

VINE AND BRANCHES

The Monthly e-Newsletter of Rachel's Vineyard Ministries

April 2009

Have a Blessed and Happy Easter!!

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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"Love proves itself by deeds, so how am I to show my love? The only way I can prove my love is by scattering flowers and these flowers are every little sacrifice, every glance and word, and the doing of the least actions for love." St. Therese de Lisieux

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Rachel's Vineyard Leadership Conferences 2009

US and UK to Host Rachel's Vineyard Leadership Conferences

July 7-10, 2009 Rachel's Vineyard International Leadership Conference "Reaping the Father's Bountiful Harvest"

Malvern, PA USA

Rachel's Vineyard 2009 Leadership Conference: Reaping the Father's Bountiful Harvest is right around the corner! With just a few short months before July's conference, the time to register is NOW! Secure your bed in the beautiful AIR CONDITIONED Family Life Center at Malvern Retreat House. Be sure to sign up for the early bird registration and save \$30!!

Speakers include Dr. Theresa Burke, Kevin Burke, Father Frank Pavone, Janet Morana, Msgr. Mike Mannion and many other dynamic leaders in the field of post abortion healing!
To learn more visit our website www.rachelsvineyard.org or click the link below.

Click here to [view](#) our brochure. COMPLETE LIST OF CLASSES COMING SOON!

**August 14-16, 2009 Rachel's Vineyard Conference "The Healing Journey After Abortion"
Leeds, England**

Rachel's Vineyard UK and the Diocese of Leeds are offering a three day conference with Theresa and Kevin Burke. Topics covered will included Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Re-enactment, an over of Rachel's Vineyard, and a seminar on the Silent No More Awareness Campaign, as well as how to minister to men and families suffering from post-abortion heartache. A special seminar for clergy will be offered on Friday the 14th.

For more information on this exciting and grown-breaking seminar and how to register please contact:

Deacon Charles Conner charlieco7@yahoo.co.uk

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"Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime."

Martin Luther

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New Rachel's Vineyard Brochures - Available Now

Hot off the press are our new CLIENT CENTERED brochures. The new brochures are written to reach out to the person who is hurting after abortion. Please help circulate an invitation to healing throughout your community.

Click [here](#) to place your order.

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New Rachel's Vineyard Music Video - Mary Jane

This month's video features the music of Alanis Morissette. The video puts to words all the things we've been longing to say to a friend suffering after abortion. If you have a friend who is hurting after abortion, and pass on this message of love and support.

Watch it [here](#).

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A Note from the Pastoral Director

Dear Friends,

One of the many positive dynamics of Rachel's Vineyard in the Church and the pro-life movement is the way it is bringing about networking and unity of purpose among so many groups and ministries. The reason is simple: healing is needed everywhere, and is so integral to the work of the Church. Moreover, there has been a growing awareness within all pro-life organizations that healing the wounded is foundational to actually ending abortion.

The coming together of Rachel's Vineyard and Priests for Life, moreover, has strengthened this dynamic, because from the beginning Priests for Life has served as a networking hub within the pro-life movement (across denominational lines) and within the Church.

God is doing great things right now, because as I travel the nation, I see the desire for healing bringing leaders together, and making them willing to strategize together and work together in ways they had not been able to do so before. Rachel's Vineyard, as a ministry of Priests for Life, is the context these leaders can use to receive and live that new unity.

Unity is a gift. We cannot construct it, but we have to be careful that we do not obstruct it. As we labor in the Vineyard, let's build the unity that God so wants to give to the pro-life movement and to the Church.

Sincerely,

Fr. Frank Pavone

Pastoral Director and Chairman of the Board, Rachel's Vineyard Ministries
National Director, Priests for Life

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Spring bursts today, for Christ is risen and all the earth's at play.

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An Easter Time Appeal

As new life explodes all around us and the joy of Easter fills our hearts, let us share our gratitude for God's mercy and healing power by helping Rachel's Vineyard to continue to blossom nationally and internationally. Your generous donations make it possible for Rachel's Vineyard to share the healing power of the Resurrected Christ with those lost in the darkness of the pain of abortion.

Choose how to make your donation:

Online www.RachelsVineyard.org/donate

by phone 610-354-0555

by mail PO Box 140130 Staten Island, NY 10314

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Sowing the Seeds of Healing - On the Road with the Burkes

Kevin and Theresa Burke shared important information on the aftermath of abortion with 44 members of the clergy and 24 counselors from the Peoria, IL last month.

The response to the Clergy Training and Clinical training seminars was overwhelmingly positive. As one attendee put it, a Training Seminar with the Burkes is “ a truly amazing experience.” Another expressed her intense gratitude, sharing that “ Rachel’s Vineyard saved my life.” “Excellent” seemed to be on everyone’s lips as the seminars came to a close, with professionals noting that what they had learned would surely be incorporated into their practice.

According to Jeanne Whalen director of the Office of Pastoral Services for the Archdiocese of Peoria and coordinator of the event in Illinois, “many of the clergy expressed renewed confidence and increased competency in ministering to those who are wounded by abortion. Many more stated that they will refer the post-abortive to RV. A few of the clergy requested an opportunity to participate on a RV weekend and subsequently volunteer to be on a team.” There is an increasing interest among clergy and professional counselors, not just in Peoria, but across the country, to equip themselves with the much-needed skills required for ministering to those suffering after abortion.

The Burkes will continue to cultivate the international vineyard by traveling to Texas, Maryland, Arizona, Jamaica and the United Kingdom in the next few months to enable others to reach out with the compassionate love of Christ to those suffering after abortion.

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New Study: Abortion and Intimate Relationship Quality

by P.K. Coleman, V.M. Rue, C.T. Coyle

A new study published in the Elsevier Health Journal has found that those with abortion in their history or those who aborted a child with their current partner are at a much higher risk for unhappiness, lack of intimacy and even abuse.

Read the study [here](#).

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"By compassion we make others' misery our own, and so, by relieving them, we relieve ourselves also."

Thomas Browne, Sr.

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Franciscan Friars' New Our Lady of Guadalupe Mural in the Bronx

A giant image (40ft x 23ft) of Our Lady of Guadalupe is being hand painted on the side of Our Lady of the Angels Friary 427 East 155th Street Bronx, NY 10455. The image has been divided into 600 spaces (each 12in x 18in), which are being 'adopted' for a suggested donation of \$35. The painting will cost \$20,000 and will be a 'photo realistic' image. 600 spaces at \$35 will raise \$21,000. The remaining \$1,000 will go towards administration and plans for the grand opening. The dress of Our Lady of Guadalupe is being reserved for women who have suffered an abortion

or miscarriage and there will be a book of perpetual remembrance recording all of the intentions of each donor. All of the owners of spaces will be personally invited to the grand opening dedication which we expect to be on Saturday May 2nd.

If you are interested in adopting a space in memory of your children, loved ones or for any prayer request or intention please contact Patricia, or mail a check made out to Franciscan Friars along with your intentions to:

Patricia Decker
145 B Copeland Ave
Lyndhurst, NJ 07071
mspattydecker@aol.com
973 641-1181

The friars had the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe on their friary in the Bronx for about 7 years before it was lost due to building repairs 2 years ago. See what it looked like then at <http://www.franciscanfriars.com/contacts/index.htm>. The new one will be an exact reproduction of the image given to St Juan Diego. The building is in the shadow of Yankee Stadium and the image will be seen from blocks away. Think how powerful the image is on its own, and then add all the meaning and love of people memorializing their special ones entrusting them to the care of the Mother of Life!

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“*Forgiveness does not change the past, but it does enlarge the future.*”
Paul Boese

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Beyond the Dark Valley
Justice Foundation’s Powerful Documentary on the Secret Pain of Abortion

Beyond the Dark Valley is a powerful 30-minute documentary chronicling the devastating pain of abortion and its long-term effects on both women and men.

Visit www.beyondthedarkvalley.org to view the documentary and learn how to support the Justice Foundation in spreading this message of hope and healing to those hurting after abortion.

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Book of the Month- Forgiven Much

As Leslie T. Dean’s first novel, *Forgiven Much* brings the historical characters of the Bible to life in the telling of one woman’s struggle for love and self worth in first century Palestine, during the time of Jesus. The story of Mary Magdalene draws the reader into the trauma of a dysfunctional childhood and the painful routine of promiscuity that became everyday life for this young woman. Dean takes the reader through a lifetime of struggle that finds its pinnacle in a meeting with the one Person who can offer Mary what she has been searching for her entire life.

Copies are available through Google and Amazon.
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Oh, the lovely fickleness of an April day!

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United in Prayer

Let's unite our prayers for and hearts to **Sharla Wells** as she prepares to welcome a new baby into the world. We pray Sharla is blessed with a healthy, full term pregnancy. We also remember Sharla's father, who is recovering from surgery. Sharla coordinates Rachel's Vineyard in Lancaster, KY

We offer prayers for the strength and healing of **Kari Curtin** as she completes her cancer treatments.

We pray with gratitude and love for the soul of **The Very Reverend Archbishop Father Thomas Neustrom**, who went to meet his Heavenly Father on March 8. Father Thomas was a long time friend of Rachel's Vineyard. He is the woodcutter who made hundreds of hand-carved Rachel's Vineyard Logos and he had been distributing them to new site leaders since Rachel's Vineyard began. He was a beautiful man of God, who focused on the needs of the poor in spirit, the addicted, the homeless and those who've lost children to abortion. Fr. Neustrom was deeply loved, and he will be greatly missed.

With loving sympathy, we offer our sincere prayers for **Michelle Krystofik** in the loss of her sister, Phyllis. Michelle serves as the new site coordinator for Rachel's Vineyard and facilitates the retreats in Newark, NJ.

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Upcoming Events and Trainings

Friday, April 03, 2009 -- Saturday, April 04, 2009

Kingston, Jamaica - Clinical Training

Contact: Stephanie Christian at jamcan3@hotmail.com OR 876-322-8014

Speaker(s): Theresa Burke, PhD and Kevin Burke, MSW

Friday, April 24, 2009 -- Friday, April 24, 2009

Indianapolis, Indiana- Clinical Training

Contact: Sr. Diane Carolla

dcarollo@archindy.org 317-236-1521

Presenter(s): Theresa Burke PhD

Friday, May 01, 2009 -- Saturday, May 02, 2009

Fort Worth TX- Clinical/Regional Training

Contact: Steve & Betsy Kopor forgiven@racheltx.org

Presenter(s): Theresa Burke PhD, Kevin Burke MSW

Tuesday, July 07, 2009 -- Friday, July 10, 2009

Malvern PA- Rachel's Vineyard International Leadership Conference

Contact: Katie D'Annunzio katie@rachelsvineyard.org 610-354-0555

Watch for updates on the web, newsletters and egroups!

Friday, August 14, 2009 -- Sunday, August 16, 2009

Rachel's Vineyard Conference - Leeds, UK

Speaker(s): Theresa Burke, PhD and Kevin Burke, MSW

Contact info: Deacon Charles Conner charlieco7@yahoo.co.uk

Event details: Friday 8/14 designed for Clergy

Friday, October 02, 2009 -- Saturday, October 03, 2009

Clinical Training - Baltimore, MD

Speakers: Kevin and Theresa Burke

Contact Info: Denise Douglas

410-354-6900

projectrachel@archbalt.org

Friday, November 06, 2009 -- Saturday, November 07, 2009

Clinical/Regional Training - Tucson, AZ

Speaker: Theresa Burke, PhD

Contact Info: Jean Aggerbeck

520-777-4638

breadbasket777@aol.com

Event Details: 11/6 - Clinical Training

11/7 - Regional Training for all Rachel's Vineyard team members in the area.

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Other Events of Interest

April 29, 2009 – 7pm

NaProTECHNOLOGY Seminar- Doylestown, PA

Contact to register: 215-428-2216

www.fertilitycarefriends.org

April 26 -May 2, 2009

Hope Alive Level 1 Training - Victoria British Columbia, Canada

Visit for more information or to register: <http://www.mtjoycollege.com/>

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Upcoming Rachel's Vineyard Retreats

April 3 - April 5, 2009 -- Cork City, Ireland

Contact: Bernadette 087-859-2877 bergoulding@eircom.net

Contact: Dr. Rita O'Connor 061-468-570

Website: www.rachelsvineyard.ie

April 3 - April 5, 2009 -- Ottawa, Ontario Canada

Contact: Terry or Lynda Munroe 613-806-5522 rvr_ottawa@yahoo.ca

Website: www.newwine.ca

Note: Interdenom, English

April 17 - April 19, 2009 -- Bowling Green/Owensboro, Kentucky

Contact: Debbie Ward 270-683-6933 rv.bgky@yahoo.com

Website: www.hopeafterabortionky.com

April 17 - April 19, 2009 -- Fairfield County, Connecticut

Local Host: Diocese of Bridgeport

Contact: Clarissa Cincotta 203-218-0291 jeremiah31v17@aol.com

Website: www.rachelsvineyardbpt.com

April 17 - April 19, 2009 -- Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky, Ohio

Contact: Peggy Feirstine 513-588-0080 pfeirstine@cinci.rr.com

April 17 - April 19, 2009 -- Janesville, Wisconsin

Local Host: Pregnancy Helpline of Janesville

Contact: Cheryl Ryan 608-235-7542 rancher868@charter.net

Contact: Pregnancy Helpline 608-755-9739 cheryl@pregnancy-helpline.net

Website: www.pregnancy-helpline.net/rachelsvineyard.htm

Note: Interdenominational Retreat

April 17 - April 19, 2009 -- North Battleford, Saskatchewan Canada

Contact: Bonnie Cameron 306-445-3158 bacameron@sasktel.net

April 17 - April 19, 2009 -- Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Local Host: Mended Heart Ministries

Contact: Marsha Hancock 336-247-0651 mendedheartministries@yahoo.com

April 24 - April 26, 2009 -- Cherry Hill, New Jersey

Local Host: Diocese of Camden

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

Contact: Spanish Retreats: Margarita 1-877-665-2974 popejp2rc@verizon.net

April 24 - April 26, 2009 -- Dallas, Texas

Contact: Caryn Stevens 214-544-2273 healing@racheldallas.org

Website: www.racheldallas.org

April 24 - April 26, 2009 -- Las Cruces, New Mexico

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

April 24 - April 26, 2009 -- Northwest Indiana, Indiana

Local Host: Family Life Ministry, Catholic Charities

Contact: Kathy Druzicki 219-558-0625 kdruz@att.net

April 24 - April 26, 2009 -- Pittsburgh (Western PA) , Pennsylvania

Contact: Abigayle Koller 412-977-9521 rachelsvineyard.westernpa@yahoo.com

Note: Interdenominational Retreat

April 24 - April 26, 2009 -- Portland, Oregon

Contact: Lori Eckstine 800-249-8074 e2lori@aol.com

April 24 - April 26, 2009 -- Portland, Maine

Contact: Sandra Thompson 207-871-7464 2670 familylifeinstitute@ccmaine.org

Contact: Annette 207-871-7464 2671

Contact: Toll-free in Maine only 800-CARE-002

April 24 - April 26, 2009 -- Rockford, Illinois

Contact: Catherine Rennert 815-968-1157 cathy.rennert@gmail.com

April 24 - April 26, 2009 -- Steubenville, Ohio

Contact: Sharon Maedke 740-283-3636 aimhelpcenter@sbcglobal.net

April 24 - April 26, 2009 -- Wichita , Kansas

Local Host: Rachel's Vineyard of the Diocese of Wichita

Contact: Tama Dutton 316-269-4673 duttont@cdowk.org

Contact: Statewide only 888-456-4673

May 1 - May 3, 2009 -- Arlington, Virginia

Contact: Project Rachel 703-841-2504 projectrachel@arlingtondiocese.org

Contact: Project Rachel 800-456-4673

Note: English and Español Retreats offered

May 1 - May 3, 2009 -- Baltimore, Maryland

Contact: Denise Douglas 410-354-6900 projectrachel@archbalt.org

Contact: Deacon Frank Zeiler 800-286-4224

May 1 - May 3, 2009 -- Grand Rapids, Michigan

Contact: Maggie Walsh 616-340-1824 projrach@iserv.net

Contact: Toll-free (MI only) 800-800-8284

May 1 - May 3, 2009 -- Kelowna, British Columbia Canada

Contact: Janet Kormish 250-762-2273 pr_nelsondiocese@hotmail.com

May 1 - May 3, 2009 -- Los Angeles (Español), California

Contact: Marcela Figueroa de Alcalá 877-2-RAQUEL

May 1 - May 3, 2009 -- Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota

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

May 1 - May 3, 2009 -- Paterson/Morris County, New Jersey

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

May 1 - May 3, 2009 -- Richmond, Virginia

Local Host: Post Abortion Healing Ministry, Epiphany Catholic Church

Contact: Kay Marie Geiger 804-330-3137 kmg4hope@verizon.net

May 1 - May 3, 2009 -- Santa Rosa/St. Helena, California

Contact: Valerie Johnson Fish 707-967-1101 rachelsvineyard@gmail.com

May 1 - May 3, 2009 -- York County, Pennsylvania

Contact: Joy 717-788-4959 Rvpamd@gmail.com

Contact: Denise Douglas 410-354-6900 projectrachel@archbalt.org

May 15 - May 17, 2009 -- Fresno, California

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

Contact: Rosalinda Gutierrez - Español 888-686-8537 rosgonz20@aol.com

May 15 - May 17, 2009 -- Jacksonville/St. Augustine, Florida

Contact: Donna Augustine 904-221-3232 rachelsvineyardjax@yahoo.com

May 15 - May 17, 2009 -- Philadelphia Area, Pennsylvania

Contact: Priscilla 215-906-6337 oconnorp1@comcast.net

Contact: Geri Simboli 610-399-0890 simboli2@earthlink.net

May 15 - May 17, 2009 -- Phoenix, Arizona

Contact: Jason Baier 602-334-7651 jasonb@fatherhoodforever.org

Contact: Roberta Bazaldua 602-471-1944 roberta.bazaldua@gmail.com

May 15 - May 17, 2009 -- Stanwood, Washington

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

May 15 - May 17, 2009 -- Sydney, New South Wales Australia

Contact: Debbie 02-9440-7980 info@rachelsvineyard.org.au

May 15 - May 17, 2009 -- Taipei, Taiwan

Contact: Georgie Hsieh 886-933-42-6608 georgiehsieh@yahoo.com.tw

May 15 - May 17, 2009 -- Tampa, Florida

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

May 22 - May 24, 2009 -- Ogdensburg, New York

Contact: Colleen Miner 518-891-2309 cbm510@roadrunner.com

May 22 - May 24, 2009 -- Vancouver, British Columbia Canada

Contact: Doreen Yung 604-525-0999 vancouver.rachelsvineyard@rcav.bc.ca

Contact: Michele 604-443-3256

May 28 - May 30, 2009 -- Monroe, Washington

Contact: Barbara Olson 425-346-9381 bj.olson_44@yahoo.com

May 29 - May 31, 2009 -- Long Island/Brentwood, New York

Contact: Frank and Lorraine Gariboldi 516-523-0586 fgariboldi@optonline.net

May 29 - May 31, 2009 -- Long Island/Brentwood (Español), New York

Contact: Donna Crean 631-258-5062 donnacrean@optonline.net

May 29 - May 31, 2009 -- Orlando/Central Florida, Florida

Contact: Karen Reilly 321-662-5097 karenreilly57@gmail.com

Contact: Project Rachel 877-908-1212

May 29 - May 31, 2009 -- Wheeling, West Virginia

Local Host: Catholic Charities of West Virginia

Contact: Tawnya Knierim 304-233-0880 ext 459 rachelsvineyardwv@comcast.net

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