

VINE AND BRANCHES

June, 2008

=====
Rachel's Vineyard is on the web at: www.rachelsvineyard.org
Our national toll-free hotline is (877) HOPE-4-ME.
=====

Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreats for emotional and spiritual healing after abortion are held internationally. Rachel's Vineyard welcomes women, men, couples, grandparents and abortion providers. Our retreats are held in both Catholic and Interdenominational settings. Rachel's Vineyard Ministries is a resource for clinical training, education, and healing models.

Rachel's Vineyard is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization. All contributions are tax deductible. We work in partnership with Priests for Life and Gospel of Life Ministries.

=====
Help us spread the Good News! Pass along this newsletter to friends and colleagues. If you are receiving this newsletter because a friend forwarded it to you, details on subscribing (or unsubscribing) appear at the end.
=====

CONTENTS

Music Video - Water and Bridges
Rachel's Vineyard Canadian Regional Conference -Creating a Future Full of Hope
A Note from Our Pastoral Director
Growing in God's Grace Retreat
Please join us in Prayer
Reflections from a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat
Consider A Donation
Upcoming Clinical Training and Speaking Schedule
Upcoming Rachel's Vineyard Retreats – Summer 2008

=====
Music Video Water and Bridges

We've all heard the expression "water under the bridge," the old cliché that reminds us "the past is over and done." Water and Bridges is a powerful song performed by Kenny Rogers which shares that some memories are harder to forget than others. In an abortion debate long considered just a "women's issue," the pain that men feel about a past abortion is often unrecognized and lost in the shuffle. But millions of men who may have prompted or agreed with their partner's decision to have an abortion often face regret years later. Watch this moving and insightful music video by clicking here: [Water and Bridges](#)

Please forward this link on to your friends, so that if someone they know or love needs help, they will learn about Rachel's Vineyard Retreats for recovery after abortion.

=====
Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless.
Mother Teresa
=====

**Rachel's Vineyard Canadian Regional Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia
Creating a Future Full of Hope**

“**Creating a Future Full of Hope**” is the theme of the Rachel’s Vineyard Canadian Regional Conference slated to take place from July 22 – 25, 2008. It is for those serving on Rachel’s Vineyard teams as well as anyone interested in post-abortion ministry and healing from sexual abuse. The event will take place in lovely Vancouver, British Columbia. Kevin Burke MSS/LSW and Dr. Theresa Burke, founders of Rachel’s Vineyard will be the featured speakers at the two-day conference. The conference will be followed by a one-day retreat. Musician Marie Magirescu will lead the daily praise and worship and the music for Mass. [Check out Marie Magirescu’s website here.](#) Marie has provided music for past Rachel’s Vineyard leadership conferences and she is sure to inspire and soothe!

The Rachel’s Vineyard Canadian Regional Conference is being hosted by the Kelowna and Vancouver, B.C. Rachel’s Vineyard sites in the beautiful coastal city of Vancouver, B.C., home to the 2010 Winter Olympic Games. For more information on this conference click here: www.rachelsvineyardcanadianconference.com

=====
Start by doing what's necessary, then what's possible, and suddenly you're doing the impossible.
St. Francis of Assisi
=====

A Note from Our Pastoral Director

Dear Friends,
I just finished writing a new book called *Pro-life Thoughts for Every Day*, and it will come out later in the year. Each day it has a short quote (from Scripture or from another key Christian document), a reflection, and a prayer.

Looking back at the 365 reflections, I see that the most moving ones of all are the words of those who have experienced abortion. Those are the quotes that reveal the devastation abortion brings, and the torture of the grief that wasn’t foreseen in the slogans, sales pitches, and rationalizations.

The call to repentance and healing really comes from these voices – and this is true not only for those who write books, but for all of us who seek to echo that call. In any and every way we can, let’s continue to allow the cry of anguish over abortion to reach the ears of our society.

So many in the Silent No More Awareness Campaign speak about Rachel’s Vineyard as the tool God used for their healing, and for the strength they now have to share their testimony. These ministries fit perfectly together. Let’s praise the Lord for the continued impact of the voices of those who are wounded and healed!
With prayers,

Fr. Frank Pavone
Pastoral Director, Rachel’s Vineyard
National Director, Priests for Life

=====

Growing in God’s Grace Retreat

A Rachel’s Vineyard “Growing in God’s Grace” Retreat Day will be held at the Shrine of Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, Massachusetts on Saturday, July 26, 2008 from 9:00am-3:30pm. The speakers will include Fr. Anthony Gramlich and Rachel Torres O’Leary. Fr. Anthony is the Chaplain for the Diocese of Springfield Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat Team and the Rector of the Shrine of Divine Mercy. He will speak on the work of the Holy Spirit in our spiritual life.

Rachel Torres O’Leary is the former Retreat Director for the Spanish Rachel’s Vineyard Retreats in the Diocese of Bridgeport, CT. Currently she serves as a mentor to the existing team leadership. She has been married for 10 years and has 4 children ages 8, 6½, 4, and 22 months.

The day will include opportunities for spiritual growth through the speakers, music, sharing, the sacrament of Reconciliation, an outdoor Memorial Mass for all deceased children, and walking the beautiful grounds. Breakfast fixings and lunch will be provided. For more information call Jean Raczowski at 413-452-0652 or email j.raczowski@diospringfield.org.

=====

Please join us in Prayer

Please pray for **Joe Schonberger**. He's recovering from surgery for a serious blockage in his heart. Joe is the beloved husband of our long and faithful hotline operator from the early days of Rachel's Vineyard. Mary Alice handled the hotline day and night since the beginning of our ministry before they both retired to Florida a few years ago. Joe was also the first one to help with the layout of the first Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Manual and he made the logo's available in electronic form before Kevin and I became computer savvy. They have both been longtime servants for many of us in the vineyard. We are asking all of you to join us today in prayers for Joe for a complete recovery.

Blessed is he who takes thought for the helpless,
for the Lord will keep him safe in time of trouble.
The Lord will guard him and give him life.
He will give him good fortune on
the earth, and not betray him into the power of his enemies.
The Lord will lend him strength on his bed of pain; you will transform all
his sickness into health.

Please pray for the departed soul of **Fr. Steve Schroepel, M.M.** beloved friend and priest who spent 18 years as a missionary in Tanzania before returning to the USA where he was involved in youth and vocation work. Fr. Steve helped on many camping retreats with Theresa and Kevin when they served as youth ministers before launching the RV retreats. Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant! Rest in Eternal Peace.

Pray for **Mary Ann McNeal, LaDonna O'Bryon, and Amy Goodman** from Atlanta, Georgia who will be traveling to Jamaica to help start a new Rachel's Vineyard site.

=====

Teamwork doesn't tolerate the inconvenience of distance.

=====

Please pray for our new Rachel's Vineyard sites in development:

- Perth Australia
- San Francisco, California
- Bridgeport, Connecticut (Hispanic Site)
- Monroe, Washington
- Pensacola, Florida
- Mellieha, Malta
- Taranto, Italy
- Quito, Ecuador
- Jamaica

=====

A group becomes a team when each member is sure enough of himself and his contribution to praise the skills of the others.

Norman Shidle

=====

Reflections from a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

I'm very thankful to have had the opportunity to participate in a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat. I've received more healing and wholeness through this retreat than I ever thought possible - and again, as is often the case it seems, I didn't recognize my need for more healing. I reluctantly went on

the retreat knowing that God wanted me to go but not really knowing *why* he wanted me to go. I'm not certain as to why I was so reluctant. I can only surmise that the enemy of my soul did not want me to receive more of an abundance of God's love & healing power.

It's so hard to put into words all that happened on that short weekend. God, through the Holy Spirit, really spoke into my life - it revolved around believing in Him. He used all aspects of the retreat - the symbols we used in doing healing exercises, the Scripture meditations we entered, the people who shared so openly and honestly, the affirming words of wisdom and guidance from the leaders... The whole weekend was filled with warmth and love. Something else that made the weekend so successful was the non-threatening, non-judgmental and therefore safe atmosphere. I believe that's how the Holy Spirit moved so deeply amongst us all. We were able to really trust one another and lay ourselves bare. Through this, we were able to receive the healing we all needed.

I, personally, received healing in the area of my sexuality. God imparted some more healing in my heart from the loss of my two children to abortion but He really had me honing in on the wounds I had received as a result of sexual abuse. A lot of the abuse was self-inflicted when I was a teenager. I was one who was "looking for love in all the wrong places." I not only hurt myself through sexual promiscuity but I hurt others. I believed that all of that was in my past and that it was no longer relevant. Well, that was partially true but God has shown me that there is healing from those types of wounds and that He not only came to lead us to forgiveness but He came to heal us and make us whole.

God is definitely working through Rachel's Vineyard to lead people to healing and wholeness. He didn't just come to give us life but life in its fullness! I will be eternally grateful for participating on this retreat. Thank you again!

This testimony was written by a participant who attended a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat in Ottawa Canada

=====

The path to greatness is along with others
Fr. Baltasar Gracion, Spanish Priest

=====

Consider a Donation

As a community of people passionate about a cause, namely, the healing of those wounded by abortion, it is important to always remember that we are in this together in every way: emotionally, spiritually, even financially. Rachel's Vineyard thrives today because of all the hard work and donations of its dedicated members. Please consider making a generous donation, so that our roots can continue to spread and our branches can continue to bear fruit and reach out to those still suffering the wounds of abortion.

Please consider giving a gift that will provide healing and hope to others in need by making a tax-deductible contribution to Rachel's Vineyard.

Choose how to make your donation:

Online <http://www.rachelsvineyard.org/support/support.htm>

By phone 610-354-0555

By mail Rachel's Vineyard Ministries, 808 N Henderson Rd Ste 210, King of Prussia PA 19406

=====

Coming together is a beginning.
Keeping together is progress.
Working together is success.
Henry Ford

=====

Upcoming Clinical Training and Speaking Schedule

June 8-9, 2008

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Catholic Social Workers National Association Inaugural Conference

Kevin will speak about men and abortion. Go to the website of CSWNA www.cswana.org

For details about this new association and a pdf file of the conference brochure visit:

<http://cswana.org/documents/FinalBrochureConf.pdf>

June 30, 2008

Las Vegas, Nevada

Regional Skill Building Clinic for Rachel's Vineyard Teams

Contact: Kathleen Miller katm419@aol.com

July 22-25, 2008

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Rachel's Vineyard Canadian Leadership Conference

Contact: Janet Kormish jkormish@telus.net

September 15, 2008 **Springfield, Massachusetts**

Regional Skill Building Clinic for Rachel's Vineyard Teams

Contact: Jean Raczowski at 413-452-0652 or email j.raczowski@diospringfield.org.

September 16, 2008 **Norwich, CT**

Pregnancy Loss and Unresolved Grief

Clinical Training with Continuing Educational Credits

Contact: Sean Feeney seanfeeney@ccfsn.org

September 18, 2008 **Madison, WI**

Regional/Clinical Training

Contact: Mary Mead marymeade@sbcglobal.net

September 24, 2008 **Arlington, VA**

Clinical Training - Contact: Josephine Balsamo projectrachel@arlingtondiocese.org

September 26, 2008 **Tasmania, Australia**

Rachels Vineyard Leadership Conference

Contact: Josephine Dare josephinedare3@gmail.com

September 29-30, 2008 **Fargo, ND**

Clergy Training

Contact: Rev. Andrew Jasinski andrew.jasinski@fargodiocese.org

October 1, 2008 **Fargo, ND**

Nurse's Workshop

Contact: Rachelle Sauvageau rachelle.sauvageau@fargodiocese.org

October 2, 2008 **Midland, MI**

Midland Right to Life Banquet

Contact: Maureen Coffey mcoffey@rtl.org

October 4, 2008 **Northampton, PA**

Celebrate Life Luncheon

Contact: Jerry McAfee gpmcafee@verizon.net

October 17, 2008 **Newark, NJ**

Clergy Training

Contact: Michelle Kristofik anewrespect@sjanj.net

December 8, 2008 **Tamarac, FL**

Mary for Life Annual Pro-life Dinner

Contact: Renate Velenti yrenate@bellsouth.net

=====
Teamwork: Simply stated, it is less me and more we.
=====

Other Items of Interest:

July 26, 2008 **Shrine of Divine Mercy, Massachusetts**
A Rachel's Vineyard "Growing in God's Grace" Retreat Day
Contact Jean Raczkowski at 413-452-0652 or email j.raczkowski@diospringfield.org.

July 25, 2008 **Cherry Hill, NJ**
Life Family and Justice Convocation -
Bioethics, Science & Religion, Human Rights, Family Life Panel Discussion with
Bishops of the USCCB Committees - CME Credits and Nursing Contact Hours
<http://www.usccb.org/prolife/ljfconvocation4.5.pdf>

=====
World Prayer for Life

Prayer is a powerful way to turn the tide and end the suffering that is the result of abortion. Check out www.world-prayer-for-life.org to find out how you can join people all over the world in prayer to end abortion

=====
Upcoming Rachel's Vineyard Retreats – Summer 2008

June 6 - June 8, 2008 -- Litchfield, Connecticut
Local Host: Archdiocese of Hartford
Contact: Mary Hayden 203-882-1326 mmhdfc@sbcglobal.net

June 6 - June 8, 2008 -- Sacramento, California
Contact: Debbie Anderson 916-733-0161 projectrachel@diocese-sacramento.org

June 6 - June 8, 2008 -- Tulsa, Oklahoma
Contact: Mary Lee 918-585-8167 mlingram@catholiccharitiestulsa.org

June 13 - June 15, 2008 -- Ann Arbor/Lansing/Detroit Area, Michigan
Contact: Beth Bauer 734-449-8913 lpbbauer@yahoo.com

June 13 - June 15, 2008 -- Casper, Wyoming
Contact: Sharon Cundall 877-237-0662 ranchmom5@gmail.com

June 13 - June 15, 2008 -- Sonoma County, California
Local Host: After the Choice, Diocese of Oakland
Contact: Colleen 510-267-8335 cknutsen@oakdiocese.org

June 20 - June 22, 2008 -- Jacksonville/St. Augustine, Florida
Contact: Donna Augustine 904-221-3232 rachelsvineyardjax@yahoo.com

June 20 - June 22, 2008 -- Long Island/Uniondale, New York
Contact: Frank and Lorraine Gariboldi 516-523-0586 fgariboldi@optonline.net

June 20 - June 22, 2008 -- Melbourne, Victoria Australia
Contact: Anne Neville 61-3-9870 7044 anne@opendoors.com.au
Note: Interdenominational Retreat

June 20 - June 22, 2008 -- Springfield, Massachusetts

Contact: Mary Petisce 413-452-0661 m.petisce@diospringfield.org

Contact: Claire Lapointe 413-452-0661 sr.claire@diospringfield.org

Retreat Location: Chicopee & Stockbridge

June 27 - June 29, 2008 -- Amarillo, Texas

Contact: Stephanie Frausto 806-678-4673 ts_frausto@yahoo.com

Note: Interdenominational Retreat

June 27 - June 29, 2008 -- San Bernardino (Español), California

Local Host: Pro Life Catholic Ministires

Contact: Blanca Leal-McGuthrie 909-238-4037 markblanca@sbcglobal.net

Retreat Location: Duarte, CA

Note: Español

July 11 - July 13, 2008 -- Allentown, Pennsylvania

Contact: Maryann Dunn M.S. 866-372-2435 mdunn@allentowndiocese.org

July 11 - July 13, 2008 -- Ilkley, England

Contact: Marene or Lisa 07505 904 656

Retreat Location: Briery

July 11 - July 13, 2008 -- Paterson/Morris County, New Jersey

Local Host: Paterson Diocese

Contact: Marie Ryan 973-777-8818 x264 rachel@patersondiocese.org

Retreat Location: Morris County

July 11 - July 13, 2008 -- Jamaica

Local Host: Archdiocesan Family Life Commission

Contact: Stephanie Christian archflidr@gmail.com 876-322 - 8041 or 876- 754-5783

July 18 - July 20, 2008 -- Denver, Colorado

Contact: Edith Gutierrez 303-410-1710 edieg2@aol.com

Contact: Lori Frank 303-904-7414 lorgreg@msn.com

July 18 - July 20, 2008 -- Fargo, North Dakota

Local Host: Diocese of Crookston, MNLifeCare Center of Thief River Falls, MN

Contact: Sherry 701-520-1229 lifecaretrf@wiktel.com

July 18 - July 20, 2008 -- Fargo, Minnesota

Contact: Sherry 701-520-1229 lifecaretrf@wiktel.com

July 18 - July 20, 2008 -- Fresno, California

Contact: Jennifer Butcher 877-629-6626 tjen98@sbcglobal.net

July 18 - July 20, 2008 -- Las Cruces, New Mexico

Contact: Martha T. Beasley 575-523-6923 bslmrvls@aol.com

July 18 - July 20, 2008 -- Temple, Texas

Local Host: Hope Pregnancy Center, Inc.

Contact: Linda Tamez 254-773-2453 linda@hopepc.com

July 25 - July 27, 2008 -- Cherry Hill, New Jersey

Contact: Stephanie Claudy 866-4-RACHEL sclaudy@camdendiocese.org

July 25 - July 27, 2008 -- Corpus Christi, Texas

Contact: Sharisse 361-533-7455 rachelsvineyardcc@yahoo.com

Contact: Fr. Tom Goodwin 361-882-7912 thepadre@goccn.org

July 25 - July 27, 2008 -- Forth Worth, Texas

Contact: Betsy Kopor 817-923-4757 forgiven@racheltx.org

Website: www.racheltx.org

Note: 15-week support group:

Contact: Betsy Kopor 817-923-4757

July 25 - July 27, 2008 -- Houston, Texas

Contact: Traci or Cindy 281-658-7366 rvhouston@yahoo.com

Contact: Dixine 281-286-7729 ext 10

July 25 - July 27, 2008 -- Indianapolis, Indiana

Local Host: Archdiocese of Indianapolis, Office for Pro-Life Ministry

Contact: Bernadette Roy 317-831-2892

Contact: Sr. Diane 317-236-1521 dcarollo@archindy.org

Contact: Toll-free 800-382-9836 x1521

July 25 - July 27, 2008 -- Pittsburgh (Western PA) , Pennsylvania

Contact: Abigayle Koller 412-977-9521 rachelsvineyard.westernpa@verizon.net

Note: Interdenominational Retreat

July 25 - July 29, 2008 -- Trenton, New Jersey

Contact: Judy Warenkiewicz 732-536-6871 judywarren543@msn.com

July 25 - July 27, 2008 -- York County, Pennsylvania

Contact: Joy Crimmins 717-993-5450 crimmins@nfdc.net

Note: Monthly Support Group

Contact: Ann 717-854-8542

August 1 - August 3, 2008 -- Atlanta, Georgia

Contact: Mary Ann McNeal 404-896-6521 pathmcneil@earthlink.net

Website: www.healingafterabortion.org

August 1 - August 3, 2008 -- Cedar Falls, Iowa

Contact: Maria Shores 563-322-1645 hopeandhealing@davenportdiocese.org

August 8 - August 10, 2008 -- Adelaide, Southern Australia

Contact: Michelle Skurray 08-8381-6325 pmsk@internode.on.net

Note: Interdenominational retreat

August 8 - August 10, 2008 -- Hays, Kansas

Local Host: Salina Diocese

Contact: Donetta Robben 877-447-4383 rachelsvineyard@salinadiocese.org

Website: www.salinadiocese.org

August 8 - August 10, 2008 -- Longbranch, Washington

Contact: Valerie Jacobs 800-822-HOPE valeriepr@aol.com

August 8 - August 10, 2008 -- Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota

Contact: Nancy Blom 952-882-2072 marypio37@usfamily.net

August 8 - August 10, 2008 -- Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Contact: Paulette Finnegan 405-623-3844 okcrachel@yahoo.com

Note: Aftercare groups:

Tending the Vine (Wed evening)

Layers of Healing (Sat morning)

Contact OKC for dates and times

August 8 - August 10, 2008 -- Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Contact: Ann Depner 412-456-6955 adepne@ccpgh.org

August 8 - August 10, 2008 -- Willimantic, Connecticut

Local Host: Archdiocese of Hartford

Contact: Mary Hayden 203-882-1326 mmhdfc@sbcglobal.net

Retreat Location: Immaculata Retreat House

Website: www.immaculataretreat.org

August 8 - August 10, 2008 -- Wilmington, North Carolina

Local Host: H.O.P.E. Healing of Painful Emotions

Contact: Judy or Kathy 910-799-0270 jhahaj@lifelinewilmington.org

Note: Interdenominational

August 15 - August 17, 2008 -- Brisbane, Queensland Australia

Contact: Lisa 0410 122 481 projectrachelqld@yahoo.com.au

August 15 - August 17, 2008 -- Independence, Missouri

Contact: Sherrie Stanley 816-690-8549 scherrie@gardenofgrace.org

Website: www.gardenofgrace.org

Note: Interdenominational Retreat

August 15 - August 17, 2008 -- Miami, Florida

Local Host: Clamor de Vida y Esperanza Ministry

Contact: Jackie Guillen 305-302-9436 clamordevida@aim.com

Note: Spanish

August 15 - August 17, 2008 -- Perth (Interdenom), Western Australia

Contact: Colleen Tapley 08-459-4777 butterfliespupa@yahoo.com

Website: www.projectrachel.org.au

August 15 - August 17, 2008 -- Sydney, New South Wales Australia

Contact: Julie Kelly 02-9440-7980 info@projectrachel.org.au

August 22 - August 24, 2008 -- Palm Beach, Florida

Contact: Donna Gardner 561-602-4778 isaiah61@bellsouth.net

Retreat Location: Our Lady of Florida Spiritual Center

Website: www.ourladyofflorida.org

August 22 - August 24, 2008 -- South Bend, Indiana

Contact: Sue Brazo 269-683-2229 ndsue33@hotmail.com

Contact: Sue Brazo 269-683-7176

August 29 - August 31, 2008 -- Amarillo, Texas

Contact: Stephanie Frausto 806-678-4673 ts_frausto@yahoo.com

Note: Interdenominational Retreat

August 29 - August 31, 2008 -- Tampa, Florida

Contact: Emma Boe 813-631-4370 eboe@ccdosp.org

Retreat Location: Bethany Retreat Center, Lutz, FL

=====

=====

Rachel's Vineyard ® All rights reserved.

© 2008