

VINE AND BRANCHES

The Monthly e-Newsletter of Rachel's Vineyard Ministries November 2008

Rachel's Vineyard is on the web at: www.rachelsvineyard.org

Our national toll-free hotline is (877) HOPE-4-ME.

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Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreats for emotional and spiritual healing after abortion are held internationally. Rachel's Vineyard welcomes women, men, couples, grandparents and former 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.

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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.

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Rachel's Vineyard TV Commercial Available NOW!

Americans spend 4 years of their lives in front of the television *watching commercials*. Society is formed and informed by what is on television. Imagine the recovery that could begin with an invitation to healing broadcast over the airwaves. Recently our friends in Kelowna, British Columbia were blessed with the opportunity: a 30-second TV commercial spot that has the potential to lead people to life changing healing!

Pat Regan of the Kelowna Rachel's Vineyard team said of the project, "After a number of powerful Rachel's Vineyard Retreat weekends, we felt inspired to create a commercial to help 'get the word out' in hopes that many more people could receive this wonderful experience of healing."

The result: a powerful commercial spot available for use on your local airwaves.

Who can purchase this PSA?

RV site leaders, diocese, parishes, anyone with a means to get the word out there on TV.

Where can this be aired?

On public television, cable stations, local movie theaters before feature films, local college TV stations.

When will this incredible TV spot be available?

NOW! See below to view the commercial and learn how to get a copy for your local TV stations to air.

Take a few moments to view the commercial below:

Preview commercial here: <http://www.rachelsvineyard.org/video/index.aspx> and click on the “hands” link.

Click [here](#) and then on “Rachel’s Vineyard Commercial” for details on how to get your copy!

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Save The Dates: Rachel’s Vineyard Leadership Conference

Please be advised that next year’s International Leadership Conference will be held on JULY 7- 10, 2009 at Malvern Retreat House in Malvern, PA in the new and beautiful Family Life Center!

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Thanksgiving, after all, is a word of action. ~W.J. Cameron

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A Note from the Pastoral Director

Dear Friends,

First of all, may I invite you to check out my reflections on the elections at www.PoliticalResponsibility.com. Elections have consequences, including for healing ministries, and for those who seek that healing. Elections shape the psychological climate in which people live, work, and suffer, and therefore will play a role in the work that we do as a ministry and the journey we are on together.

We are also approaching the holiday season – an extra difficult time for some people, and a very inspiring time for others.

The celebration of Thanksgiving in the United States ties in very strongly with our mission of healing. Our forefathers came here for freedom – freedom from the oppression of human rights. That is the kind of freedom the pro-life movement fosters. In our mission of healing, we foster freedom from despair and from the slavery that trauma can inflict on us personally and in our relationships. These various forms of freedom come from the same source, Jesus Christ.

On Thanksgiving Day, the Catholic Church says the following beautiful prayer at the celebration of Mass. Let it strengthen us in the Vineyard!

“Father, ...you made man to your own image...Once you chose a people and gave them a destiny and, when you brought them out of bondage to freedom, they carried with them the promise that all people would be blessed and all people could be free...It has come to pass in every generation for all who have believed that Jesus by his death and resurrection gave them a new freedom in his Spirit. It happened to our fathers, who came to this land as if out of the desert into a place of promise and hope. It happens to us still, in our time, as you lead all people through your Church to the blessed vision of peace.”

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

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“ Healing does not mean going back to the way things were before, but rather allowing what is now to move us closer to God.”

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A Thanksgiving Appeal

With gratitude in our hearts, we thank all of you who have shared your gifts of time, talent and treasure throughout this year in support of Rachel’s Vineyard. As the holiday season begins, we ask that your generosity continue to be open to donations so that our ministry may continue to grow and thrive.

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

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United in Prayer

Please remember in your prayers Donna Baldwin's sister, Lynette who recently passed away. Please also remember Lynette's family: Jim (husband), Scott (son) & Kathy (daughter).

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How to Save a Life Music Video

Watch our latest music video, based on the song How to Save a Life by The Fray. This video features powerful facts about abortion's effect on women and what you can do to help "save a life."

Check it out at: <http://www.rachelsvineyard.org/video/index.aspx>

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**Rachel's Vineyard On The Road:
Post Abortion Training Days held at Diocese Across the U.S.**

The last few months have been a busy but fruitful time for Pastoral Associates Kevin and Theresa Burke, founders of Rachel's Vineyard, the international healing ministry of Priests for Life and leaders in post abortion education. They offered training to Diocese from Pennsylvania to Florida, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Wisconsin, Virginia, North Dakota, and Michigan addressing nearly 1,000 counselors, clergy, health care professionals, RV volunteers and interested lay people.

Presentations included "Sharing the Heart of Christ," "Post Traumatic Stress Disorder," "How Emotional Trauma Impacts the Brain," and other topics including how men deal with abortion loss, the impact of abortion on relationships and families, and how clergy, clinicians, nurses can best attend to those in their care dealing with the aftermath of abortion.

The Clinical conferences and Rachel's Vineyard Regional Team Trainings were well received. To quote Sue Williams of the Office of Family Life in Norwich, CT, "all the feedback received thus far has been overwhelmingly positive for the insightfulness of the information on such an important ministry." The word "excellent" can be found on virtually every comment card, along with praises like "Very compelling...very eye-opening"; "a powerful, training and spiritual experience."

Another key element for the consistent success of these training days is revealed as one attendee expressed in "the ability of the Burkes to take technical psychological information and present the material in a very understandable format." Everyone from the local clinical psychologist to the eager volunteer can walk away from a Clinical Training with the Burkes feeling informed and armed with knowledge to help spread the healing message of Rachel's Vineyard.

Susan Herro the director of the Justice and Pastoral Outreach for Diocese of Madison, Wisconsin was thrilled with the events in Madison, Wisconsin:

"As I looked around the room, everyone was so engrossed and engaged! Comments shared with me reaffirmed my assessment that the people in attendance were glad they came. I appreciated being able to train virtually all of our team at one time. It was a bonus to be able to assist other teams from within Wisconsin and throughout the Midwest to attain additional training."

Michael Petrides of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Norwich Connecticut shared:

"Theresa and Kevin Burke understand that the abortion healing that they champion is necessary for our societal transformation and survival. The emotional wounds of fathers, mothers, siblings, grandparents, cousins, and friends are too deep... The Burkes integrate therapeutic clinical and pastoral information and answers in a truly sensitive, compassionate model to help relieve our society, one heart at a time, of the burden of minimizing or denying the impact of [aborting] a child."

Kevin and Theresa bring their passion for healing with them everywhere they go, spreading deep roots for a vineyard that will continue the mission to heal the pain of abortion - one weekend at a time.

If you are interested in having the Burkes present in your community please contact:

Kathryn Boyle
Kathryn@rachelsvineyard.org
610-354-0555

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God has two dwellings; one in heaven, and the other in a meek and thankful heart.

~Izaak Walton

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Grief to Grace- Healing the Wounds of Abuse, Reclaiming the Gift of Sexual Dignity

If you or someone you love has been the victim of abuse in any form (physical, sexual, mental, or emotional, the next Grief to Grace Program for healing after abuse will take place November 10-13, 2008, hosted by the Diocese of Corpus Christi, TX.

Upcoming Grief to Grace programs:

November 10-13, 2008 Corpus Christi, TX

For more information, write to info@griefftoGrace.org

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Welcome to Our Newest RV Sites!

Join us in prayers of thanksgiving and encouragement for our newest Rachel's Vineyard Sites in development!

The Metuchen Diocese in New Jersey has just launched a Spanish site with Jen Ruggiero and Carmen Petti as the facilitators.

Asheville, NC has just opened a new Rachel's Vineyard Outreach under the direction of Carla Haire.

Also, the Rachel's Vineyard Site in Fresno, California has just begun offering Spanish Retreats under the leadership of Rosalinda Gutierrez.

God bless you Jen, Carmen, Carla, Rosalinda and all those you work with in bringing God's healing to those who suffer after abortion!

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Upcoming Events and Trainings

Tuesday November 25,2008
Graduate Lecture Series- Counseling Those Suffering from Post Abortion Syndrome
Palm Beach Atlantic University
Palm Beach FL
Contact: Dr. Philip Henry
PHILIP_HENRY@pba.edu
Presenter(s): Dr. Theresa Burke

Monday, December 08, 2008
Tamarac, FL- Mary for Life Annual Pro Life Dinner
Contact: Renate Velenti
vrenate@bellsouth.net
Presenter(s): Theresa Burke

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God has given us two hands, one to receive with and the other to give with.

~Billy Graham

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Upcoming Rachel's Vineyard Retreats

November 7 - November 9, 2008 -- Clarks Summit/Scranton, Pennsylvania
Contact: Denise Rowinski Mengak 570-822-7118 x307 drowinski@csswb.org

November 7 - November 9, 2008 -- East Midland, England
Contact: Karen James 07900916763 alexmmummy2003@yahoo.co.uk

November 7 - November 9, 2008 -- Fresno, California
Contact: Jennifer Butcher 877-629-6626 tjen98@sbcglobal.net
Contact: Rosalinda Gutierrez - Español 888-686-8537 rosgonz20@aol.com

November 7 - November 9, 2008 -- Hobart, Tasmania Australia
Contact: Anne Sherston 03-6229 8739 projectrachel@smartchat.net.au

November 7 - November 9, 2008 -- Houston, Texas
Contact: Traci or Cindy 281-658-7366 rvhouston@yahoo.com
Contact: Dixine 281-286-7729 ext 10

November 7 - November 9, 2008 -- Janesville, Wisconsin
Local Host: Pregnancy Helpline of Janesville
Contact: Cheryl Ryan 608-755-9739 rancher868@charter.net
Contact: Pregnancy Helpline 608-755-9739 cheryl@pregnancy-helpline.net
Website: www.pregnancy-helpline.net
Note: Interdenominational Retreat

November 7 - November 9, 2008 -- Las Vegas, Nevada
Contact: Kathleen Miller 702-737-1672 katm419@aol.com
Note: Interdenominational Retreat and Catholic

November 7 - November 9, 2008 -- Los Angeles (Español), California
Contact: Marcela Figueroa de Alcala 877-2-RAQUEL
Note: Español

November 7 - November 9, 2008 -- Perth (Interdenom), Western Australia Australia
Contact: Colleen Tapley (08) 9459 4777 butterfliespupa@yahoo.com
Website: www.projectrachel.org.au

November 7 - November 9, 2008 -- Steubenville, Ohio
Contact: Sharon Maedke 740-283-3636 aimhelpcenter@sbcglobal.net

November 7 - November 9, 2008 -- Tacoma area, Washington
Contact: Valerie Jacobs 800-822-HOPE valeriepr@aol.com
Contact: Noemi (Español) 206-450-7814

November 7 - November 9, 2008 -- Vancouver, British Columbia Canada
Local Host: Post Abortion Community Services, Office of Life & Family
Contact: Doreen Yung 604-525-0999 vancouver.rachelsvineyard@rcav.bc.ca
Contact: Michele 604-443-3256
Note: Interdenom & Catholic Retreats

November 14 - November 16, 2008 -- Chicago, Illinois
Contact: Catherine Rennert 815-968-1157 crennert@rennert.net
Contact: Fr. William Lego 708-748-9500 welosa@ameritech.net
Retreat Location: Fullerton Cenacle

November 14 - November 16, 2008 -- Dallas, Texas
Contact: Caryn Stevens 214-544-2273 healing@racheldallas.org
Website: www.racheldallas.org

November 14 - November 16, 2008 -- El Paso, Texas
Contact: Maria Acosta 915-872-8405 macosta@elpasodiocese.org

November 14 - November 16, 2008 -- Knoxville, Tennessee
Contact: Catherine McHugh 865-694-4971 peace4lilith@aol.com

November 14 - November 16, 2008 -- Lubbock, Texas
Contact: Kathy Krile 806-577-5912 lbb_rachelsvineyard@hotmail.com

November 14 - November 16, 2008 -- Madison, Wisconsin
Local Host: Diocese of Madison/Office of Justice & Pastoral Outreach
Contact: Mary Mead 608-221-9593 meadmt@sbcglobal.net
Contact: Susanna Herro 608-821-3177 HelpForYou@straphael.org
Note: Click here for brochure and registration form for this retreat

November 14 - November 16, 2008 -- Mesa, Arizona
Local Host: St. Timothy & St Thomas the Apostle
Contact: Karen Ord 480-329-6795 mkord@cox.net
Retreat Location: Franciscan Renewal Center, Scottsdale

November 14 - November 16, 2008 -- Nashville, Tennessee
Contact: Phil Trevathan 615-790-8541 info@hopeafterabortiontn.com
Contact: Colleen 270-598-0443 info@hopeafterabortionky.com
Contact: Debbie 270-683-6933 rv.bgky@yahoo.com
Website: www.hopeafterabortiontn.com

November 14 - November 16, 2008 -- Omaha/Lincoln, Nebraska
Contact: Heather 402-871-4812 helpingrachel@yahoo.com

November 14 - November 16, 2008 -- Portland, Oregon
Contact: Lori Eckstine 800-249-8074 e2lori@aol.com

November 14 - November 16, 2008 -- Richmond, Virginia
Local Host: Post Abortion Healing Ministry, Epiphany Catholic Church
Contact: Kay Marie Geiger 804-330-3137 kmg4hope@verizon.net
Retreat Location: Benedictine Abbey Retreat Center

November 14 - November 16, 2008 -- Sacramento, California
Contact: Debbie Anderson 916-733-0161 projectrachel@diocese-sacramento.org

November 14 - November 16, 2008 -- San Jose, California
Contact: Mary Peter 408-426-7343 mpeter@mht-church.org

November 14 - November 16, 2008 -- Savannah, Georgia
Contact: Stephanie May 912-201-4059 scmay@diosav.org

November 14 - November 16, 2008 -- Sioux Falls, South Dakota
Contact: Mary Carole Curran 605-988-3775 mcurran@sfcatholic.org

November 14 - November 16, 2008 -- Sydney, New South Wales Australia
Contact: Debbie 02-9440-7980 info@rachelsvineyard.org.au
Website: www.rachelsvineyard.org.au

November 14 - November 16, 2008 -- Taipei, Taiwan
Contact: Georgie Hsieh 886-933-42-6608 georgiehsieh@yahoo.com.tw
Retreat Location: Dan-Suie

November 21 - November 23, 2008 -- Brisbane, Queensland Australia
Contact: Lisa 0410 122 481 rvqld@live.com.au

November 21 - November 23, 2008 -- Edmonton and Rural Area, Alberta Canada
Contact: Marlene Javorsky majbutterflies@aol.com
Contact: Carla Houston 780-963-4048 carlahouston@shaw.ca
Note: Interdenominational Retreat

November 21 - November 23, 2008 -- Forth Worth, Texas
Contact: Betsy Kopor 817-923-4757 forgiven@racheltx.org
Website: www.racheltx.org
Note: 13-week support group:
Beginning Thursday January 8, 2009
Ending Thursday April 2, 2009
Contact: Betsy Kopor 817-923-4757

November 21 - November 23, 2008 -- Grand Rapids, Michigan
Contact: Maggie Walsh 616-233-0081 projrach@iserv.net
Contact: Toll-free (MI only) 800-800-8284

November 21 - November 23, 2008 -- Linden, New Jersey
Local Host: Archdiocese of Newark
Contact: Michelle Krystofik 732-388-8211 arnewrespect@sjanj.net

November 21 - November 23, 2008 -- Long Island/Uniondale (Español), New York
Contact: Donna Crean 631-258-5062 donnacrean@optonline.net
Note: Español

November 21 - November 23, 2008 -- Ottawa, Ontario Canada
Contact: Terry or Lynda Munroe 613-806-5522 rvr_ottawa@yahoo.ca
Website: www.newwine.ca
Note: Interdenom, English

November 21 - November 23, 2008 -- Rochester, New York
Contact: Betsy 585-328-0648 eamac@frontiernet.net
Contact: Betsy 585-313-7100

November 28 - November 30, 2008 -- Cork City, Ireland
Contact: Bernadette 087-859-2877 bergoulding@eircom.net
Contact: Dr. Rita O'Connor 061-468-570
Website: www.rachelsvineyard.ie

December 5 - December 7, 2008 -- Charlotte, North Carolina
Local Host: Catholic Diocese of Charlotte
Contact: Maggi Fitzpatrick Nadol 704-370-3229 MNadol@CharlotteDiocese.org
Contact: Deacon Tom Rasmussen deacontom@charterinternet.com

December 5 - December 7, 2008 -- Cherry Hill, New Jersey
Contact: Stephanie Claudy 866-4-RACHEL sclaudy@camdendiocese.org
Contact: Spanish Retreats: Margarita 1-877-665-2974 popejp2rc@verizon.net

December 5 - December 7, 2008 -- Hartford City, Indiana
Local Host: Family Life Ministries, Diocese of Lafayette in Indiana
Contact: Jennie Hack 765-477-7706 francis312449@verizon.net
Contact: Jennie Hack 877-522-3300

December 5 - December 7, 2008 -- San Bernardino (Español), California
Local Host: Pro Life Catholic Ministires
Contact: Blanca Leal-McGuthrie 909-238-4037 markblanca@sbcglobal.net
Contact: Mary Huber - English 909-475-5352 mhuber@sbdioocese.org
Retreat Location: Duarte, CA
Note: Español

December 5 - December 7, 2008 -- Tampa, Florida
Contact: Emma Boe 813-631-4370 eboe@ccdosp.org
Retreat Location: Bethany Retreat Center, Lutz, FL

December 5 - December 7, 2008 -- Wheeling, West Virginia
Local Host: Catholic Charities of West Virginia
Contact: Tawnya Knierim 304-233-0880 ext 459 rachelsvineyardwv@comcast.net

December 5 - December 7, 2008 -- York County, Pennsylvania
Contact: Joy Crimmins 717-993-5450 crimmins@nfdc.net
Contact: Denise Douglas 410-354-6900 projectrachel@archbalt.org
Note: Monthly Support Group
Contact: Ann 717-854-8542

December 19 - December 21, 2008 -- Lancaster (Interdenom), Kentucky
Contact: Anne-Marie Gosser 859-233-1314 am@whitedovepottery.com
Note: Interdenom

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