

# Vine & Branches

*The Monthly e-newsletter of  
Rachel's Vineyard Ministries*

June, 2011



You are subscribed as **katie@rachelsvineyard.org**

*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 providers. Our retreats are held in both Catholic and Interdenominational settings. Rachel's 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. partnership with Priests for Life and Gospel of Life Ministries.*

*Rachel's Vineyard Ministries is available on the web at [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org) and through line 1-877-HOPE-4-ME.*

## Contents:

Rachel's Vineyard Set to Blossom in Europe and Beyond

Leadership Conference 2011

Clarissa Cincotta Honored with Haggerty Award  
Save the Date-Holy Land Pilgrimage

The Steven Tyler/Julia Holcomb Story

A Note from the Pastoral Director

A Father's Day Appeal

As Terrible as it May Sound; White Indifference to Black Abortion

Rates

Upcoming Events and Training

Rachel's Vineyard Recommends

United in Prayer

Other Conferences/Events of Interest

Upcoming Rachel's Vineyard Retreats (June-July)

## **Rachel's Vineyard Set to Blossom in Europe and Beyond**

By Theresa Burke

I departed for Europe on Mother's Day – a fitting day to begin planting a number of new vineyard sites for Eastern Europe and beyond. Mother's Day because so many mothers in these countries will meet and reconcile with their lost aborted children – and the joy that awaits them is truly a gift from heaven – like the extraordinary treasure of the love between a mother and child.

### **FRANCE**

I was greeted in Paris by Jean Marc and Sabine Poujade, who serve as the coordinators of Mere de Misericorde, one of the largest communities for faith development in France. They operate in 12 locations throughout France as offices for evangelization which are attached to a number of different Dioceses. Mere de Misericorde is now officially a new sponsor for Rachel's Vineyard in France. During our days together, I met with a number of people interested in helping to spread the word about the retreats in France.

I was invited by Bishop **Nicholas Brouwet** to stop by to visit him in Nantes, just outside of Paris. He attended the first Rachel's Vineyard Retreat in France, so it was a fabulous opportunity to meet with him and discuss how we can partner for the necessary work of healing throughout the church in his country. Our meeting lasted two hours! I also made a visit to the Jerome Lejeune Foundation and met with the staff, including Mrs. Lejeune, the wife of the famous French Geneticist who discovered the chromosomal abnormality which causes downs syndrome and other trisomy disorders. They also conducted an interview for their magazine on the work of Rachel's Vineyard.

I was invited to a press conference to discuss post abortion trauma and healing. An in depth interview was conducted by several journalists including Stephanie Combe from Famille Chretienne in France, who is writing a feature story on Rachel's Vineyard. This is a prestigious Journal concerning the family. Another reporter was Clare Le Guen who works for the "Conference of Bishops in France" There was a great

interest in the topic and these will be important contacts to help get the word out about the retreats in France.

I also spent time with long time friend Anne Helene O'Malley who helped translate the Rachel's Vineyard Manual into French and organized the first two retreats in France at the request of her Bishop. Jean Marc & Diane Richards flew from Quebec to assist on that first retreat. Among other visits was with Joel Rosenfeld who hopes to offer the retreat at a new site near Compiègne at the Arche Community, the renowned community of love and friendship for those with disabilities established by Jean Vanier. Other meetings were held with Marie Sentis who is the founder of a French National Hotline to provide help for women in crisis pregnancy and now they are eager to refer those in need of post abortion healing to Rachel's Vineyard.

## **BELGIUM**

A number of people traveled down from Belgium to learn more about the practical steps to begin implementing the program in their country. Laetitia Pouliquen is doing a wonderful job trying to bring information about post abortion suffering to Brussels and beyond. After attending the first Rachel's Vineyard retreat in France, she has been making videos and writing articles and has an interest in developing Silent No More. Another leader from Belgium also traveled down to see how her organization "Souffledevie" can become involved in the work of Rachel's Vineyard.

## **AUSTRIA**

After a whirlwind of meetings, I departed for Vienna – to run the first Rachel's Vineyard Retreat in Austria at the [International Theological Institute](#). We visited last fall at the invitation of **Cardinal Schönborn** with Father Frank Pavone, Janet Morana and my husband Kevin. During that visit, we taught a full day of classes at the Institute. Afterwards, a number of students contacted me offering to translate the Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Manual into their native languages. Most of these students came from Eastern European Countries, where we have had difficulties spreading Rachel's Vineyard because of language barriers. All of the students at the ITI speak English, so it seemed the perfect opportunity to conduct a training for Rachel's Vineyard so that these students could take the retreat home with them when they returned to their respective countries. It was the perfect answer to a prayer! We began the Rachel's Vineyard Retreat on May 13, The Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, a fitting day to begin the Rachel's Vineyard retreat for these Eastern block countries. The wound within these families is so deeply connected to our Lady's message to Lucia: "If my requests are not heard, Russia will spread her errors throughout the world, causing wars, and persecutions of the church. The good will be martyred; The Holy Father will have much to suffer; various nations will be annihilated." Russia was the first country worldwide to legalize abortion in 1920. The number of abortions in Russia is now about 1.5 million annually, just under the number of births there, which number 1.6 million per year.

30 people attended the Rachel's Vineyard Retreat in Vienna. Our retreat memorialized close to 70 babies. Many students were grieving siblings who were aborted. A number of students had mothers who had aborted every pregnancy except them, and they recognized the survivor syndrome inside themselves. One priest called upon his 6 aborted brothers and sisters to spiritually join with him as partners in his ministry and to pray together for their mother. One immigrant from China was hidden after birth because of China's one child policy – for 8 years he "did not exist" according to the state. He could not attend school or be seen until they moved to a new town and he finally entered school at the age of 9. The devastating perfectionism of the "wanted child" was also a source of griefwork for a number of students who learned you need to be perfect to stay alive, as they witness many children killed the minute they are born if they have any defects. Indeed, the need for healing the ripple effects of an abortion culture were starkly evident.

### **LITHUANIA**

A group in Lithuania which has been trying to start Rachel's Vineyard heard about my visit and they traveled to Vienna for our retreat. With the help of Ruta Pociute, a student at the International Theological Institute, the entire retreat was simultaneously translated so that the group could "experience" the retreat before they offer the program in their homeland. They sat in our retreat circle as Ruta translated all the sharing and Living Scriptures.

### **POLAND**

Hannah Potrapeluk also heard about the training. She has been working on the translation of the Rachel's Vineyard manual into Polish. She came from Poland to join us with a friend and benefitted greatly from the training. She will now implement all the new changes and be ready to start the first Polish RV site.

### **CHINA**

Several people who speak Chinese plan to work together on the translation this summer. Because the world's population is concentrated in Asia, most abortions occur there (26 million yearly); nine million of these take place in China.

### **DENMARK, SLOVAKIA and UKRAINE**

Other students who plan to get Rachel's Vineyard started came from Denmark, Slovakia, and the Ukraine. Although abortion rates and ratios (the number of abortions for every 100 births) in Eastern Europe have fallen significantly in recent years, they remain higher than in any other region. In 2003, there were more abortions than births in that region (105 abortions for every 100 births).

Despite the languages and numerous cultures represented, our group bonded together as the suffering body of Christ and moved through the grief into an experience of healing and resurrection.

*To view pictures from the trip [click here](#).*

## **SOME COMMENTS FROM RETREAT PARTICIPANTS**

*"Because so many countries were represented in this retreat, I could see how easily it can be adapted to different cultures, customs and rites. Universal!!!!!"*

*"It was very powerful. Even though this was supposed to be a "training retreat" you could see that everyone went through the stages of grief and some kind of healing. It was amazing. I felt like I pulled out my inner self, examined it in front of others, aired it and put it back in – it was hard but I feel ready for a new and fresh view. I was comforted by the others and it gave me strength."*

*"Excellent healing retreat! Amazing work of God! Thank you for sharing this with the world. I loved all the tactile things"*

*"This is a very powerful experience that changes lives. I will now proclaim the love of the unborn children to their parents."*

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### **Rachel's Vineyard Leadership Conference 2011**

Please [click here](#) to view the Promo Video for the July 18-21, 2011 Rachel's Vineyard Leadership Conference!

[Click here](#) to download the registration brochure.

A schedule of courses and a more complete listing of speakers is available. Please [click here](#) to view the schedule, course descriptions and speaker bios. We are blessed to be able to offer Mass every day as well as a Reconciliation service as part of the conference. Interdenominational worship and praise services will also be available.

Registration is filling up fast so make sure to get your forms in today! We look forward to being together with all those who work or aspire to work in Rachel's Vineyard.

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### **Clarissa Cincotta Honored with Haggerty Award**

The Connecticut Right to Life Corporation presented the Haggerty Award to Clarissa Cincotta (site leader, Bridgeport, CT) at its annual convention on Saturday, May 21, 2011, at the Courtyard by Marriott, Cromwell. The Haggerty Award is the most prestigious award. It is presented each year at the convention in memory of Frank Haggerty, one of the most active pro-life veterans and a founder of the Connecticut Right to Life Corporation.

It is given to people whose life exemplifies the noblest understanding of the intrinsic beauty and value of human life -- from conception to natural death.

The Connecticut Right to Life Corporation stated: "we are honored to give Clarissa this award, as one who makes it possible, for women who have had abortions to become healed We recognize that these women

are often damaged twice. The first time being when most of them were coerced by boyfriends, family, or circumstances to have the abortion. The second time being the experience of the abortion itself. We also recognize that only the sincerest and deepest love, caring, and self-giving could enable the healing of these women."

The CT Right to Life would like to thank Clarissa and publicly recognize her for the relentless work she and her team have been giving to help these women heal -- so much so that many of them then participate in talks and events -- to share their stories and speak out against abortion -- to save some moms from harm and the lives of their babies.

We congratulate Clarissa on this achievement and thank her for all of the hard work she puts in to the vineyard in Bridgeport, CT.

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### **Save the Date-Holy Land Pilgrimage**

Save the Date for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land! Join Kevin & Theresa Burke, Janet Morana of Silent No More, Priests for Life, and the Catholic View for Women, Teresa Tomeo of Ave Maria Catholic Radio and the Catholic View for Women and Steve & Janet Ray, Producers of the Footprints of God documentaries and certified guides on this beautiful journey. The pilgrimage will take place April 22-May 1, 2012. Please [click here](#) for more information and the registration form.

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"As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him."

~Psalm 103:13

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### **The Steven Tyler/Julia Holcomb Story**

Kevin Burke recently published an article on musician Steven Tyler's new book in which he reveals that he is a post-abortive father with his then girlfriend, Julia Holcomb. Kevin was then contacted by Julia Holcomb, who wanted to share her "side" of the story. To read Kevin's first article on Steven Tyler's abortion [click here](#). To read Julia's follow-up article please [click here](#).

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### **A Note from the Pastoral Director**

Dear Friends,

I was visiting a vineyard recently, in the back yard of some friends of mine in California, and all during the visit, "Rachel's Vineyard" was going through my mind. Of particular interest to me was the "pruning" that has to occur. Pruning can look devastating and unnecessary; it can look wasteful and scary, as branches are cut and thrown away. One of my colleagues grew up around vineyards and recalls, when very young, crying out that the vine had been killed, whereas in reality, it had

simply been pruned.

Pruning allows the vine to bear even more fruit, and the remaining branches to be even more robust and full of energy.

In Rachel's Vineyard, we come together with many wounds, sorrows, and losses, and the very process of grieving can feel like pruning because of the pain that we deliberately choose to face and share. But God prunes the vineyard he planted. Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, so that it will be even more fruitful" (John 15:1-2).

As strange as it seems, then, let's rejoice in our sufferings, particularly in the pain that comes in doing the good work of grieving. Our lives will see fruits of healing, peace, and joy!  
You are in my prayers!

Sincerely,  
Fr. Frank Pavone  
Pastoral Director and Chairman, Rachel's Vineyard  
National Director, Priests for Life  
Follow me at [twitter.com/frfrankpavone](https://twitter.com/frfrankpavone)

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"By the time a man realizes that maybe his father was right, he usually has a son who thinks he's wrong."  
~Charles Wadsworth

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### **A Father's Day Appeal**

Father's Day is a time of love and thankfulness for our fathers. This Father's Day you can help post abortive fathers find reconciliation and healing by giving to Rachel's Vineyard.

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

Here's how to make a donation:

Online: [www.RachelsVineyard.org/donate](http://www.RachelsVineyard.org/donate)

By Phone: 610-354-0555

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

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"When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years."  
~Mark Twain

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## **As Terrible as it May Sound; White Indifference to Black Abortion Rates**

By Kevin Burke and Dr. Alveda King  
*In The Chicago Tribune (April 25 2011)*

Dennis Byrne uses a recent billboard controversy in Chicago as an urgent plea to move beyond the polarizing abortion rhetoric to take a closer look at abortion in the African American community.

The billboard features a picture of President Barack Obama and proclaims:

"Every 21 minutes our next possible leader is aborted." It's part of a national campaign that states that "Black children are an endangered species."

It's hard to argue with the facts.

According to the Census Bureau, the rate of abortions in 2006 among black women was 50 per 1,000, compared with 14 for white women and 22 for "other" women. *In New York City, 6 out of every 10 unborn African Americans are aborted!* Since 1973 13 million African American pregnancies have been ended by abortion.

What is the public response to the alarming abortion rate, especially in places like NYC? The response is often indifference... and silence. However, a response to Byrne's Chicago Tribune article in the comments section is illuminative, because beneath this silence lie unspoken assumptions:

*"Let them exercise their right to abortions. As terrible as it may sound, imagine the crime rates and social services that would be required in addition to all we already provide, if abortions didn't happen in the black community. "*

For many Americans, (particularly among non blacks) abortion is seen as a "terrible" but necessary solution to managing the birth rate of a community where the Family is already on life support and city and state budgets for social services are pushed to the breaking point.

### **Missing The Post Abortion Connection**

The tragic mistake here is the failure to see the high price that minority communities pay for their high abortion rate. There is a dynamic and *toxic synergy* at work in the after-effects of the abortion procedure *interacting with and intensifying the ongoing social problems that plague these communities.* How does the experience of abortion make black women, their living children and relationships more vulnerable to ongoing dysfunction, exploitation, poverty and abuse?

**In Forbidden Grief: The Unspoken Pain of Abortion**, Dr Theresa Burke reveals that for many women, while abortion may initially appear to solve the problem of an unplanned pregnancy, the unfolding consequences of the procedure can be devastating. This is especially

true for women who have a previous history of sexual, emotional/physical abuse. Dr Burke found that in her work with thousands of post abortive women, this population with previous abuse/trauma had a higher rate of depression, anxiety, relationship instability, and parenting problems after their abortion.

If we look at the rate of sexual abuse among Africa Americans, we find a group of women that is especially vulnerable to post abortion complications:

\* 1 in 4 women, 3.3 million African American women have been sexually abused.

(No Secrets No Lies: How Black Families Can Heal from Sexual Abuse, Robin D. Stone)

How does previous abuse intensify post abortion symptoms and complicate post abortion recovery? Dr Burke shares in **Forbidden Grief** that *the invasive and painful experience of the abortion procedure serves to re enact the physical and emotional violation of previous sexual abuse*. After the abortion the women experiences a powerful resurgence of the repressed shame, anxiety, and grief of that previous exploitation. The common coping mechanism for this unleashed traumatic emotion...addictive substances, impulsive acting out in relationships, episodes of rage and grief.

We think that abortion will protect an African American woman from the challenges of single parenthood, or the burden of additional mouths to feed. But this is a suicidal trap for the black community.

*Abortion creates emotional, spiritual and physical wounds and vulnerabilities that only exacerbate pre existing abuse and other trauma and makes women more vulnerable to ongoing exploitation, dysfunction and abuse and in their relationships.*

We know that this instability and dysfunction in relationships leads to breakdown in family life, leaving children vulnerable to predatory relatives, partners and friends. The cycle continues...more abuse, more trauma, more abortions, more death.

### **Multiple Abortions**

When a woman has her first abortion, and is unable to find emotional and spiritual healing of that loss, she is more likely to find herself on the abortionist table again. The most recent statistics from the Alan Guttmacher Institute reveal that 47% of abortions are repeat procedures. Many see this as callous irresponsibility on the part of minority women (though repeat abortion statistics are consistent among other nationalities.)

But there is a tragic psychological drama unfolding in the lives of these post abortive women. Dr Burke explored the dynamics of repeat abortions in her international clinical experience. She discovered that abortion in these cases becomes part of an unconscious process to gain mastery over the experience and feelings associated with the initial

abortion trauma...to feel a sense of control, and over time, detached indifference.

But this traumatic mastery comes at a high price as emotional and relational dysfunction flourish in these women's lives. (This reveals the importance of emotional and spiritual healing of this loss, for women and men in programs like Rachel's Vineyard. Obviously we want to prevent abortions if at all possible. However if there is an abortion, healing resources are essential after that initial procedure to prevent multiple abortions and deepening dysfunction.)

### **The Cycle of Death**

This cycle of death and destruction in the African American community will never end as long as abortion is seen as an acceptable way to respond to an unplanned or unwanted pregnancy. It is indeed challenging to face the scope and complexity of the problems facing our poor minority communities. It is tempting to see abortion as a cost effective and even compassionate short term solution to these problems: *"As terrible as it may sound, imagine the crime rates and social services that would be required in addition to all we already provide, if abortions didn't happen in the black community."*

*As terrible as it may sound ? ...it's even worse than it sounds.*  
Abortion, far from being a cost effective solution is in effect accelerating the devastating implosion of poor black communities.

Dr Alveda King, Niece of Dr Martin Luther King, Jr. and other influential African American leaders, are pointing to the film [Maafa21](#) produced by Life Dynamics as proving factual evidence that this implosion in poor black communities is rooted in a well planned and orchestrated strategy of genocide by the eugenics movement. Blacks, the poor and other minorities are at the top of the list for elimination, or at the very least reduction of their populations by abortion. If you think this is crazy conspiracy thinking, please take the time to view this powerful film and remember that 6 out of 10 unborn black children die by abortion in New York City alone.

### **Justice for All**

Dr. Alveda King often quotes her uncle Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., when she addresses the issue of abortion:

*Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. - Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Targeting vulnerable minority communities with birth control and abortion services has decimated the black community. But genocide in any form is an injustice to our society as a whole and threatens the fundamental and inalienable rights and liberties endowed to all of us by our Creator.

A just and compassionate society must find solutions that value the lives of African American unborn children and the health and welfare of their parents and communities. Abortion is not the answer.

Dr. Alveda King is the daughter of the late civil rights activist Rev. A.D. King and his wife Naomi Barber King, and serves as a Pastoral Associate and Director of African-American Outreach for Priests for Life and Gospel of Life Ministries. Kevin Burke, LSW is the co founder of Rachel's Vineyard Ministries, also serves as a Pastoral Associate with Priests for Life and is the author of **Redeeming A Father's Heart**.

"Any man can be a Father but it takes someone special to be a dad."  
~Anne Geddes

## Upcoming Events/Trainings

### **NightVision Music Festival - Olathe, CO** **Friday, July 08, 2011 - Saturday, July 09, 2011**

Dr. Theresa Burke, along with Fr. Frank Pavone and Dr. Alveda King, will be speaking at the NightVision Music Festival in Colorado on Friday July 8th. For more info: <http://www.nightvisionphm.com/>

### **Rachel's Vineyard Leadership Conference - Malvern PA** **Monday, July 18, 2011 -Thursday, July 21, 2011**

See the [registration](#) brochure on our homepage for more information.

### **Rachel's Vineyard Clinical/Regional Training\*- Corpus Christi, TX** **Friday, September 23, 2011- Sunday, September 25, 2011**

Speaker: Theresa Burke, PhD  
Contact: Deacon Stephen Nolte 361-882-6191 ext. 638

### **Association of Christian Therapists (ACT) Conference- Philadelphia, PA**

#### **Thursday, October 6, 2011 -Sunday, October 9, 2011**

Speaker: Theresa Burke, PhD  
For more information [click here](#).

### **Right to Life Banquet - Saginaw, MI** **Tuesday, October 18, 2011**

Speaker: Theresa Burke, Ph.D.  
Contact: Saginaw County Right to Life [sagcountyrightl@yahoo.com](mailto:sagcountyrightl@yahoo.com)  
Details: Fundraising Banquet from 6-9pm

#### *\*Regional Training*

*Dr. Theresa Burke offers Regional Skill Building Clinics to those who serve in Rachel's Vineyard Ministries who are looking to expand their knowledge of the retreat process, to sharpen their facilitation skills and to update the team on any new developments in the ministry as well as sharing best practices.*

*A Regional Skill Building Clinic satisfies the required amount of continued training noted in the Rachel's Vineyard Licensing agreement.*

*For details and more information on how to host a regional training for sites in your area please contact Amanda Miner at [assistant@rachelvineyard.org](mailto:assistant@rachelvineyard.org)*

"I talk and talk and talk, and I haven't taught people in 50 years what my father taught by example in one week."

~Mario Cuomo

## The Catholic View for Women

Don't miss the next episode of *The Catholic View for Women* on EWTN airing on Friday, June 10 at 3:00am and 6:30pm ET!! The topic is "Extreme Makeover: Seeing Yourself through the Eyes of Christ ". Visit the website for more information at [www.thecatholicviewforwomen.com](http://www.thecatholicviewforwomen.com)!

### Rosaries for Life

Many of you have seen the website put up by a wonderful woman selling re-born/remade (and new!) rosaries to benefit Rachel's Vineyard in Nebraska. She has posted a coupon code until June 15th to give you 25% off your purchase. She has also updated her site and rosary inventory. Please take a look! While you are there, please LIKE the site on Facebook, so we can drive more traffic over to the rosary site. Thanks!!

RV042011 is the code and [click here](#) for the website.

### The Total Consecration to Jesus Through Mary

The Alliance for the Triumph apostolate which promotes the Total Consecration to Jesus Through Mary of St. Louis de Montfort is offering new information on their ministry. The Alliance is the product of the merger with the Friends of Our Lady Apostolate which over the last 15 years has provided Total Consecration materials to over 300,000 people throughout the world!!

The new website is [www.myconsecration.org](http://www.myconsecration.org) People can now learn about the apostolate there and order FREE materials in the USA and Canada there as well by [clicking here](#). There is a second page where people can order Consecration material in Spanish [here](#). And you can also read about Parish Consecrations the Become a Parish Leader page and then place an order [here](#). If you wish to order any of our materials outside of the USA and Canada, please contact Ray Mooney at [raymooney@myconsecration.org](mailto:raymooney@myconsecration.org) and if you wish to place large orders from any country, please contact him directly as well.

### Pro-Life Radio Program

Fr. Victor Salomón will host a weekly pro-life radio program in Spanish on Radio Maria, Washington DC. The program called Evangelio de Vida (Gospel of Life) will air every Tuesday at 9am ET. Listen by cell or internet by [clicking here](#). It can be listened to by a radio with a subcarrier option. For purchase of this type of radio call 718-247-9100 or write [info.nyc@radiomaria.org](mailto:info.nyc@radiomaria.org)

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## Rachel's Vineyard Social Networking

Click the links below to visit Rachel's Vineyard social networking sites. Join today and send to your friends and family!

Facebook Fan Page: [www.facebook.com/rachelsvineyard](http://www.facebook.com/rachelsvineyard)

Facebook Cause: [www.causes.com/rachelsvineyard](http://www.causes.com/rachelsvineyard)

Check out our new Youtube videos!:

[www.youtube.com/user/rachelsvineyard](http://www.youtube.com/user/rachelsvineyard)

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"Dad, you're someone to look up to no matter how tall I've grown."

~Author Unknown

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### United in Prayer

*We pray for the following intentions:*

For **Sam Ranelli's** (of Priests for Life) mother who recently passed away. May God welcome her into his arms and comfort the Ranelli family during this time.

For the continued growth and fruitfulness of the developing retreat site in **Bogota Colombia, South America**. The first training retreat was held last weekend and it was full 20 people!

We pray for blessings upon Rachel's Vineyard Co-Founder, **Kevin Burke** as he celebrates his birthday this month!

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### Catholic Social Workers Conference: Our Call in the 21st Century

The Catholic Social Workers National Association is holding a conference in Denver Colorado from June 21-23, 2011 at Regis University. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are available for this conference. You can register online at [www.cswana.org](http://www.cswana.org) .

American Academy of FertilityCare Professionals- Annual Meeting

Duluth Minnesota is the site of the 30th Annual Meeting of the AAFCP, July 20-23, 2011. The theme of this year's meeting is "Superior Women's Health." This meeting offers us the opportunity to discover new developments in FertilityCare, Natural Family Planning (NFP), and Natural Procreative Technology (NaPro, NPT) as well as new ideas for marketing our services, building professional networks, obtaining third party reimbursement, and continuing education so we may best serve our clients and community. Please [click here](#) for more information.

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### Upcoming Rachel's Vineyard Retreats

**June 3 - June 5, 2011 -- Fort Worth, Texas**

Contact: Betsy Kopor 817-923-4757 [forgiven@racheltx.org](mailto:forgiven@racheltx.org)

Contact: Macaria (espanol) 817-886-4760 [misericordia@racheltx.org](mailto:misericordia@racheltx.org)

Website: [www.racheltx.org](http://www.racheltx.org)

**June 3 - June 5, 2011 -- Fresno, California**

Contact: Jennifer Butcher 877-629-6626 butcher\_jennifer@yahoo.com

Contact: Rosalinda Gutierrez - Español 888-686-8537

jolexlove2@aol.com

**June 3 - June 5, 2011 -- Northwest Territories, North West Territories Canada**

Local Host: Diocese of Mackenzie-Fort Smith, Yellowknife, N.T. Canada

Contact: Pat Regan 867-872-2232 rachelsvineyard.nwt@gmail.com

Contact: Gail Paquin 867-920-2129

**June 3 - June 5, 2011 -- Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

Contact: Joanne Forgue 405-623-3844 rachelsvineyardokc@gmail.com

Note: We have available ongoing, confidential group and one-on-one post-abortion support sessions. Please call or e-mail for more information.

**June 3 - June 5, 2011 -- Providence, Rhode Island**

Local Host: Life & Family Ministry, Diocese of Providence

Contact: Carol Owens 401-421-7833 x118

rachelsvineyard@dioceseofprovidence.org

Website: www.dioceseofprovidence.org

**June 3 - June 5, 2011 -- San Bernardino, California**

Local Host: Pro Life Catholic Ministries

Contact: Blanca Leal-McGuthrie (Español) 909-238-4037

markblanca@sbcglobal.net

Contact: Mary Huber - (English) 909-475-5352 mhuber@sbdiocese.org

Retreat Location: Duarte, CA

Note: English & Español

**June 10 - June 12, 2011 -- Katy, Texas**

Local Host: Pregnancy Center of West Houston

Contact: Mary Lee 254-383-1717 ml.mason@att.net

Note: Interdenominational Retreat

**June 10 - June 12, 2011 -- Leeds, Wyoming England**

Contact: Marene 07505 904 656 info@rachelsvineyard.org.uk

Retreat Location: Ilkley area of West Yorkshire

Website: www.rachelsvineyard.org.uk

**June 10 - June 12, 2011 -- Litchfield, Connecticut**

Local Host: Archdiocese of Hartford

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

**June 10 - June 12, 2011 -- Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

Contact: Toni Jester 412-621-6953 toniafj1@comcast.net

Contact: Toni 412-352-5348

**June 17 - June 19, 2011 -- Ann Arbor/Detroit Area, Michigan**

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

**June 17 - June 19, 2011 -- Long Island/Brentwood, New York**

Contact: Frank and Lorraine Gariboldi 516-523-0586

fgariboldi@optonline.net

**June 17 - June 19, 2011 -- Long Island/Brentwood (Español), New York**

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

Retreat Location: Huntington

Note: Español

**June 17 - June 19, 2011 -- Trenton, New Jersey**

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

**June 17 - June 19, 2011 -- Wellington Region, Wellington New Zealand**

Contact: Suzanne O'Rourke +64 4 974 8691 suzanneor@gmail.com

Contact: Wendy Hill +64 (0)4 974 8693 whtalkpregnancy9@gmail.com

**June 24 - June 26, 2011 -- Atlanta, Georgia**

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

Website: [www.healingafterabortion.org](http://www.healingafterabortion.org)

**June 24 - June 26, 2011 -- Dallas (Español), Texas**

Contact: Ivonne Odegard 972-679-4760 sanacion@racheldallas.org

Website: [www.racheldallas.org](http://www.racheldallas.org)

Note: Español

**June 24 - June 26, 2011 -- Portland, Oregon**

Contact: Lori Eckstine 800-249-8074

ProjectRachel@CatholicCharitiesOregon.org

**June 24 - June 26, 2011 -- Prescott Valley, Arizona**

Contact: Diane or Magdalin 928-713-9504 rvrpvaz@gmail.com

Retreat Location: Mission Canyon

**June 24 - June 26, 2011 -- Rock Hill, South Carolina**

Local Host: Diocese of Charleston

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

Contact: Kathy 803-546-6010 postabortionhealing@gmail.com

**July 8 - July 10, 2011 -- Allentown, Pennsylvania**

Contact: Maryann Dunn M.S. 866-372-2435

mdunn@allentowndiocese.org

**July 8 - July 10, 2011 -- Hankinson, North Dakota**

Contact: Ruth Ruch 701-219-3941 ruch@i29.net

**July 8 - July 10, 2011 -- Houston (Interdenom), Texas**

Contact: Stephanie Walker 713-690-2210 steph@gulfcoasthealing.org

Contact: April 281-236-8719 april@gulfcoasthealing.org

Website: [www.GulfCoastHealing.org](http://www.GulfCoastHealing.org)

**July 8 - July 10, 2011 -- Leeds, Wyoming England**

Contact: Marene 07505 904 656 info@rachelsvineyard.org.uk

Retreat Location: Ilkley area of West Yorkshire

Website: www.rachelsvineyard.org.uk

**July 8 - July 10, 2011 -- Roanoke/Blacksburg, Virginia**

Contact: Linda 540-525-7513 RoanokeRachelsVineyard@gmail.com

Note: Interdenominational Retreat

**July 15 - July 17, 2011 -- Indianapolis, Indiana**

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

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

Contact: Toll-free 800-382-9836 x1521

**July 22 - July 24, 2011 -- Denver, Colorado**

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

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

**July 22 - July 24, 2011 -- Fort Worth, Texas**

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

Contact: Macaria (espanol) 817-886-4760 misericordia@racheltx.org

Website: www.racheltx.org

**July 29 - July 31, 2011 -- Dallas, Texas**

Contact: Fonda Luersman 972-916-0652 healing@racheldallas.org

Website: www.racheldallas.org

**July 29 - July 31, 2011 -- Lake Charles, Louisiana**

Local Host: Diocese of Lake Charles

Contact: Marjorie Long 337-439-7400 ext 317

rachels.vineyard@lcdiocese.org

Contact: Kathy Owen 337-439-7400 ext 317

rachels.vineyard@lcdiocese.org

Retreat Location: Saint Charles Center

2151 Sam Houston Jones Parkway Lake Charles, LA 70611

Website: www.lcdiocese.org