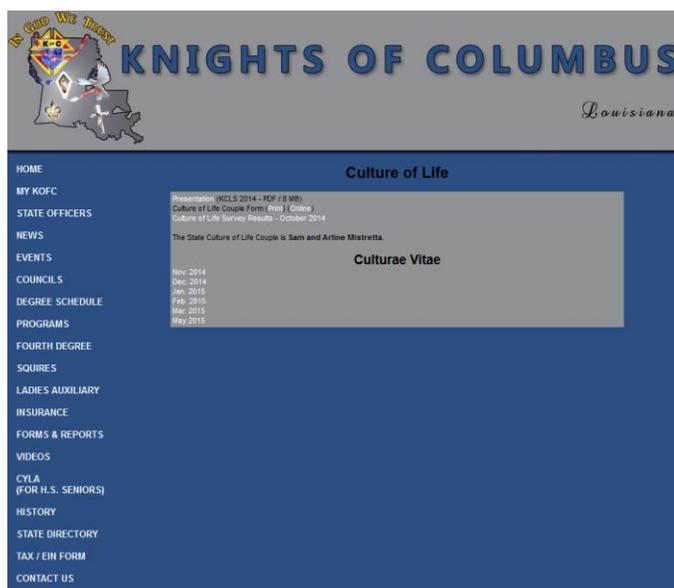


CULTURE OF LIFE NEWSLETTERS ARE NOW ON THE STATE WEB SITE

By Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

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](#).

This will make it easier for you to share this information with others and utilize the information in your pro-life activities.



YOUR FIRST STOP FOR PRO-LIFE RESOURCES IN LOUISIANA

By Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

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 in our Culture of Death. 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. 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.



CULTURE OF LIFE STORIES

QUESTIONS

By Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

In light of the Supreme Courts decision establishing a civil right to so-called “same-sex marriage,” there are some questions that everyone should answer:

- Why is marriage a lifelong commitment?
- Why is marriage between only two people?
- Why is marriage an exclusive union?
- Why is marriage sexual in nature?
- Do children have a right to their mother and father?
- If not, then which parent is not necessary, the mother or the father?
- What is the government’s interest in marriage?

If you are having difficulty answering these questions, then I will give you a hint: Marriage is about the good of children.

COMPASSIONATE BURIAL FOR INDIGENT
BABIES

By John Hauler (Council 9016)

I don't know if you have heard of this ministry, but it is another worthy cause worth supporting.



Dear CBIB Friends,

If you need to know more about our group, this is who we are:

CBIB stands for Compassionate Burial for Indigent Babies. Our Mission Statement is:

1. To hold dignified burials for abandoned or Indigent babies,
2. To bring comfort to their families.
3. To raise awareness of the Safe Haven Law so babies won't be thrown away.

We call our group who works with us the "Dream Team." The Dream Team consists of multiples of peoples, all volunteers. There is a CBIB North Shore, CBIB South Shore, and CBIB West Bank.

First, we have the group that meets every Tuesday who plans the events. Anyone is welcome to join us.

Then we have a group of men who makes our coffins. They engrave the babies names on the top of each coffin. Some also come to every funeral and sing and play instruments. It is a huge blessing.

Then we have people who donate their family heirloom wedding gowns. There are a group of CBIB Ladies who have made baby gowns out of these dresses which we call Dignity Wear. This idea came after we wanted to bury a baby that was found in the trash, naked and wrapped in newspaper. We believe that each baby should be clothed in dignity.

Then we have people who present the grieving moms with little dolls with the name of their baby on the doll. We had observed in the early days, the

mom's would cuddle a potted plant we would give them. Hence the name, "Empty Nest Syndrome." Recently, we observed a Mom who rocked the little doll throughout the service. Needless to say, it was very moving to see.

Another ministry we have is the "Bereavement Ministry". Every burial and funeral is FREE, which helps the indigent families. We know from experience that this is a trying time for any parent. We want this to be a ministry where we work together for a common goal, the respect for all human life.

We do not discriminate, race, creed, religion and we are non-judgmental. We have a "throw no stones" policy. Our job is to spread the Love of God to any hurting family.

On October 18th, we will have a CBIB Rock-n-Bowl fundrasier in New Orleans from 6 PM to 9 PM. Tickets are \$40.00 each. It will include live entertainment, bowling, dancing, and food and drinks.

As of right now, we need help to bury three babies: 1) a miscarriage baby, 2) a 32 week gestation baby and 3) a baby from Slidell that was thrown away in the trash.

And, make known the Safe Haven Law.

Please PRAY, PRAY, PRAY!

We are a 501c3 tax deductible. To donate, make checks out to:

CBIB
Compassionate Burial for Indigent Babies
P.O. Box 778
Lacombe, La. 70445

Or go to our website:

www.cbibabies.org

Please like our CBIB facebook page.

May God Richly Bless You,

Lise Naccari

CBIB

Founder and President

504-202-3111



BATON ROUGE RIGHT TO LIFE BREAKFAST

By Sam and Arline Mistretta (Council 3743)

On Saturday, June 27th, Baton Rouge Right to Life held their annual breakfast fundraiser at the St. Thomas More Parish Activity Center.

Highlights of the program included:

- Keynote Speaker, Dorinda Bordlee, Vice-President and Senior Counsel of the Bioethics Defense Fund.
- Kathy Allen, State Director, LA Black Advocates for Life, an initiative of Louisiana Right to Life designed to increase meaningful participation of the Black community in pro-life advocacy as well as decrease the rate of abortion among Black women.



At this event, the 2015 Joan Dowd Life Achievement Award was awarded to **Ross and Carolyn McCalip** for their decades of service to the protection of unborn children in our community. Ross and Carolyn are the Culture of Life chair couple for council 3743, so we are very excited about this well deserved recognition.

Baton Rouge Right to Life plays an integral role in a number of local pro-life activities such as: 40 Days for Life Baton Rouge, LifeChain, pro-life billboards, and they also have a newsletter.

Here are some excerpts from the presentation talk made by Charlotte Bergeron, 40 Days for Life Baton Rouge Campaign Director:

“Ross and Carolyn McCalip are a dynamic pair dedicated in their lifetime devotion to protecting unborn children. Carolyn’s story intersects with someone many of you know, Newman Roblin, who received the Joan Dowd Lifetime Achievement Award last year. Carolyn happened to stop in Baton Rouge for Mass one day when Newman reached out to her and asked her if “she wanted to save babies.” This occurred a few years after *Roe v Wade* that was decided in 1973 when pro-life activity was just beginning to start in Baton Rouge as people were becoming aware of the reality of abortion in the community. Carolyn was instrumental in the implementation of a new telephone hotline that offered resources to women facing crisis pregnancies. She obtained help from her Catholic Daughter Court in her home parish of St. Ann’s. The Court decided to put up a billboard and build it themselves.

Carolyn later moved to Baton Rouge and became a member of Baton Rouge Right to Life, and met her future husband Ross soon after.

Marriage led the McCalips to an even deeper immersion in pro-life activity. Newman, who had first recruited Carolyn, then turned his sights on Ross and encouraged him to consider being a sidewalk counselor at Delta Women’s clinic that was then located on Bennington near College Drive back in the 1980s and early 90s. Ross responded to the call and spent several years as a sidewalk counselor—one of the most difficult, and

unrecognized pro-life ministries. Both Ross and Carolyn vividly remember their experiences at Delta, particularly in 1992 with Operation Rescue. They remember the gentle leadership of Bishop Ott praying at Delta during the protests. Ross would later be one of a small group who purchased Delta in 1994 following its closure due to heavy penalties and fines and made it a memorial to the unborn children lost through abortion.

Ross and Carolyn were also trained to respond to calls on the crisis pregnancy hotline. The Diocese of Baton Rouge through Catholic Charities had staff that answered the phone on weekdays. Volunteers like Ross and Carolyn took those duties two weekends a month.

They also devoted their time to Hosanna House, a home for unwed mothers sponsored by the Family Life Federation. Ross and Carolyn served as House Parents at least once a month—sometimes bringing their young daughter, Erin with them.

Ross was also active politically and participated in pro-life lobbying efforts at the capitol, meeting with many legislators and leadership in the 1990s. His experience with Catholics for Choice inspired him to start a Respect Life group at St. Aloysius parish.

Ross and Carolyn are often the back bone for supporting participation in annual events like 40 Days for Life and the Louisiana Life March.

The McCalips have supported the Pregnancy Problem Center located near the original location of Delta with their time and also financially. Since 1981, the Center has served thousands of pregnant women in the greater Baton Rouge area. Ross has served on the Center's board for 12 years and as Board president for the last five years. Carolyn has also volunteered over the past ten years at the Center in various ways including as a lay counselor, organizing the "Earn While You Learn" educational program to help women take care of themselves and their babies, and assisting with the creation of a Mom & Me Shop.

Ross is a long time member of Knights of Columbus Council 3743. He and Carolyn have been the pro-life chair couple for the last five years. They are active in the most recent pro-life effort in our

community (and one that is dear to my heart), 40 Days for Life Baton Rouge. Ross is the 40 DFL coordinator at St. Aloysius that adopts two full days at the vigil. Carolyn's Catholic Daughter Court travels from Morganza each year to join with them in prayer.



ABORTION EVER NECESSARY?

Deacon Lloyd Duplantis (Council 12285)

This is an article that is worth sharing, excerpted from *Weekly Briefing*, September 13, 2012:

Is Abortion Ever “Necessary?” The Evidence Says “No!” by Elizabeth Crnkovich

Studies show that those who argue that abortion is sometimes necessary to “save the life of the mother,” and that it lowers maternal mortality are flat out wrong. Abortion does not improve maternal health.

Let’s start with a brilliant study carried out by Elard Koch of Chile.(1) Prof. Koch looked at maternal mortality rates in Chile before and after abortion was made illegal in 1989. He found that maternal mortality rates continued to decline at the same rate even after the law was changed, suggesting that the availability of abortion had no effect on falling maternal mortality rates. The reason that maternal mortality rates continued to fall included better sanitation, better medical facilities, and especially higher levels of education among women. Chile currently has one of the lowest maternal mortality rates in the world even as abortion remains illegal. Koch concluded that there is no causal relation between the availability of abortion and maternal mortality. We conclude from his study that, contrary to what abortion advocates claim, legalizing abortion will in no way improve maternal health.

Another prominent claim of the abortion lobby is that abortion is often necessary to save the life of the mother. They point to instances where the mother has cancer and refuses chemotherapy on the grounds that it may harm their unborn child. They advise abortion in such circumstances lest the mother die from lack of treatment. But a study of cancer treatment during pregnancy (2) concluded that it is a mistake to delay chemotherapy on the grounds that the unborn child may be harmed in some way. According to the study, “the placenta functions as a filter and protects the fetus against the toxic influence of chemotherapy.” Not only does the unborn child escape any physical harm from the poisons flooding its mother’s body, it does not suffer any neurological damage either. Children whose mothers underwent chemotherapy while they

were in utero showed no signs of mental deficiency when tested throughout childhood and early adulthood.

Finally, the Symposium for Maternal Health held in Dublin, Ireland in September 2012 concluded that abortion in no way assists in the health of the mother. In the words of the Declaration: As experienced practitioners and researchers in Obstetrics and Gynecology, we affirm that direct abortion is not medically necessary to save the life of a woman. We uphold that there is a fundamental difference between abortion and necessary medical treatments that are carried out to save the life of the mother, even if such treatment results in the loss of life of her unborn child. We confirm that the prohibition of abortion does not affect, in any way, the availability of optimal care to pregnant women.

In sum, the latest and best research shows that those who argue for the legalization of abortion on the grounds that “safe abortion” is necessary to lower maternal mortality rates and to improve maternal health in general are simply wrong. Isn’t it ironic that those abortion-minded groups who claim to be interested in maternal health are in the business of destroying maternity? After all, an abortion not only takes the life of an unborn child, it also denies a woman her motherhood.

References:

1. Women's Education Level, Maternal Health Facilities, Abortion Legislation and Maternal Deaths: A Natural Experiment in Chile from 1957 to 2007.
2. Research project 'Cancer and Pregnancy'
3. Forum in Dublin on Maternal health



KC LADIES AUXILIARY ACTIVE IN PRO-LIFE

By Carolyn Lawson (Council 5301 and 4508)

St. Mary Magdalen KC Ladies Auxiliary is very active in the pro-life movement. We participated and donated to the Baby Shower at the KC State Convention in Baton Rouge in May. Our donation was Baby Blankets, Wash Cloths, Lovies and Burp Cloths.

Our Auxiliary also held two Diaper Drives during the 2014-2015 fraternal year.

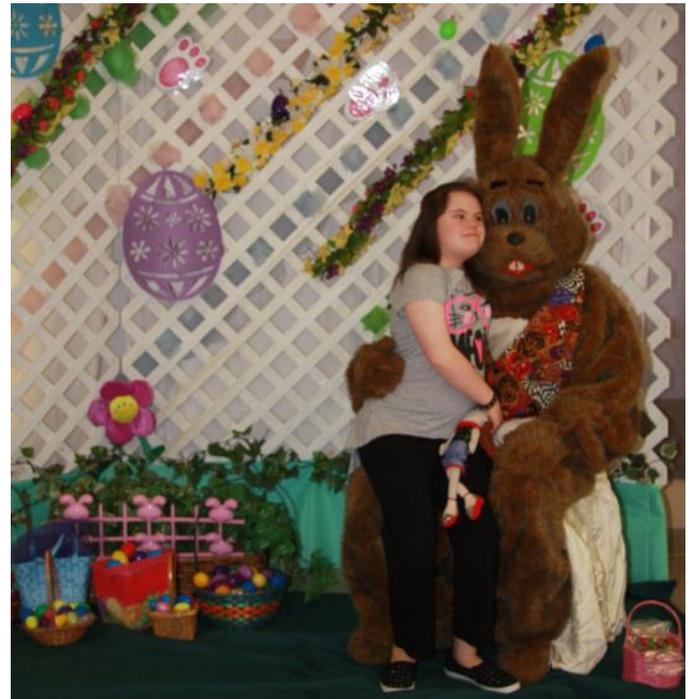
We recite the Prayer for the Unborn at all our meetings, and we have recited the Pledge of Allegiance since our inception.

Some of our Ladies participated in the March for Life in Baton Rouge in January 2015.

We cooked a Chicken Dinner, and pre-sold tickets to patrons of two local Assisted Living Facilities in Metairie in May. The dinners were delivered on Sunday when the facility does not offer hot meals.

We assist our local CYO with a FREE Easter Egg Hunt and provide Pictures with the Easter Bunny annually.

Our work continues with several of our ladies planning to participate in the Pro-life Baby Shower at the KC State Family Meeting in Kenner in June.



BABY SHOWER AT THE STATE FAMILY MEETING

By Arline Mistretta (Council 3743)

The ladies' entertainment for the state family meeting in June was a retro baby shower. Cake, sherbet punch and mimosas were served while the ladies played baby shower games. A good time was had by all. Many thanks to Cydney Gautreau and Carolyn Lawson for their planning and help!! The attendees all brought baby gifts which were donated to the New Orleans Access Pregnancy centers.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**PLAN TO ATTEND KCLS**

We are rapidly approaching the start of a new fraternal year. This is always a good time to reflect on the good work that we have done during the past fraternal year, but also reflect on what could be improved. This also a time to plan for the next fraternal year. What better way to get that started than to attend KCLS?

KCLS will be held at Dutchtown High School (just as last year) on July 18th. Your Grand Knight should receive more information.

This was our first year grading activity forms, and we certainly identified some improvements that we can make to the process. As you know, we largely kept the content of the Culture of Life activity form unchanged from the previous year. Overall, we think that the current list of questions are good. However, we noticed that there were significant differences in interpretation from council to council about what specific activities satisfactorily answered a particular question on the form. Therefore, one of our goals for KCLS is to clarify what types of activities are acceptable for each question.

In addition, we intend to shorten the length of the Culture of Life session at KCLS considerably compared to last year. Everyone attending Culture of Life session this year will receive a special gift. We will also have Culture of Life literature provided by the Diocese of Baton Rouge available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

We are looking forward to seeing many of you at KCLS!

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE 2015**

After 42 years of legal abortion-on-demand in our nation, we must unite in our local communities, and across the nation, for an end to abortion. Stand with us this fall to protect women and unborn children

from abortion through inter-denominational prayer, peaceful vigil, and community activism.

The 2015 Campaign will take place from September 23rd through November 1st. Events are held in New Orleans, Shreveport, and Baton Rouge. Make plans for your council and parish to participate in 40 Days for Life!

**NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE CONVENTION**

The National Right to Life (NRL) Convention 2015 will be held in New Orleans on 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. Guest speakers include Dr. George Delgado, M.D., F.A.A.F.P., medical director of Culture of Life Family Health Care and a regional medical director with The Elizabeth Hospice, Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal, and John McCormack, Senior Writer at *The Weekly Standard*. More information can be found on-line at: <http://nrlconvention.com/>.

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

Volunteers are needed for the convention. Volunteers will be eligible for discounted convention registration. For more information on volunteer opportunities, contact Carlton Guillot at: carlton.guillot@gmail.com.





WOMAN'S NEW LIFE CENTER

BORN TO RUN
BATON ROUGE

— SAVE the DATE —

5K RUN | **SATURDAY,** | **NORTH BLVD**
1 MILE FUN RUN AND WALK | **NOV. 7TH** | **TOWN SQUARE**
2015 | **BATON ROUGE**

Woman's New Life Center (WNLC) is a life-affirming counseling and medical center that serves women facing unplanned pregnancies in the Greater Baton and New Orleans areas.

For more information, contact Ali Dazzio at adazzio@womansnewlife.com or call 225-218-4862

additional information, call the Office of Marriage and Family Life at (225) 242-0323.

Marriage and Family Life - Diocese of Baton Rouge



CATHOLIC INFERTILITY WORKSHOP
(Danielle Van Haute – Diocese of Baton Rouge)

The Office of Marriage & Family Life is offering a day-long workshop discussing the struggle of infertility from a Catholic perspective, including the spirituality of infertility, medical causes and treatment options, balancing hope and grief, and more!

CATHOLIC INFERTILITY WORKSHOP
(Danielle Van Haute – Diocese of Baton Rouge)

JUST A FEW MORE WEEKS TO SIGN UP FOR the **MARRIED AND IN LOVE...MOST OF THE TIME!** program to be held on Saturday, July 18th at St. John Vianney Parish, Baton Rouge.

Come away for a day and refresh your marriage. Take time to just be a couple without all the distractions of your busy lives. Learn how to make your marriage shine, how to make your family shine.

World Wide Marriage Encounter and the Diocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life is sponsoring the day which will be held on Saturday, July 18th, from 9 AM to 3:30 PM at St. Jean Vianney Parish, 16166 South Harrell's Ferry Road, Baton Rouge.

The cost for the day is \$40 which includes lunch and all materials. Complimentary child care will be provided but space is limited, so please register early. Register on-line at www.mfidiobr.org. For



Pass this information along to your parishioners, family members, friends who might be struggling with infertility. Medical or mental health professionals along with any clergy or generally interested parties are also invited to attend this workshop.

Note: Priests and Deacons are invited to attend for FREE! When registering, be sure to include "Fr." or "Dcn." with your first name. Then, disregard information on payment. Please contact us if you have any questions about this.

Date: Saturday, July 25, 2015

Time: 9:30am - 4:00pm

Location: St. Thomas More Activity Center, 11441

Goodwood Blvd., Baton Rouge

Cost: \$10 per person, includes lunch

Register online: www.MFLDiobr.org

Infertility: You're Not Alone

A day long workshop discussing the struggle of infertility from a Catholic perspective, including the spirituality of infertility, causes and treatment options, balancing hope and grief, and more!



Carmen Santamaria



Dr. Caldwell



Darryl Ducote, LCSW

AGING SEMINAR

Family Choices: Transitions in Aging event will take place on Saturday, August 29, 2015 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Catholic Life Center, Main Auditorium, 1800 S. Acadian Thruway, Baton Rouge. The cost is \$15 per person with pre-registration and \$20 for walk-ins. Lunch is provided.

Speakers & Presentations:

- "A Spiritual Discernment of Transitions" by Lisette Borne, Spiritual Director
- "Attending to the Needs of the Dying" by Darryl Ducote, LCSW
- "Creativity in Retirement" by Fr. Donald Blanchard and Fr. Gerald Burns
- "Transitions in the Home: Safety-Proofing" by Roxane Bingham
- And more!

Register online at www.MFLDiobr.org, or call the Office of Marriage & Family Life at 225-242-0323.

CRISIS PREGNANCY FUNDRAISING BANQUET

The Ark-La-Tex Crisis Prenancy Center (www.altcpc.com) will have a Life Banquet on Tuesday, October 27, 2015 at the Shreveport Convention Center. This year, Abby Johnson, author of the book *Unplanned*, will be the keynote speaker.

Contact Kim at 318-861-4600 or kim@altcpc.com if you wuld like to sponsor a table or obtain more information.



SAVE THE DATE: LIFE FEST

Saturday, October 10, 2015

10 AM - Kickoff

4PM - Annual Bishop's Respect Life Mass
Tracy Center Ballroom

1800 S. Acadian Thrwy, Baton Rouge

This celebration of life will have something for everyone! Renowned speakers, music, kids track for ages 5-11, Eucharistic Adoration and more! The day will conclude with the Annual Bishop's Respect Life Mass at 4:00 PM. More information coming soon!



EDUCATION CORNERPRO-LIFE VIDEO RECOMMENDATION

By Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

Catholic Answers has produced an excellent Pro-life video to provide guidance on how to talk about abortion. Often we are reluctant to discuss abortion with others because we are afraid of conflict. This video may give you courage to talk about it. As St. Paul instructs us, we should speak the truth in love (Eph 4:15).

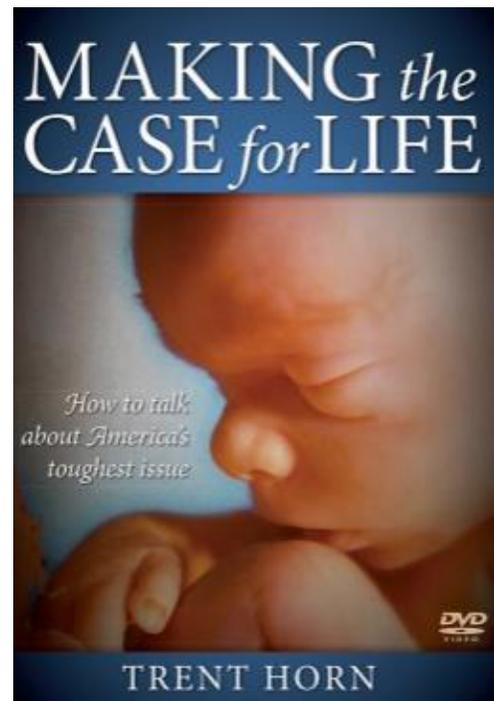
Trent Horn with Catholic Answers draws on his experiences talking with people about abortion while a member of Justice for All. He uses his personal stories to make good points throughout the short video. The content full of clear and simple arguments.

The video talk includes tips on how to talk about abortion such as: be knowledgeable, ask questions, and have a good attitude. The key question to focus on is: “What is the unborn?”

Trent explains a very useful tool “Trot Out a Toddler.” He instructs us to always demonstrate that you are a human being and that you care about those in hardship and hurt by abortion.

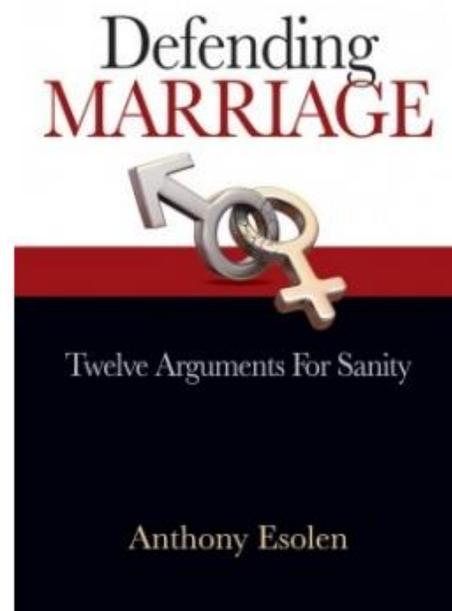
During the video, Trent shows that we can demonstrate that the unborn are biologically human beings and that they are persons with human rights.

This is a video that every pro-life person should own. I highly recommend it.

BOOK RECOMMENDATION

By Sam Mistretta (Council 3743)

Today, much of the western world is confused about the purpose and meaning of marriage. A new book **Defending Marriage (Twelve Arguments For Sanity)** by Anthony Esolen wonderfully expresses the beauty of marriage and the ideal to strive for. Please take the time to read this [book review](#) from the National Catholic Register and consider reading it. I highly recommend it.



INTERNET ARTICLES OF INTEREST

[A Constitutional Defense of Marriage](#)

[Notre Dame Loses Round in Court](#)

[DC Court Tells Catholic Groups: Submit to HHS
Mandate or Pay Massive Fines](#)

[Follow the Money: American Entity Funded Irish
Same-Sex ‘Marriage’ Campaign](#)

[Hungarian court condemns black market sales of
aborted fetal parts for cosmetic use](#)

[How Catholic Ireland Became the First Country to
Vote for Same-Sex ‘Marriage’](#)

[Tales of Two Social Scientists](#)

[Pope Francis: Marriage and family facing ‘serious
cultural crisis’](#)

[Pope Francis on abortion: ‘Never, never does killing
a person resolve a problem’](#)

[Oklahoma Expands Enforcement Options for
Abortion Law](#)

[Same-sex “Marriage” and the Persecution of
Christians in Canada](#)

[Science Run Amok](#)

[Nebraska abolishes death penalty in landmark
override vote](#)

[Abortionists Have Killed More Americans Than
Lived in U.S. in 1880](#)

[The Redeeming Act of Adoption](#)

[Texas cuts Planned Parenthood funding from state
budget](#)

[Local View: Defending human dignity](#)

[We are not minds in meat suits](#)

[Catholic Relief Services, and Catholic Institutions
Nationwide, Wrestle With the Estridge Dilemma](#)

[Media Promotes Junk Science on Fetal Pain](#)

[Breaking: Catholic Relief Services’ Vice President
Rick Estridge Resigns](#)

[The Supreme Court’s Willingness to Embrace
Irrationality Should Shock You](#)

[Freedom Is . . . a Sexual Ponzi Scheme?](#)

[“I Don’t Find Dignity in Taking My Own Life”](#)

[Wise up, Bill! O’Reilly insists preborn are
‘potential’ humans](#)

[Five Questions for Supporters of Gender
Transitioning](#)

[Pope: Marriage between man and woman is
threatened by gender ideology](#)

[Why Some Refuse Even to Anesthetize the Unborn](#)

[Bruce Jenner, the “Shadow Council,” and St.
Irenaeus](#)

[What if Contraception Won’t Make You Happy?](#)

[Pope Francis: “Children have a ‘Right’ to a Mother
and Father”](#)

[Birth Control in Drinking Water: A Fertility
Catastrophe in the Making?](#)

[Archbishop Gomez: Assisted Suicide Bill Is Hollow
Compassion](#)

[Studying the Same-Sex Studies](#)

[Explaining the Decline in Abortion Rates](#)

[Why Pro-Marriage Lawyers Are Losing](#)

[‘We Are a Million’ Marchers for Marriage in Rome](#)

[Women rejects abortion after she sees her baby on
ultrasound](#)

[Abortions drop in almost every state, a new survey
shows](#)

[Doctor Will Kill Healthy 24-Year-Old in Euthanasia Who's Thought of Suicide Since She Was a Kid](#)

[Stem Cell Ambiguity: The Gordie Howe Case Highlights the Need for Clearer Terminology](#)

[Breaking: US Supreme Court Legalizes Same-Sex Marriage Nationwide](#)

[Quick Lessons from the Catechism: The Sacrament of Holy Matrimony](#)

[Judicial Activism From Supreme Court on Marriage. Here's How to Respond.](#)

QUOTES OF THE MONTH

"The family is experiencing a profound cultural crisis, as are all communities and social bonds. In the case of the family, the weakening of these bonds is particularly serious because the family is the fundamental cell of society, where we learn to live with others despite our differences and to belong to one another; it is also the place where parents pass on the faith to their children. Marriage now tends to be viewed as a form of mere emotional satisfaction that can be constructed in any way or modified at will. But the indispensable contribution of marriage to society transcends the feelings and momentary needs of the couple."

—Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*

"To me, we need to be deeply concerned about the erosion of religious freedom as a result of the redefinition of marriage and the application of anti-discrimination laws to religious believers and others who morally object to same-sex sexual partnerships or their designation as "marriages." It is happening here, just as it is happening in Canada and in European nations. This is a violation of people's fundamental rights to act with authenticity and integrity in line with their consciences, where respect for conscience is consistent with justice and the common good.

The very basis of the right to freedom of conscience is in the moral reality that people have a duty to act in line with their consciences as best they can form

hem. That duty is in turn rooted in the values of authenticity and integrity, especially in matters of faith. Human beings are damaged, they damage themselves morally, when they violate their consciences. And that damage is done whether the act is freely chosen or whether it is performed under the pressure of culture or law.

We can't do anything to force people to act in line with their consciences; laws can't reach conscience in that way. But we can ensure that laws don't impose themselves unjustly on people's consciences, forcing them to act in ways that are inauthentic."

—Robert George is a Catholic Princeton professor, human-rights activist and the newly elected chairman of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom.

Read more at: <http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/religious-freedom-at-home-or-abroad-is-personal/#ixzz3eCvS5Wbh>

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Prayer for Victims of Abortion

Lord God, ever caring and gentle, we commit to your love these little ones, quickened to life for so short a time. Enfold them in your love.

We pray for all responsible for the death of these children. Give them the gift of true repentance, and comfort them with a full portion of your mercy.

Heavenly Father, transform our selfishness and sin and make us turn to your love. Help us to embrace the Gospel of life to repudiate sin, selfishness, and death, and to live only as your children.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Taken from **Catholic Household Blessing & Prayers**, Revised Edition, USCCB, 2007.

