



Culturae Vitae

May 2016

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

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 Sam and Arline Mistretta
 State Culture of Life Chair Couple
 6346 Riverine Drive
 Baton Rouge, LA. 70820
 Email: smistretta2@cox.net*

PRELIMINARIES

COUNCIL CULTURE OF LIFE CHAIR COUPLES WANTED!

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

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

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

KCLS CULTURE OF LIFE PRESENTATIONS

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

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

The 2014 presentation provides an overview of the main Culture of Life issues. The 2015 presentation provides specific guidance on the activity grading form.

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 FROM 2014 ARE AVAILABLE

The results a 2014 survey of Culture of Life chair couples is 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 materials 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.

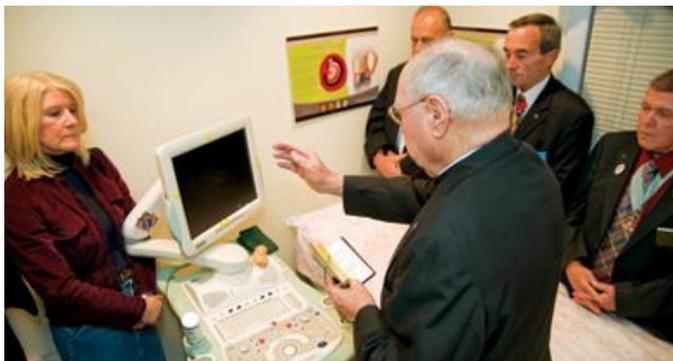
CULTURE OF LIFE RESOURCES

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: <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) for assistance.

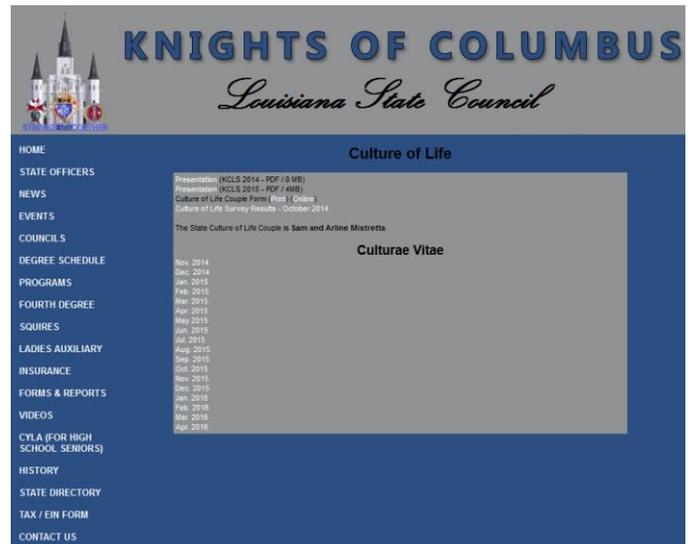


CULTURE OF LIFE NEWSLETTERS ARE ON THE STATE WEB SITE

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](#).

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



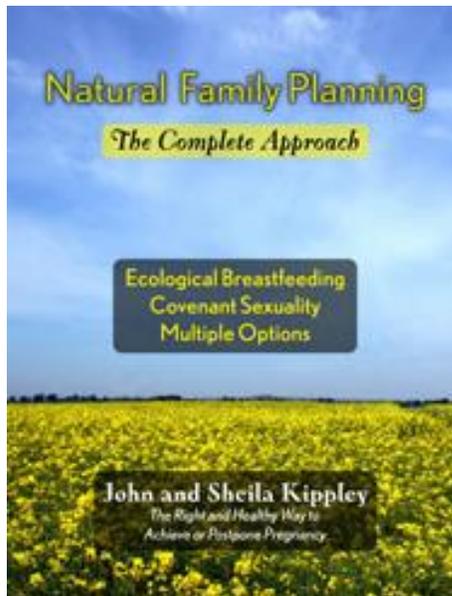
YOUR FIRST STOP FOR PRO-LIFE RESOURCES IN LOUISIANA

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 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. 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.



NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

A natural family planning course for Catholics is available on-line: **Natural Family Planning: The Complete Approach** by John and Sheila Kippley. The course is Christ-centered, readable, and provides an easy-to-grasp covenant theology. It covers all of the fertility signs, and it is an excellent preparation for Christian marriage. For more information, go to www.NFPandmore.org.

TANGIPAHOA RIGHT TO LIFE

On Thursday, April 14th, the newly formed Tangipahoa Parish Right to Life group held its Launch Party in Ponchatoula to kick off its lifesaving education and service-oriented mission. About 30 people attended the dinner and learned more about the pro-life movement in Louisiana and, more specifically, pro-life efforts in Tangipahoa Parish.

Members of the group joining Louisiana Right to Life and other pro-lifers at the Capitol during this session, and they will also be leading a doorhanger campaign on May 14 in Tangipahoa Parish.

Thanks to Coleen Enmon, Tim Sann Fillippo, Beth Davis, Randi Matthews, Julie Hanks, and the entire Tangipahoa Right to Life team for their hard work!

You can help them by liking the group's Facebook page ([Facebook.com/TangiRightToLife](https://www.facebook.com/TangiRightToLife)), and you can also contact them to get involved!

* Beth Davis, 985-974-9397, director@rhprc.com

* Coleen Enmon, 985-969-0020, clenmon@aol.com

Louisiana Right to Life is looking forward to the lives the new Tangipahoa Right to Life group will save!

If you are interested in helping or building a pro-life chapter in your community, contact us today.

HELP MOTHERS IN NEED!

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

You can provide practical help to an expectant mother and her baby right here and now in the Archdiocese of New Orleans!

The Respect Life Office in collaboration with St. Vincent's Maternity Clinic in Metairie will be raising funds to allow St. Vincent Maternity care to continue to provide quality prenatal care in our community. St. Vincent Maternity Clinic (<http://www.ccano.org/stvincent/>), a program of Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans, provides personalized prenatal and delivery care, including care of the mother & new baby after delivery.

For every mother and child served, St. Vincent's has a gap between reimbursed costs and actual expenses, which total about \$3,500 for a vaginal delivery. Donations to the program will help offset

these costs and ensure that the many clients who come to St. Vincent's continue to receive the care they deserve.

UPDATE: We have nearly reached our goal to help an expecting mother who is receiving care at St. Vincent's Maternity Clinic. Let's work together to ease the burden of a mother & help her focus on the joy of her child's pending birth...Please consider sending a small donation or raising a portion of the funds as a group

Donations (make check payable to "Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans") may be sent to- St. Vincent's Maternity Clinic, 3019 N Arnoult Rd, Metairie LA 70002. For more information about donations for this project, call 504-885-1141. Please email me (respectlife@arch-no.org) if you have questions.



ULTRASOUNDS AND INFERTILITY

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

How do an ultrasound machine & infertility go hand-in-hand? Consider this: A dignified and natural approach to Artificial Reproductive Technologies is now offered at the Gianna center of the Gulf South. The Gianna Center utilizes the Creighton Model Fertility Care System along with NaPro (Natural Procreative) Technology to medically and/or surgically diagnose and correct primary and secondary causes of infertility and cycle abnormalities. This approach is significantly less burdensome financially, and in most cases reimbursable by health insurance carriers.

Diagnostic ultrasound is a necessary and integral part of the care offered at the Gianna Center. In some cases ultrasounds are performed on a daily basis to establish when ovulation will occur (a woman's peak fertility). It is also used to diagnose

conditions that will affect a woman's fertility. Once a child is conceived, ultrasound is then necessary to evaluate on a regular basis the health of the pregnancy.

The crisis pregnancy center on the Northshore (Northlake Crisis Pregnancy Center) also utilizes the Gianna Center. They refer to the Gianna Center, and they see their abortion-minded clients regardless of their ability to pay. Because ultrasound has played a vital role in an abortion-minded women's decision to keep their babies, it is imperative that to continue to show these women their babies at each visit as long as they remain vulnerable.

Please consider helping the Knights of Columbus help the Gianna Center obtain the much-needed ultrasound machine...scroll down to the Corporal Work of Mercy information below. Reach out to your Knights & ask them to join the effort!



ARTIFICIAL REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGY

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

There is hope for those struggling with infertility...literally! Hope Woman's Clinic in Metairie understands that infertility is a difficulty and struggle that affects many couples. Through services provided by Dr. Susan Caldwell and their Creighton practitioners, they work with women to restore their reproductive system to a state of normal functioning in order to achieve a pregnancy in a manner that respects the dignity of the person and the couple, cooperating with God's design.

Dr Caldwell is trained in NaProTECHNOLOGY, which is a new science that identifies the problem, cooperates with the menstrual and fertility cycles, corrects the condition, maintains the human ecology and sustains procreative potential.

And... it is more effective than IVF (In Vitro Fertilization):

for Tubal Occlusion.....1.4 times better
for Endometriosis.....2.2 times better
for Polycystic Ovaries.....2.7 times better
for Anovulation.....3.2 times better

Contact Hope Woman’s Clinic to learn more or make an appointment today!

www.womansnewlife.com/hope
<https://womansnewlife.com/womens-health/infertility/>

Find them on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/hopewomansclinic/>

Follow them on Twitter: @WomansNewLife

For basic Church teaching on Assisted Reproductive Technologies please visit <https://respectlife.arch-no.org/artificial-reproductive-technologies>



CULTURE OF LIFE STORIES

EASTER CBIB REFLECTIONS

By Lise Naccari, CBIB Founder and President

Whatever you do for the least of these little ones, you have done it for me. CBIB has buried 11 babies for needy parents since January. Please pray for all these grieving families and pray for the direction God wants us to go. His will be done!

Our last funeral had 60 people in attendance. We are touching the lives of many people in our community. It is love in action.

In April, CBIB was invited by Louisiana Right to Life to testify about what CBIB is doing and to support a bill that was being proposed to a Legislative Committee. This bill would require hospitals to inform parents who suffer the tragedy of miscarriage that they have a right to bury or cremate their child. This allows them to properly grieve the loss and can facilitate the healing process for the family.

With me were three women who talked about their miscarriages. It was amazing to see men, women and State Representatives cry in response to the testimony. We passed out Kleenex. Five minutes earlier, it was business as usual and everyone seemed to be bored or asleep. Then we started to speak and the room became silent. You could actually hear them listening. As we spoke, the people were so deeply touched. It was awesome! It was God. He entered the room and broke hearts of stone. The bill passed without opposition, and it is now going to the House for a vote.



CONVENTION HELP WANTED

A Baby Shower Collection Drive will be held at the Louisiana Knights of Columbus State Convention in Lafayette from April 29th through May 1st. We are asking councils to hold a collection drive in your church parish or purchase items individually or as a council. Please bring your collected items to the Convention and drop them off at the Culture of Life table when you check in.

Monetary donations will be accepted. Please make checks payable to **Knights of Columbus** and write “**baby shower collection drive**” in the memo line. If your council cannot sponsor a baby shower collection drive in your church parish or council, you may consider a monetary donation instead.

Suggested items are: baby mattresses, pack-n-play portable playpens, baby monitors, baby health kits (thermometer, ball syringe, medicine dropper, nail clippers, etc.), children’s clothing from infant to size 3, onesies, disposable diapers preemie to size 3, wipes, baby towels, receiving blankets/baby blankets, baby bottles, packs of infant socks, pacifiers, baby wash, baby lotion, baby shampoo, and Desitin. **For health reasons, only bring NEW items please.**

The collected items will be distributed to the Lafayette area crisis pregnancy centers. Please contact Sam and Arline Mistretta at 769-2433 or email: smistretta2@cox.net if you can help with this part of the effort.

CHOOSE LIFE!

John Vaughn Gibson DD 13

After seeing what Hillary [Clinton] said about the unborn not having Constitutional rights, I got to thinking this morning. We see so many times today two people, usually very young, give in to their lust and sin in the eyes of the Lord, God still loves them and next thing you know a child is created. I see this as God's way of giving them another chance. They sinned, gave into their human desires, broke one of the Ten Commandments, and by all rights should be punished...right, but God does something different.

God in his infinite wisdom, throws them a curve ball. A life is created, out of their sin comes something beautiful. Now is the chance to do the right thing, but Satan has given you another choice, thanks to our politicians and lawmakers. **JUST KILL IT!** It is not a life, it’s a mistake, I am not ready for this, I have my whole life ahead of me, **I DO NOT WANT THIS!**

The world has created excuses for all your sins. You don't need God, you got this..Just kill it, it doesn't have rights, but you do, you have the right to commit murder in America. After all it's your body!

Wrong sister, it's God's, you belong to him whether you admit it or not. God loves us more than we could ever fathom, even in our sin, God loves us, even when we turn our backs on him, even when we hate him, he goes right on loving us. That curve ball, is a life, created by God through your actions. **SO** you choose to step up to the plate, to welcome that **LIFE** into the world with love and caring. You cry when your baby is born, your baby cries right back for it's mother. A cry of joy. You watch your baby grow, and God helps you through life. You discover that your dreams at that young age did not matter, that only **LOVE** matters.

God smiles, because as you lay on your death bed at the end of your long life, you have hit that curve ball out of the park...the heavenly host cheers and slaps you on the back as you cross home plate! Welcome home God says, my good and faithful servant!

CHOOSE LIFE!

PREGNANCY CENTER FUNDRAISER

Sam and Arline Mistretta (Council 3743)

The Family Life Federation Pregnancy Problem Center held **A Pink and Blue Event** on Thursday, April 14, 2016 at City Club of Baton Rouge. This is a fundrasier to support their mission to give compassionate practical assitance to women experiencing unplanned pregnancies in the Baton Rouge area.

The event featured an empassioned speeches from Keynote Speaker Kathy Allen, State Director for Black Advocates for Life, and Fr. Jeff Bayhi, pastor of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. Everyone was inspired by the talks and we had a wonderful time visiting with our friends who are active in the pro-life movement. We are looking forward to next year's event.



JOHN HAULER RECOGNIZED FOR HIS PRO-LIFE WORK

John Hauler and his wife Elaine were invited to attend a Seminary fundraiser by Dennis Cass, president of the New Orleans Metropolitan Chapter of the Knights of Columbus. The event was held on Wednesday, April 20th. John was given a plaque in recognition for his “many years of dedicated service in promoting the pro-life movement in the New Orleans area and for a lifetime of service in the Knights of Columbus.” Vice Supreme Master of Bienville Province Russell Ruh Jr. as well as State Warden Keith Lawson and State Deputy Vernon Ducote were also present to show their appreciation to John. Please join us congratulating John on this well deserved recognition.



PULSE ATTENDEES MEET WITH THE GOVERNOR

Vince Whittington (former Camp Joshua Chairman)

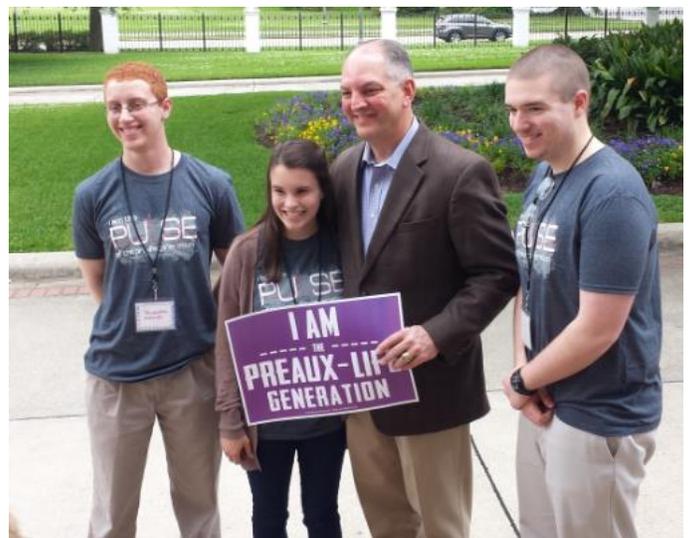
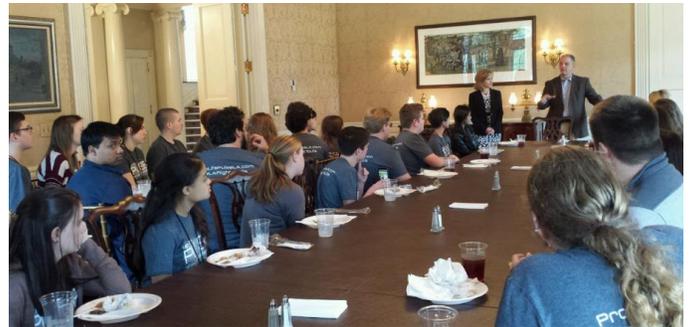
On April 15-17, 2016 Louisiana Right to life held its second Pulse (Camp Joshua) weekend in which the Knights of Columbus is a major sponsor. It was held in Baton Rouge at the Tracy Center. This one was a smaller camp with about 30 students including 2 from Rhode Island which is looking at starting this program up there. There was also one student from Mississippi, so people are hearing about us. It started off with the usual Abortion 101 and Pro-life Activism, and pro-life persuasion classes which are always very good and is the root of the program.

For lunch we went to the Governor's Mansion and had a delicious lunch provided by the St Amant council. Then we took pictures with Governor John Bel Edwards holding an "I am Preaux Life" sign and First Lady Donna Edwards. We toured the Mansion in which the First Lady gave the tour talking with the students as if she was thoroughly enjoying it and in her element. The Governor and First Lady ended up visiting and talking with the students and us for over an hour. For a side note Governor John Bel Edwards is a Third Degree Brother Knight. While there were many great moments during the weekend this had to be one of the highlights.

After that we left for the Delta abortion clinic to pray outside and then tour the Women's New Life Center. There the students got to learn how they can help and how the center works. Then back to the Tracy Center for a session on Pro-life/ Pro-Chasity and a break at the ever popular Pulse Coffee House where the students get to unwind from a full day and a half. The next day is a session on the Impact of abortion and how to carry what they learned this weekend forward.

What a Fantastic weekend. You know it was a great weekend when no one wants to leave when it is over.

Please continue your support for the Pulse weekend both monetarily and by sending Students



LETTER TO THE AUTHOR OF HB 1102
EXPANDING SURROGACY IN LOUISIANA
 Peter Sahuc (former State Culture of Life Director)

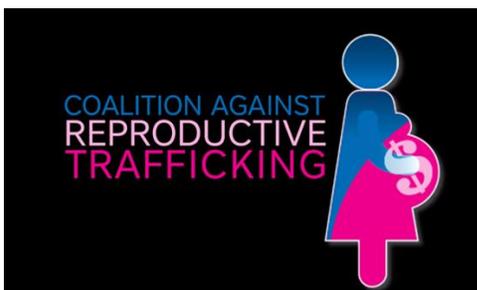
Mr. Bishop,

I applaud your 100% Pro-Life voting record as determined by Louisiana Right to Life Federation. I was however shocked to hear that you were authoring HB1102 in the Louisiana House of Representatives. I can only assume from your prior commitment to good morals & the Pro-Life cause that you might be misinformed on certain facts concerning “surrogacy” which has led you to author HB1102 which I understand will expand “surrogacy” in Louisiana. While many may support the practice of surrogacy since they feel it will help provide a mother with a child (which is true), many other issues make this an immoral and undesirable procedure.

Due in part to (1) its use of “artificial insemination” which requires fertilization and sometimes implantation of multiple embryos and the subsequent eventual discarding/destruction (abortion) of the remaining human embryos that remain frozen, and more than often cases of “selective abortions” which attempt to reduce the number of babies that have been implanted in the surrogate mother to a more “manageable” number and (2) in part to the exploitation of women that often legally occurs, this practice is deemed unacceptable to not only me and my family, but tens of thousands of Louisiana Pro-Lifers, and the to the Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops.

I respectfully request that you withdraw this legislation before it is allowed to be put to a vote.

Thank you.
 Peter F. Sahuc, Sr. CPA
 Lafayette



LETTER TO THE AUTHOR OF HB 1102
EXPANDING SURROGACY IN LOUISIANA
 Sam Mistretta

I am writing this letter to you to express my opposition to House Bill 1102 that you authored that provides a legal framework to enable surrogacy.

Surrogacy is considered by some people to be a viable solution to infertility, but it is not a morally licit method to address infertility. By using donated sperm, a donated embryo, and a surrogate mother, a child can be born who can never know his biological mother or father, or even their family roots. A woman is not a baby factory, and a child is not some item to be bought and sold. No one is entitled to a child. A child is always a gift. A child is a human being with an inherent dignity, so a child should always be treated as such. A child is not an object, so he or she should not be devalued as such.

For those who desperately want the gift of a child, we must reach out to them. We must offer them love, support and understanding. There are alternatives such a Natural Procreative Technology offered by pregnancy centers such as Gianna Center of the Gulf South. These methods should be supported.

The unintended consequences of surrogacy are becoming known, resulting in complicated legal cases (see: “California triplets at center of thorny surrogacy case, pro-life debate” Fox News 2/24/16) and property rights battles (see: “People or Property? IVF and Surrogacy Have Opened a Pandora’s Box of Law” National Catholic Register 01/08/16).

Our society devalues human life in so many ways. Consider the evil done by abortion, euthanasia, human trafficking, and objectification of women in the media (to name just a few). We must turn back from this culture of death.

Our government officials have a moral obligation to enact just laws, laws that build up the common good. By its very nature, a law that enable surrogacy is contrary to the common good.

The state should do all that it can to ensure basic human rights. These rights include the right of

children to know and be loved by their biological parents. This bill cannot serve the vital interests of the people of the great state of Louisiana.

I ask you to reflect on this important issue and withdraw this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Sam Mistretta
Louisiana Knights of Columbus
State Culture of Life Director

MERCY AND PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

Kathy Allen
(State Director for Black Advocates for Life)

“This is the time for mercy.”

Pope Francis gives this simple, yet powerful, explanation for his declaration of a Jubilee Year of Mercy from December 8, 2015 – November 20, 2016. The year of mercy is a joyful time for prolife ministry, in which we celebrate the value of every human life, and seek to protect the dignity and right to life of the living, and especially the unborn. Every year in Louisiana, thousands of women make the tragic decision to end the lives of their unborn babies. Last year, 6,000 of these babies were African-American. These babies died before their God-given purpose could be fulfilled, and the women and men who were involved with those abortions are living with the knowledge that they ended a human life.

There is forgiveness, hope, and renewal, however, in the mercy of God which is extended to us in a special way during this jubilee year. Abortion is a sin that is covered in shame and silence, and often, guilt. We seek to be perfect, or try to appear perfect in order to hide guilt and avoid the judgment of others. The mercy of God, however, in the words of our Holy Father, is “the bridge that connects God and man, opening our hearts to the hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness.”

During this year of mercy, our Church extends a special invitation to those who have been involved in any way with abortion to receive forgiveness and

experience the mercy of God and the Church. How do we experience the great mercy of God? A first, and important step is to renew ourselves through the sacraments, especially confession -the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Sacred scripture tells us to “...[r]epent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord... Acts 3:19 (RSV) Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, God’s mercy washes away the stain of our sin, and we receive the grace of God that enables us to move beyond the shame of our sin to walk forward in confidence that our lives still have value – that we still have value to the body of Christ.

The Year of Mercy is FOR YOU. It’s for all of us who want to be renewed in body and spirit. It gives us the gift of God’s healing and mercy, the capacity to extend that mercy to others, and through fellowship, to bring love and encouragement to those who have wounds from sin.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 (RSV)

You may have had an abortion, paid for an abortion, or encouraged someone to have an abortion. Perhaps you knew about plans for an abortion but did nothing, or even performed an abortion. Whatever you may have done, or failed to do, God loves you so much that He gave His only begotten Son, so that if you just trust in Him, believe in Him, rely on Him and surrender your life to Him, you shall not live in silence, or guilt, or shame, or regret, or depression, but you shall have everlasting life. You shall enjoy the peace and joy of living in God’s mercy.

This is the good news of the prolife movement, particularly in this year of mercy. **This is the time for mercy.** Let us be messengers of this good news through our lives rooted in the love of God. May you be richly blessed with the joy of Christ in this Jubilee Year of Mercy.

L O U I S I A N A
BLACK
ADVOCATES FOR LIFE
stand up. speak out. save lives.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

Don and Dee Caskey (Council 1905)

When Uncle Paul reminds us that "I am Knights of Columbus" it is to remind us to internalize what we as individuals can accomplish in the Knights of Columbus. When we take the power in that and multiply it by the members of our own council we become a real force. Just imagine what can happen when we join the forces of FIVE KC COUNCILS? Magic (in the good sense) happens.

On April 9th, the Women's New Life Center held a 5K walk/run at Audubon Park. I have no idea how much money was raised, but we had a great turn out and all those hungry and thirsty people were well cared for.

St. Rita's Council and Brother Gene Hickey served at least 120 servings of some smokin' pulled pork and cole slaw. St. Matthew's Council and Brother Jarold Smith served 150-175 servings of some jammin' jambalaya. St. Louis King of France's Brother Jay Hebert dished up over 100 servings of some real good red beans and rice. St. Angela Merici with Brothers Tim Laguaitte and Denis VanGeffen another 300 servings of some "Lock the Door its all mine" jambalaya. Our own Council served two 5 gallon kegs of homemade root beer that we added to two huge tubs of ice cream for some old time summer delight root beer floats. We used almost 250 12 oz. cups. I do not want to forget that St. Stanislaus' (not a council) and Mr. Jack Bivin served 160 All American hamburgers and 80 hot dogs.

I fully expect each and every participant from this year to return next year and to bring a friend or two for the good eating and great fun. Gentlemen, when good Catholic men get together for a common cause, we are hard to beat. The names that I mentioned were just the captains. They had crews and best of all their wives showing that "We are Knights of Columbus". We were also blessed to be able to give a \$200 donation to Women's New Life Center.

The Woman's New Life Center has been a safe harbor for women that have nowhere to turn in their most vulnerable time. In the New Orleans area, they are located on Ridgelake next door to the Causeway

abortion clinic (Ain't dere no mo). They are building a new Women's New Life Center next door to the future Planned Parenthood abortion clinic on Claiborne Avenue. They need our financial, physical and prayer support with this new ministry.

Yours in Christ





A PRO-LIFE PERSPECTIVE

John Hauler (Council 9016)

“I never dreamed that such cruelty, bestiality, and savagery could exist in the world! It was horrible.”
 Dwight. D. Eisenhower to wife Mamie in a letter after a visit to an internment camp. (Eisenhower Volume 1; page 400) by Stephen E. Ambrose.

After walking through a work camp in Germany in 1945, the man who commanded millions of men to defend our way of life over seventy years ago was stunned by the carnage he saw. He could not believe that a human being could do such things. If Eisenhower were alive today what do you think he would say if he walked into an active abortion death house? What would he think if he saw an abortionist actually tearing a baby limb from limb so that the mother could resume her life as she chose?

Personhood is denied to a baby because of the actions of the Supreme Court. Abortion is revered by many as a means to an end. Everyone has the right to live as they see fit, right? As many politicians and the general public see it, abortion is victimless. It is simply removing tissue from the body of the woman, a product of conception, a ball of cells. These are some of the ways the abortionists describe the baby in the womb. The problem is that they absolutely deny the existence of human life when it is an inconvenience to them. They love and adore human life when they choose.

They also ignore surgeries performed in the womb by dedicated doctors intent on saving lives. The United States of America, the greatest country in the world, kills its own children for the convenience of others. For forty-three years this message of selfishness has continued. The only way the abortionists will carry on is if we allow apathy to take over.

“Every human embryologist in the world knows that the life of the new individual human being begins at fertilization. It is not belief. It is scientific fact.” - - Ward Kischer, Ph.D, Human Embryologist, University of Arizona. (Pro Life Persuasion, Louisiana Right to Life Federation).

It seems that we cannot stop what is doing on. Everything is done in God’s own time. It is up to us to show that we trust in Him and that we are not quitters.

The abortion holocaust will end soon when people who really believe in the sanctity of human life stand up to the bullies of abortion.



UPCOMING EVENTS

WORLD WIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

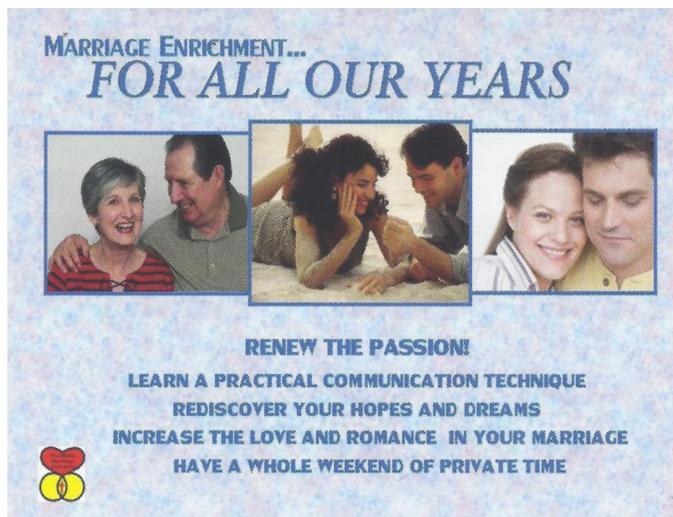
Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) is a weekend for married Christian couples who value their relationship and desire a richer, fuller life together. Attend a Marriage Encounter weekend and learn the tools needed to keep your marriage strong.

WWME is faithful to the Roman Catholic Church's teaching that marriage is a covenant that exists between one man and one woman. Any reference to marriage or couple made by WWME is in this context.

The upcoming events will take place at the Tracy Center in Baton Rouge. The next available weekends are: July 22-24th and October 14-16th.

You can find more information about these events at their web site: www.LAMS-wwme.org or call 800-586-5469.

An application fee of \$75 is non-refundable, and a donation will be requested on the weekend. You can receive a special \$25 discount on the application fee by using the discount code SAVE-25.



WHOLE LIFE CONFERENCE

A special pro-life conference will take place on May 28th and 29th at the Loyola University New Orleans (6363 St. Charles Avenue, Miller Building Room 114) featuring Archbishop Gregory Aymond and Sr. Helen Prejean. Also invited are Dr. Kathy Allen,

Governor John Bel Edwards and First Lady Donna Edwards. Breakout sessions will cover a variety of pro-life topics. Go to this [web site](#) for more information and how to register to attend.



BOWTIES FOR BABIES

Louisiana Right to Life's Bowties for Babies: A Southern Soiree Benefiting Life will be held Tuesday, May 10, 2016 from 7 to 10 PM at the Capitol Park Museum (660 N. 4th St., Baton Rouge). The new Lieutenant Governor, Billy Nungesser, and his wife, Cher, are the chair couple for the soiree that will feature live jazz music, delicious food, and a silent auction.

100 percent of the proceeds go to Louisiana Right to Life's Advertise for Life Project, which reaches women in crisis pregnancies through targeted on-line advertising that connects them with one of the state's pregnancy resource centers. In 2015, the project generated 1,247 pregnancy help phone calls to the crisis pregnancy hotline and nearly 16,000 clicks to the website.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit <http://prolifelouisiana.org/bowties>.



Bowties for Babies: A Southern Soiree Benefiting Life
 May 10, 2016 | 7 - 10 p.m.
 Capitol Park Museum
 660 N. 4th St., Baton Rouge

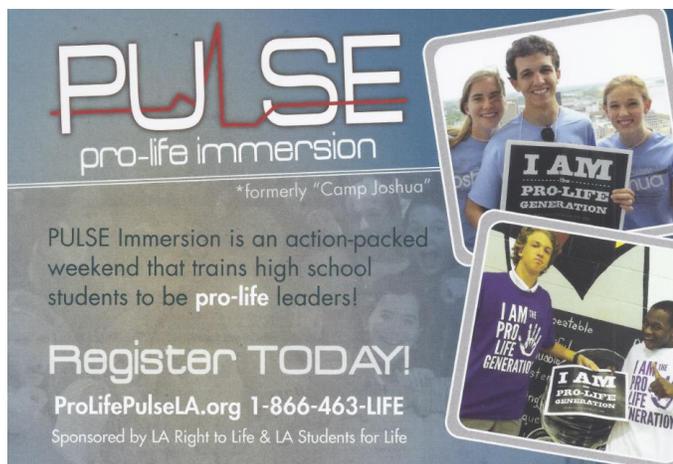
Chair Couple: Lt. Gov. and Mrs. Billy (Cher) Nungesser
 Special Honoree: Sharon Weston Broome

PULSE IMMERSION PROGRAM

The PULSE Pro-life Youth Initiative is a multi-faceted effort to train the junior high, high school, and college students of Louisiana to be pro-life agents of change in their communities. Get Involved! For more information visit this [web site](#).

PULSE will include LARTL's PULSE Immersion Weekends and PULSE Leadership Institute. While the weekend and week-long youth training programs will remain virtually the same as "Camp Joshua" and "Joshua Leadership Institute", they are looking forward to expanding their youth education under the banner of PULSE!

Baton Rouge PULSE Leadership Institute is scheduled for **June 19-24th**. For more information, contact Alex Seghers, LARTL Co-Youth Programs Director alex@prolifelouisiana.org.



DISMEMBERMENT DOORHANGER EDUCATION CAMPAIGN

Louisiana Right to Life is looking for teams of dedicated pro-life volunteers to help distribute door hangers throughout Louisiana on May 14th. There may be other dates this spring if possible!

The Louisiana Right to Life Door Hanger Campaign is a statewide grassroots effort dedicated to educating the public on the injustice of dismemberment abortion. Volunteers throughout Louisiana will leave colorful and informative literature (click [here](#) to download an example of the doorhanger) on door knobs in their neighborhoods

and communities and urge residents to sign a petition at www.EndDismemberment.com.

Volunteers will meet at designated locations and work in teams to drop literature throughout a targeted area.



Can you help us?

WHAT WE NEED:

TEAM CAPTAINS: We need team captains to coordinate the doorhanger distribution in their community. Currently, we have captains for New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and Lafayette. We need a lot more to cover the state! Team captains are encouraged to at least do the doorhanger distribution in accord with the state-wide distribution on May 14. If your local team wants to do distributions on more dates than May 14, fine by us! The more the better. New Orleans will be employing this tactic as well, kicking off its campaign on April 23 at the Planned Parenthood site on Claiborne Avenue from noon to 4 p.m.

TEAM MEMBERS: Team members will sign up to help under a team captain by attending to distribute the door hangers and by recruiting other team members.

It's easy to get involved! All you need is a willing heart, and you can help put an end to dismemberment abortion in Louisiana. You can sign up at www.ProLifeLouisiana.org/Doorhanger.

For more information contact Shanon Snyder at 866-463-5433 or email him at: snyder@prolifelouisiana.org.

BATON ROUGE RIGHT TO LIFE BREAKFAST

Baton Rouge Right to Life will have their 6th Annual Benefit Breakfast on Saturday, June 25 from 9:00 to 11:30 AM at St. Thomas More PAC in Baton Rouge (at 11411 Goodwood Blvd).

Keynote Speaker: Robert Chasuk, M.D., FAAFP, CFCCM, is a dedicated physician, educator, father and husband who incorporates pro-life principles in the practice of medicine. He is a family medicine physician and the Associate Director of Graduate Medical Education and the Family Medicine Residency Program Chief at the Baton Rouge General Hospital. He is also affiliated with Woman's New Life Center, a pregnancy center located next door to Delta abortion facility. Dr. Chasuk has participated in 40 Days for Life each year with his wife and five children and has made numerous pilgrimages to March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Karen Stoehr. Pro-Life Mom and Jazz Vocalist. Karen will share her experience with the challenging prenatal diagnosis of her youngest child and her courageous response when she was urged to have an abortion. Her story underscores the critical importance of supporting pro-life healthcare providers and building a culture of life. Karen resides in New Orleans with her husband. They are the parents of seven children.

Wojciech "Al" Krotoski, M.D., Ph.D, M.P.H. will be posthumously honored with the Joan Dowd Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. "Al" was a researcher in tropical medicine, a pro-life leader, and a Nobel Prize nominee. He was a leader of statewide, professional and local pro-life organizations and frequently testified before committees of the Louisiana Legislature.

Tickets are \$30 per person or \$200 per table of eight. For more information, please contact Julie Millard at (225) 769-8260 or [email](mailto:jmillard@righttolife.org).

PROJECT RACHEL IN BATON ROUGE

“You may be thinking, ‘I don’t deserve to be forgiven. My sins are too great!’ Thankfully, God’s love is greater than all the sins of all time. Jesus offers his grace and forgiveness to every repentant heart.” Visit: www.hopeafterabortion.com



You can find a pamphlet about this ministry at this [link](#).

Do you know someone hurting after abortion? Still seeking peace years later? Experience the healing love of Jesus at Rachel's Vineyard Retreat, May 13-15 in the greater Baton Rouge area. Retreat includes sharing of stories, scripture-based spiritual exercises, sacraments and a memorial service. Open to women, men, couples and family members touched by abortion.

FOR HEALING AFTER ABORTION, a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat will be held May 13-15 in the Diocese of Baton Rouge. The retreat is open to all those who have been touched by abortion. The weekend combines living scripture meditations, spiritual exercises, and discussions in a guided process that leads to the heart of God's love and compassion. If you would like to learn more about this retreat you can contact Tara at rachelsvineyardbrcoor@yahoo.com or visit our website: www.rachelsvineyard.org.

Inquiries, registration and participation are completely confidential.



[EDUCATION CORNER](#)HEALING THE CULTURE

Healing the Culture is a 501(c)(3) organization that develops and implements pro-life educational resources and programs. Our audiences span youth to adult in religious and secular settings. Our resources include print, video, audio, Internet, social media, interactive multimedia, and live presentations. We are a major and respected voice, providing outstanding, sophisticated pro-life education since 2003. Our current flagship program is **Principles and Choices**, a high school curriculum that helps students master the principles of logic, ethics, and justice that lead to pro-life convictions, and inspires young people to live with purpose and moral integrity.

Our Principles & Choices high school curriculum is now in 57 schools in 27 different states.

More than 10,000 students have enrolled in a Principles & Choices class. Nearly 100% of these students will go on to attend college and impact the culture in meaningful ways.

After studying part one of our three-part Principles & Choices series, the percentage of students who agreed with Church teaching on respect for unborn human life increased from 51% prior to taking our course, to 86% afterward. Those who chose “loving God and others” as the meaning of true happiness over “sex, money, power, and success” increased from 56% to 91%. And the percentage of students who agreed with Church teaching on assisted suicide rose from 54% to 66%

For more information go to:
www.healingtheculture.com.

LA BISHOPS MAKE A STATEMENT ON
SURROGACY ISSUE

The Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops (LCCB) seeks to articulate the Catholic Church's teaching on the issue of surrogacy in light of legislation proposed during last year's legislative session as well as what is before the Louisiana Legislature presently. The Church is clear and consistent in her teaching that surrogacy, in any form, is to be opposed as an immoral means to create a family. The desire to have a child is both natural and good. We recognize that issues of infertility can be incredibly sensitive and personal. While acknowledging this reality, it is important to realize that pursuing all means in the effort to create a child presents moral and ethical concerns and that a child is truly a gift to be given as opposed to a right to attain.

Surrogacy arrangements commercialize and objectify women relegating them to a utilitarian purpose. The Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith spoke to this point in *Donum Vitae* as it stated that surrogacy is contrary to the dignity of persons. Surrogacy diminishes the dignity of women in that it grossly focuses on what women can produce as opposed to the entire worth and being of who women have been created to be. In addition, surrogacy fails to acknowledge the uniqueness of the mother-child relationship to the detriment of women from a physical, psychological, and spiritual level.

To finish reading the rest of their statement or to read the statement as a whole, [click here](#).



SIGN-UP FOR LACCB ACTION ALERTS

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


CREATED EQUAL MOVEMENT

We're a social action movement seeking to end the greatest human rights injustice of our time. Killing preborn babies is nothing less than age-based discrimination. Abortion robs us of our future. Our goal is to restore the true meaning of equality to include equal protection between the born and the preborn.

Protecting preborn children is our cause. What makes Created Equal a movement is that we are an organized, mobilized generation choosing to live intentionally to protect the weak and defenseless by drawing strength and inspiration from one another.

Our various media make it possible for people to become part of a grassroots effort intelligently responding to injustice. We are 21st century defenders. There's a place for everyone in this movement. Join us.

To find out more information about this group's work and view their pro-life videos, go to their web site: <http://www.createdequal.org/>.

INTERNET ARTICLES OF INTEREST

[Utah gov. signs bill requiring anesthesia in certain abortions](#)

[Supreme Court Offers Surprising, Hopeful Twist in Little Sisters' Case](#)

[Georgia Bishops Call for More Debate on Vetoes Religious-Liberty Bill](#)

[European Governments Increasingly Bold in Demanding Abortion Rights](#)

[A Teacher's First Encounter with Gay Activism](#)

[FDA undermines state pro-life laws with new chemical abortion protocols](#)

[God Designed Our Bodies to Reveal Things About Himself and His Creation](#)

[U.S. Bishops Back Bill to Protect Health-Care Providers from Involvement in Abortion](#)

[Euthanasia by Organ Harvesting](#)

[Big Money and Homosexual Lobby Team Up Against State Religious Liberty Bills](#)

[FDA Draws Fire Over New Abortion Pill Regimen](#)

[Why a Chaste Engagement Matters](#)

[Breathtaking narcissism: Dutch parents abort, then bury their disabled baby in dainty coffin](#)

[Trump and Clinton and Politics Without Mercy](#)

[Courts Deflect ACLU Attack Against Catholic Hospitals](#)

[San Francisco's Parental Leave Policy: A Pro-Life Dissent](#)

[Victory: Tenn. School Board stands up to LGBT pressure—protects students from high school "gay" club!](#)

[The Little Sister's Last Stand for Religious Liberty](#)

[Anti-Abortion Groups Join Battles Over Frozen Embryos](#)

[How a Simple Idea Helped 7,000 Homeless Pregnant Women](#)

[School Sports Transgender Policy Bad for Students, Say Nebraska Bishops](#)

[A Reader Struggles with the Church's Teaching on Gay Marriage](#)



[Teen abortion rate reaches lowest point since Roe v. Wade](#)

[Indiana becomes the second state to ban Down syndrome abortions](#)

[Chilling: Scientist says mass-produced, pre-screened embryos are the future](#)

[USAID Needs to Warn Women of the Dangers of Depo-Provera](#)

[Sexuality Policy Guide Addresses Urgent Need of Catholic Schools](#)

[Pope Francis condemns abortion, euthanasia, same-sex 'marriage' in exhortation](#)

[Legalizing Abortion in Chile Would Have Dire Consequences](#)

[Sex-Selection, Forced Abortion Are Happening Here in the United States](#)

[Uterus Transplants Are 'Supremely Risky'](#)

[The Pro-Choicers' \(Justified\) Hair-Trigger Paranoia](#)

[Planned Parenthood's Richards Peddles Abortion at Georgetown, Students Confirm](#)

[Abby Johnson Tells Georgetown University Students: 'At the Heart of Life Is Christ'](#)

[Norway's Church to seek Vatican permission to stop officiating at civil weddings](#)

[An Open Letter to Target: Regarding your New Restroom Policy](#)
[Abortionists Protected by Corrupt Friends in High Places](#)

[The Continuing Pro-Life Witness of Jérôme Lejeune](#)

[College students eat baby cookies to celebrate abortion](#)

[Pro-life victory in Mississippi as governor signs dismemberment abortion ban](#)

[John Paul II Institute Shows 'With God and Science, All Things Are Possible'](#)

[WATCH: Satanists mock babies in face-off against pro-life prayer warriors in Michigan](#)

[Please pray! Northern Ireland's election on May 5 will be 'most important' in history for the unborn](#)

[Of Restrooms and Reason](#)

[This counseling student says he was expelled for his Christian beliefs](#)

[The insidious danger behind 'family balancing'](#)



New Assisted Suicide Video
"John's Story: Beyond Independence"

In debates over physician-assisted suicide, many say that they'd hate to become dependent on others.

John Foppe sees it differently. Born without arms, he values something beyond independence, namely inter-dependence. "Together we are more," he says.

Watch & share [his story](#) with others!



QUOTES OF THE MONTH

“No one can think that the weakening of the family as that natural society founded on marriage will prove beneficial to society as a whole. The contrary is true: it poses a threat to the mature growth of individuals, the cultivation of community values and the moral progress of cities and countries. There is a failure to realize that only the exclusive and indissoluble union between a man and woman has a plenary role to play in society as a stable commitment that bears fruit in new life. We need to acknowledge the great variety of family situations that can offer a certain stability, but de facto or same-sex unions, for example, may not simply be equated with marriage. No union that is temporary or closed to the transmission of life can ensure the future of society.”

“In discussing the dignity and mission of the family, the Synod Fathers observed that, “as for proposals to place unions between homosexual persons on the same level as marriage, there are absolutely no grounds for considering homosexual unions to be in any way similar or even remotely analogous to God’s plan for marriage and family”. It is unacceptable”

“Yet another challenge is posed by the various forms of an ideology of gender that “denies the difference and reciprocity in nature of a man and a woman and envisages a society without sexual differences, thereby eliminating the anthropological basis of the family.”

“We need to return to the message of the Encyclical Humanae Vitae of Blessed Pope Paul VI, which highlights the need to respect the dignity of the person in morally assessing methods of regulating birth...”

“Here I feel it urgent to state that, if the family is the sanctuary of life, the place where life is conceived and cared for, it is a horrendous contradiction when it becomes a place where life is rejected and destroyed. So great is the value of a human life, and so inalienable the right to life of an innocent child growing in the mother’s womb, that no alleged right to one’s own body can justify a decision to terminate that life, which is an end in itself and

which can never be considered the “property” of another human being.”

“[F]rom the first moments of their lives, many children are rejected, abandoned, and robbed of their childhood and future. There are those who dare to say, as if to justify themselves, that it was a mistake to bring these children into the world. This is shameful! ... How can we issue solemn declarations on human rights and the rights of children, if we then punish children for the errors of adults?”

“In this sense, the teaching of the Encyclical *Humanae Vitae* (cf. 1014) and the Apostolic Exhortation *Familiaris Consortio* (cf. 14; 2835) ought to be taken up anew, in order to counter a mentality that is often hostile to life...”

Taken from Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* (*The Joy of Love*) by Pope Francis ([link](#)).

Special note: Please take time to read Chapter 4 and the beautiful reflection on 1 Corinthians 13: 1-7.

On an airplane press conference, Pope Francis responded to a reporter’s question regarding footnote (351) in *Amoris Laetitia* this way:

“One of the recent popes, speaking of the Council, said that there were two councils: the Second Vatican Council in the Basilica of St. Peter, and the other, the council of the media. When I convoked the first synod, the great concern of the majority of the media was communion for the divorced and remarried, and, since I am not a saint, this bothered me, and then made me sad. Because, thinking of those media who said, this, this and that, do you not realize that that is not the important problem? Don’t you realize that instead the family throughout the world is in crisis? Don’t we realize that the falling birth rate in Europe is enough to make one cry? And the family is the basis of society. Do you not realize that the youth don’t want to marry? Don’t you realize that the fall of the birth rate in Europe is to cry about? Don’t you realize that the lack of work or the little work (available) means that a mother has to get two jobs and the children grow up alone? These are the big problems.” Taken from a Crisis Magazine article ([link](#)).

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Prayer to End All Taxpayer Funding for Planned Parenthood

Eternal Father, you are the Creator of Life.

You came to earth as both fully human and fully God to show your love for us.

You even started your time on earth as a baby in Blessed Mary’s womb.

For all these little babies who have been tortured, dismembered, and killed by Planned Parenthood and the abortion industry, I pray that all these little souls will be given eternal life by Our Lord Jesus Christ, through His Divine Mercy.

Furthermore, Lord, we ask that You grant wisdom to America’s citizens and elected leaders in government to immediately end all taxpayer funding for Planned Parenthood, which kills more than 325,000 babies in the womb every year. For the duty of government is to protect innocent human life, not destroy it.

Please give us the courage to keep fighting this evil.

Please fill our hearts with hope and joy because Your promise that the faithful will spend eternity with you.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

