

Vine and Branches

The Monthly e-Newsletter of Rachel's Vineyard Ministries *May 2010*

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.

Rachel's Vineyard Ministries is available on the web at www.rachelsvineyard.org and through our 24/7 help line 1-877-HOPE-4-ME.

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Freedom Rides

Dr. Alveda King, niece of Martin Luther King, Jr., will be leading “Pro-life Freedom Rides” in the coming months, building on the Civil Rights Movement when 13 individuals boarded a bus in Washington, D.C., in 1961, and headed for New Orleans.

That one ride led to dozens of others in various parts of the country, with hundreds of people getting involved.

Now, Dr. King and the team of Priests for Life believe it is time for a "Pro-life Freedom Ride," a peaceful, visible expression of the commitment of people around the country to work for freedom for the unborn.

“My Uncle Martin had a dream that Protestants and Catholics and Gentiles and Jews would join together and sing the age old spiritual ‘Free at Last,’” stated Dr. Alveda King. “At Priests for Life, we

will be singing and praying on the Pro-life Freedom Rides. We urge all people of good will to join us as we link the Civil Rights Movement of the 20th Century to the heart cry for life in the 21st Century.”

The Freedom Rides will take place in cities with strategic significance for the movement. While pro-life activists ride the buses, all pro-life people nationwide will be invited to participate simultaneously in concrete activities that will call for freedom on various levels: freedom from the lies that permit abortion, freedom from the despair that leads to and follows abortion, freedom from the fear that keeps people from fighting abortion, freedom from the political oppression that robs the unborn of their rights before the law. Fr Frank shared:

"Human rights begin, when human lives begin and not one moment later."

A national press conference about the Freedom Rides was held in Birmingham, Ala., on April 27th, featuring leaders in the civil rights and pro-life movement, including Kevin and Theresa Burke, Fr. Frank Pavone, and Janet Morana, co-founder of the Silent No More Awareness Campaign.

The following is a quote from Kevin and Theresa Burke who attended the kick off in Birmingham last week:

"In the 1960's our nation struggled to face the collective shame and guilt for the oppression and dehumanization of African Americans. In a courageous effort to ensure their freedom, the riders embarked on a journey of reconciliation. In doing so, they brought attention to the way civil rights were still being violated. It is our hope and prayer that the Freedom Rides of today bring attention to those whose human rights are still being trampled. We call our society to move from denial into recognition that abortion takes the life of an innocent child and in its aftermath leaves a desperate hunger for repentance, healing and reconciliation. We also hope to bring attention to the fact that African-Americans have been disproportionately targeted by the abortion industry."

To learn more about the freedom rides and to watch a brief video featuring Alveda King speaking about the Freedom Rides, please visit www.prolifefreedomrides.com

To view pictures of the Pro Life Freedom Rides [click here](#).

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Rachel's Vineyard Leadership Conference-Save the Dates

The next Rachel's Vineyard Leadership Conference will take place July 18th-21st, 2011. Mark your calendars now and save the dates for an educational and inspirational gathering that you won't want to miss!

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"Being a full-time mother is one of the highest salaried jobs... since the payment is pure love."

~Mildred B. Vermont

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A Note from the Pastoral Director

Dear Friends,

Ten years ago, Cardinal John O'Connor died. He was a pro-life hero to Christians of all denominations, and to many outside the Christian world. He ordained me to the priesthood and authorized me to lead Priests for Life. I'll always recall that in the conversation I had with him seeking permission to do full-time pro-life work, one of the key questions he had was about how Priests for Life would incorporate healing after abortion. He would be so proud today of the work and growth of Rachel's Vineyard!

On another note, my favorite way of updating people now is through Twitter, and I'd like to invite you to become my follower at www.twitter.com/frfrankpavone If you aren't familiar with this, it's a way to communicate with me and many others by sending and receiving short (like one sentence), timely updates, called "tweets." For instance, you'll be the first to hear about pro-life developments that I

become aware of, or the success of events I take part in out on the road, or the progress of our projects big and small.

For instance, one of my recent “tweets” is as follows:

Studies on the negative effects of abortion are always coming out. See <http://ow.ly/1COtt> for one of the latest, showing poor counseling linked to increased distress.

If you don't have a Twitter account, just go to twitter.com and sign up for one. It's free!

Blessings!

Fr. Frank Pavone

Pastoral Director and Chairman, Rachel's Vineyard

National Director, Priests for Life

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Fr. Frank's Divine Mercy Sunday Homily

Fr Frank Pavone's Homily for the Divine Mercy Sunday Mass (April 11th) at EWTN speaks of post abortion healing and Rachel's Vineyard in his powerful message. You can listen to this homily by [clicking here](#).

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Radio Interview on Men and Abortion

Kevin Burke was interviewed on a live radio broadcast of KBVM 88.3 FM Catholic Radio's Dina Marie Show based in Portland, OR. The interview was on the topic of Men and Abortion. You can listen to this show by clicking the link on our homepage entitled “Live Interview on Men and Abortion” in the green menu on the right hand side of the page. [Click here](#) to navigate to the Rachel's Vineyard homepage.

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Music Video— “Miracle”

This month's music video is written as a diary entry of a post-abortive woman. It is set the powerful music of Whitney Houston's song, Miracle.

To view this music video [click here](#).

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Companions on the Journey

By Susan Swander

Many of us involved with Rachel's Vineyard Ministries frequently receive inquiries about support after a retreat. The Companions on the Journey e-group is one great aftercare source especially for those that are unable to attend after care meetings because they live outside your region or state.

Our Companions on the Journey group now numbers over 250 members and is quite active. We average about 100-150 messages a month. We get lots of questions from Post Abortive women and men struggling with various after-retreat issues such as relationships, family, when to speak out, loss, grief, etc. We also get terrific, supportive, loving, and compassionate answers and input.

Sometimes it's just enough to know there is a group of people who have walked through the same difficulties. It's reassuring to know you're not the only one with these feelings. We recently had a comment from a member that for her, the group was like a way of continuing her retreat.

Please [click here](#) to join or direct someone to the Companions on the Journey group.

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New Educational Series

An Educational Series on the Psychological and Spiritual Impact of Abortion is now available through Rachel's Vineyard. The series is called *Abortion Loss and Unresolved Grief*.

The set includes a collection of professionally produced DVD's of many of our presentations that we use in our clinical and pastoral trainings along with a number of talks by Fr Frank Pavone including "The Parish-Home for Healing, Healing for the Abortionist," and "Facing the Need for Healing."

A Course Guide has been developed to use with the DVD set that provides an outline of each talk to help facilitate discussion as well as a course syllabus and sample exams. It also includes suggested reading and discussion questions for each lesson. This set was made possible by a grant from Our Sunday Visitor.

Suggested Donation: \$60.00

[Click here](#) to order or for more information.

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Upcoming Grief to Grace Retreats:

Healing the Wounds of Abuse- Reclaiming the Gift of Sexual Dignity

Grief to Grace - Healing the Wounds of Abuse will be held in a number of different locations this year. If you or someone you love is suffering because of past abuse visit www.griegtograce.org . This new program was composed by Theresa and Kevin Burke, the founders of Rachel's Vineyard, to provide a psychological and spiritual healing journey for anyone impacted by sexual, physical, emotional abuse or neglect.

Kelowna, British Columbia

May 6-9, 2010

G2GKelowna@shaw.ca

Aston, Pennsylvania

June 6-10, 2010

info@griegtograce.org

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"Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you."

~ Exodus 20:12

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United in Prayer

We pray for the following intentions:

For **Shelly Stone** who serves on the Crookston, MN/ Fargo, ND team and is currently sick in the hospital. May the Lord grant her peace during this time of uncertainty.

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Rachel's Vineyard T-Shirts

Christianshirts.com now offers Rachel's Vineyard T-shirts! 10% of profits go to Rachel's Vineyard. Two different designs are offered. [Click here](#) to view one design and [click here](#) to view the second.

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A Mother's Day Appeal

Mother's Day is a beautiful way to honor our Mothers. This Mother's Day you can help women reclaim their motherhood after the pain of abortion by supporting Rachel's Vineyard.

Rachel's Vineyard Ministries is a non-profit organization. We are able to minister to those affected by abortion through your contributions and prayers.

Here's how to make a donation:

Online: www.RachelsVineyard.org/donate

By Phone: 610-354-0555

By Mail: P.O. Box 140130 Staten Island, NY 10314

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"Mother love is the fuel that enables a normal human being to do the impossible."

~Marion C. Garretty

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Leadership Talks Still Available on CD

All of the talks from the Rachel's Vineyard Leadership conference in Malvern, PA were recorded live by Vincent & Barbara Sumoski (Love Tape/CD Ministry) and are available on CD for purchase. There were 45 excellent talks which may be purchased individually as an entire set. Each CD is a conference special price of only \$7.00 and includes FREE shipping and handling. Other conference special incentives are available on the order form. Order forms may be obtained upon request at rvcds@sumoski.com, 601-779-8989.

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Rachel's Vineyard Bumper Stickers

Don't forget to check out our new Rachel's Vineyard bumper stickers! Our bumper stickers are a great way to spread the word about our healing ministry.

To order our bumper stickers please [click here](#).

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Check it Out

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Full of Grace: Miraculous Stories of Healing and Conversion through Mary's Intercession

Last month, we highlighted this book and wanted to include more information on where to find the book. *Full of Grace* tells of Christine Watkins's dramatic story of miraculous healing and conversion to Catholicism, along with the stories of five others, three of whom who have had abortions: a homeless drug addict, a lonely youth, (who writes an incredible letter to his aborted child), a Nobel Peace Prize-nominee, a nightclub stripper, and a cocaine abuser.

To find out more, or order the book, go to www.christinewatkins.com

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Send a Mother's Day Message of Compassion and Hope

[Click here](#) to see great ads for healing and education that you can place in your local newspaper or church bulletin during Mother's day from the Elliot Institute.

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20th Anniversary Edition: *She's a Child Not a Choice*

Human Life Alliance has released a 20th anniversary edition their advertising supplement entitled *She's a Child, Not a Choice*. Please [click here](#) to read or order copies.

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"God could not be everywhere and therefore he made mothers."
~Jewish Proverb

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OVERus~Supports Rachel's Vineyard

OVERus is a certification mark—similar to kosher, fair trade, or organic—but it identifies brands that respect Christian values. The goal is to enable you to practice good stewardship when shopping: you can just look for our logo. OVERus is now supporting Rachel's Vineyard with a portion of its proceeds. Rachel's Vineyard encourages you to take a look at how your purchases can support Christian values.

For a list of certified brands, please see our Shopping Guide:
[Click here.](#)

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"Mothers hold their children's hands for a short while, but their hearts forever."
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Upcoming Events and Trainings

Saturday, May 08, 2010

Treating the Post-Abortive Client Training - Long Island NY

Keynote Speaker(s): Theresa Burke, PhD

Kevin Burke, LSW

Contact Info: Deacon Frank Gariboldi

Life Center of Long Island

516-523-0586

www.lifecenterli.org

Tuesday, May 18, 2010 -Thursday, May 20, 2010

Heartbeat International Conference -Orlando, FL

Speaker(s): Theresa Burke, Ph.D.

Kevin Burke, LSW

Contact Info: visit www.heartbeatervices.org for more information

Details: Heartbeat's Annual Conference is designed for ministry leaders, staff, Board members, and volunteers of life-affirming pregnancy resource centers, medical clinics, maternity homes, and non-profit adoption agencies, and for professionals in the areas of medicine, counseling, social work, and education.

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Other Conferences/Events of Interest

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Conference on the Vocation of Women

Women's Formation and Leadership for a Better Society

Cazenovia, NY

June 15-24, 2010

Sponsored by AVOW: Advocating the Vocation of Women
For more information please contact:
Karen Stein at karentkc@aol.com

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ARIN SHARE Symposium
Abortion Recovery InterNational-“Come Aboard”
Anaheim, CA
July 20-22, 2010

For more information please visit: <http://www.sharesymposium.org/>
Or e-mail at info@abortionrecovery.org

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“Mother is the name for God in the lips and hearts of little children.”
~William Makepeace Thackeray

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Upcoming Retreats

May 7 - May 9, 2010 -- Cork City, Ireland

Contact: Bernadette 087-859-2877 bergoulding@eircom.net
Contact: Dr. Rita O'Connor 061-468-570
Website: www.rachelsvineyard.ie

May 14 - May 16, 2010 -- Albany Area, New York

Local Host: Diocese of Albany
Contact: Mrs. Pat Mousaw 518-222-1160 rachelsvineyardalbany@yahoo.com

May 14 - May 16, 2010 -- Taipei, Taiwan

Contact: Georgie Hsieh 886-2-933426608 georgiehsieh@yahoo.com.tw

May 21 - May 23, 2010 -- Fresno, California

Contact: Jennifer Butcher 877-629-6626 tjen98@windstream.net
Contact: Rosalinda Gutierrez - Español 888-686-8537 rosgonz20@aol.com

May 21 - May 23, 2010 -- Honolulu, Hawaii

Contact: Lisa Shorba 808-349-5071 rvhawaii@gmail.com

May 21 - May 23, 2010 -- Jacksonville/St. Augustine, Florida

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

May 21 - May 23, 2010 -- Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota

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

May 21 - May 23, 2010 -- Orlando/Central Florida, Florida

Contact: Karen Reilly 321-662-5097 karenreilly57@gmail.com
Contact: Project Rachel 877-908-1212

May 21 - May 23, 2010 -- Philadelphia Area, Pennsylvania

Contact: Priscilla 215-906-6337 occonnor1@comcast.net
Contact: Geri Simboli 610-399-0890 simboli2@earthlink.net

May 21 - May 23, 2010 -- Rapid City, South Dakota

Local Host: Family Life Ministries
Contact: Carol Kling 605-374-5639 ckling@sdplains.com
Website: www.rapidcitydiocese.org

May 21 - May 23, 2010 -- Santa Rosa/St. Helena, California

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

Contact: Christine 415-260-4406 christinew@firstresort.net

May 28 - May 30, 2010 -- Atlanta, Georgia

Contact: Mary Ann McNeil 404-717-5557 pathmcneil@earthlink.net

Website: www.healingafterabortion.org

May 28 - May 30, 2010 -- Northern New York, New York

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

Retreat Location: Saranac Lake

May 28 - May 30, 2010 -- Perth, Western Australia

Contact: Jenny Shier rachelsvineyardwa@gmail.com

May 28 - May 30, 2010 -- Stanwood, Washington

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

May 28 - May 30, 2010 -- Tucson, Arizona

Contact: Judy 520-743-6777 reachout4life@q.com

May 28 - May 30, 2010 -- 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

June 4 - June 6, 2010 -- Charleston, South Carolina

Contact: Christy 803-554-6088 grace4healing@gmail.com

Contact: Stephanie 912-201-4059

June 4 - June 6, 2010 -- Fort Worth, Texas

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

Contact: Macaria (espanol) 469-767-8669 misericordia@racheltx.org

Website: www.racheltx.org

June 4 - June 6, 2010 -- Fresno, California

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

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

June 4 - June 6, 2010 -- Providence, Rhode Island

Contact: Kristin Caproni 401-421-7833 x119 rachelsvineyard@dioceseofprovidence.org

June 11 - June 13, 2010 -- Hays, Kansas

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

June 11 - June 13, 2010 -- Lancaster (Interdenom), Kentucky

Contact: Anne-Marie Gosser 859-233-0511 am@whitedovepottery.com

June 11 - June 13, 2010 -- Litchfield, Connecticut

Local Host: Archdiocese of Hartford

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

June 11 - June 13, 2010 -- Long Island/Brentwood, New York

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

June 11 - June 13, 2010 -- Long Island/Brentwood (Español), New York

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

June 11 - June 13, 2010 -- Northwest Territories, North West Territories Canada

Contact: Pat Regan 867-872-0026 pat_j_regan@yahoo.com

Contact: Phyllis MacFarlane 867-920-2129

Retreat Location: Yellowknife, NT

June 11 - June 13, 2010 -- Tampa, Florida

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

June 18 - June 20, 2010 -- Ann Arbor/Detroit Area, Michigan

Contact: Beth Bauer 734-369-3470 lpbbauer@yahoo.com

June 18 - June 20, 2010 -- Cherry Hill, New Jersey

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

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

June 18 - June 20, 2010 -- Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Contact: Joanne Forgue rachelsvineyardokc@gmail.com

Contact: Paulette Finnegan 405-623-3844

June 18 - June 20, 2010 -- Phoenix, Arizona

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

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

June 18 - June 20, 2010 -- Portland, Oregon

Contact: Lori Eckstine 800-249-8074 ProjectRachel@CatholicCharitiesOregon.org

June 18 - June 20, 2010 -- Wellington, Wellington New Zealand

Contact: Suzanne O'Rourke +64 (04) 974 9691 suzanne@voiceforlife.org.nz

Contact: Wendy Hill +64 (04) 974 8693 info@rachelsvineyard.org.nz

June 25 - June 27, 2010 -- Baltimore, Maryland

Contact: Denise Douglas 410-625-8491 projectrachel@archbalt.org

Contact: Deacon Frank Zeiler 800-286-4224

June 25 - June 27, 2010 -- Cork City, Ireland

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

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

June 25 - June 27, 2010 -- Grand Rapids, Michigan

Contact: Maggie Walsh 616-340-1824 mwalsh@ccwestmi.org

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

June 25 - June 27, 2010 -- Melbourne (Interdenom), Victoria Australia

Contact: Anne Neville (03) 9870 7044 anne@opendoors.com.au

June 25 - June 27, 2010 -- Sacramento, California

Contact: Debbie Anderson 916-733-0161 projectrachel@diocese-sacramento.org

June 25 - June 27, 2010 -- Washington DC Metro Area, Washington D.C.

Contact: Eugenia Hadley 301-300-1997 mena4481@aol.com

Note: Español and English retreats offered

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