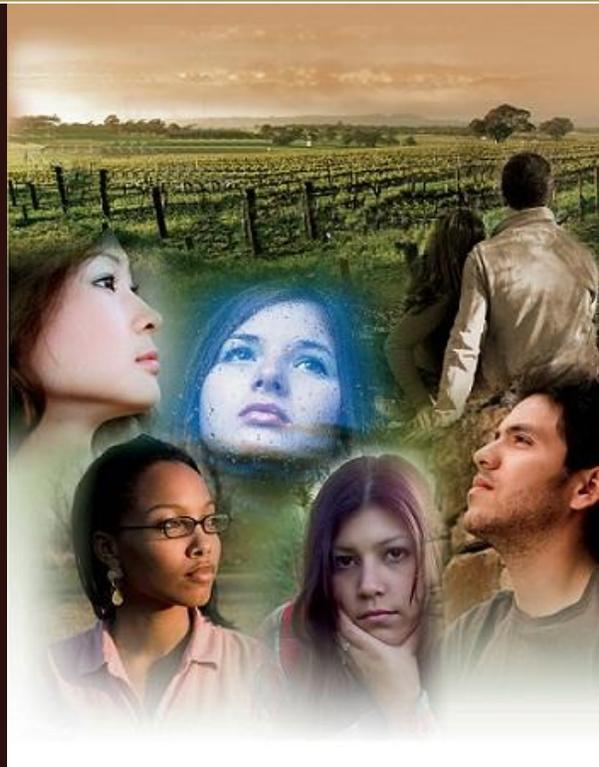


Vine & Branches

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

March, 2012



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.

Contents:

[Mission Ready](#)

[Flexible Foundations for Healing: Rachel's Vineyard on the Emerald Isle](#)

[A Note from the Pastoral Director](#)

[High School Healing](#)

[Spanish Version of "Forbidden Grief" Now Available!](#)

[A Lenten Appeal](#)

[Rachel's Vineyard Recommends](#)

[United in Prayer](#)

[Upcoming Rachel's Vineyard Retreats \(March-April\)](#)

Mission Ready

By Jody Duffy, RN (former Army officer and wife of Brigadier General Bill Duffy)

"At that time there were very few women pilots. There was great pressure to meet expectations. I didn't want to rock the boat, so when I found out I was pregnant I had an abortion. Immediately after, I began to shut down. I started to fail check rides. I was extremely dangerous in the cockpit. The demons began to take over and I began contemplating flying an aircraft into the ground" JC (former Air Force officer)

Whether in times of peace or times of war, our military is called upon to be mission ready at all times. Never before in the history of this country has our military been engaged in conflict for such an extended period of time. The active, reserve, and guard components of our military have been called upon time and time again in the past ten years. Many in uniform and their families have endured multiple deployments and long periods of separation.

The driving words of the military in the past few years have been Readiness and Resilience. Readiness training focuses on adaptability and resiliency for those in uniform and their families. Being able to adapt to the ever changing nature of the military lifestyle is essential for the military and families. Resiliency can help manage those situations more easily. It is the ability to withstand, recover, and grow in face of stressors and changing demands.

How does an abortion affect the readiness and resiliency of our military and their families? Most of us are familiar with the traumatic experiences and behavioral problems associated with abortion. These include and are not limited to feelings of rage and anger, isolation, loss of self confidence, insomnia and nightmares, drug and alcohol abuse, difficulty with relationships, and suicide attempts. The aftermath of abortion can adversely affect the way those in uniform and their family members cope with the everyday and extraordinary stressors associated with the military lifestyle. It can and does effective soldier and family readiness.

"I had three abortions while I was serving in the Navy. After the first one, I did not care anymore. I lost all self esteem, self confidence and self worth. I turned down promotions and positions of leadership because of it. I lost my ability to think clearly and concentrate. One day in a daze, I walked onto a flight line behind an F-14 which was powering up. It blew me off my feet and about 20 feet down the line. I think I wanted to die. I was a danger to myself and others. I married another sailor and eventually left the Navy. I attempted suicide during that first year as a Navy wife." TJ (former Navy enlisted)

What is the abortion policy of the military? Currently, the United States government bans the use of Department of Defense funds for the performance of abortions except when the mother's life is in danger. It currently bans the performance of abortion at any US Military hospital or other medical facility except where the life of the mother is in danger. A service woman who becomes pregnant overseas must seek out a local clinic at her own expense or return to the US. In the states she must also seek out a local clinic and pay out of pocket.

This has become a political hot button for the pro-abortion movement who argue that overseas facilities may be unsafe or altogether unavailable or that the return to the US requires the woman leaving her mission and career behind. They argue that abortion should be accessible to all servicewomen and family members. The push is on to pass the National Defense Authorization Act which would allow abortions in military hospitals. The pro-abortion movement, especially Planned Parenthood is screaming about how women in the military are being denied basic care. They contend that denial of access to abortion in a military hospital is an injustice to those serving their country.

Life in the military is already stressful and traumatic. Many servicemen and women deal with PTSD related to their experiences in combat. We know that a form of PTSD can exist among men and women who have had or been involved with an abortion. Opening up military hospitals for abortion is an insult to many pregnant servicewomen, putting them at greater risk of aborting their children through undue peer or professional pressure. We are doing a disservice to those in uniform by allowing them easy access to abortion and we are placing them at increased risk for PTSD.

"I enlisted in the Army after 911. I served in Iraq. Shortly after that tour I became pregnant and had an abortion. I suffered from PTSD not only related to my tour in Iraq, but also from my abortion. I left the Army but soon re-enlisted in hopes of being sent to Afghanistan where the conflict was really starting to heat up. Maybe I could get killed while I was there. That is how much I hated myself. I was not sent overseas. I left the Army after that enlistment was over." ER (former Army enlisted)

Department of Defense figures on pregnancy numbers are difficult to find. Abortion numbers don't exist because abortions are obtained out in the general public. From speaking to an Army doctor and Army OB nurse at Fort Belvoir VA, the number of servicewomen and family members who come in to confirm a pregnancy and walk out to go obtain an abortion at a local clinic averages about one per week. Reasons for these abortions vary from sexual assault to professional pressure to deployment of a spouse. Whatever the circumstances, servicewomen and military family members do have abortions. They are out there and they are hurting. Where can they go for help?

The Chaplaincy is the best source of help for these women and men. Military Chaplains minister to those in uniform and their families. Family Life Chaplains, in particular, go through an intense 15 month training course that focuses on counseling. They can provide counseling to individuals, families, or couples. Military chaplains are very autonomous. They are the only ones in the military that a soldier can go to for formal or informal counseling with confessional protection. Chaplains of all denominations are the most likely to hear the confession of abortion from those in uniform or family members.

When I was a young Army officer, I became pregnant and had an abortion because of career pressure. My world was turned upside down. I could no longer function to the best of my abilities. I withdrew and isolated myself. I later met my husband, left the Army and dragged my baggage into my life as an Army wife. Rachel's Vineyard was instrumental in helping me unpack that luggage. Over the past ten years I have worked on a Rachel's Vineyard team and have witnessed the incredible transformation of the men and women who attend the retreat. I often wonder how different my military career and military family life might have been if Rachel's Vineyard had existed back then.

That is why it is very important to me to help bring awareness about post abortion healing to our military, their families and to our veterans. Currently, I am working with the PATH ministry in Atlanta (sponsor of the Atlanta RV team) to form a Military Outreach ministry under their umbrella. The mission will be to liaison between Chaplains on military installations and local Rachel's Vineyard teams, to speak at those installations about RV, and to help establish new retreat teams near military bases where a team does not exist. It will also involve reaching out to organizations like Military Catholic Council of Women, Protestant Women of Chapel and Veteran Centers. The ministry will also fundraise to establish a scholarship fund for all in uniform, all military family members, and all veterans who cannot afford a retreat.

A few months ago I contacted the Chief of Military Chaplains Office at the Pentagon and spoke to the Chief of Soldier and Family Ministries. Rachel's Vineyard information is now posted on the Military Family Chaplains Website. Recently, I briefed a group of Commanding Generals Wives at a Family Readiness Conference. The topic was "The Effects of Unresolved Abortion Grief on Family Readiness and Resiliency". I have contacted and given Rachel's Vineyard information to Chaplains at all military bases in the Washington DC area. In January I met with the Chaplain of the 18th Airborne Corp and with the director of the Military Family Chaplains School, both at Ft. Bragg N.C. I am currently working with Danelle Hallenbeck from the Fayetteville, NC area to start a retreat team which can serve the military and veterans in the Fort Bragg area.

Over in Europe, a young Army wife by the name of Julie Enriquez is taking them by storm. It was by the Grace of God that the two of us connected. That woman is on fire. Julie was once the site leader in Killeen TX near Fort Hood. She has been very active in promoting RV to the military in Germany. She is in the process of forming a retreat team in Germany which will help serve the military and their families there. She is hoping to have the first retreat in July of this year. Julie has spoken in various places in Germany about Rachel's Vineyard and her healing. To date, she has spoken at the Military Catholic Council of Women's European Conference, addressed Army priests in Germany on two different occasions at the Clergy Day of Prayer, and talked at a weekly meeting of the Military Catholic Council of Women, Protestant Women of Chapel, and a Homeschooling Mothers group. She also spoke at Protestant and Catholic services on Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. Thus far she has been approached by five women who

are interested in attending the retreat.

The task of reaching the military with our message will be challenging. Personnel change and move frequently. Contacts made one day may be gone the next. Additionally, the culture of the military is very different from that of the civilian world. Military members and families are less likely to come forward for fear damaging their careers or the careers of their spouses. Many chose to keep silent rather than "Rock the Boat".

Studies show the negative emotional, psychological and spiritual outcome of abortion. Those of us who are post abortive have lived it. Our military may be affected by abortion in ways greater than anyone anticipated. It is our duty to reach out to them with a message of hope and healing. We owe them that much and more. God bless America.

If you'd like to reach Jody with comments or questions please e-mail her at jae.duffy@gmail.com

Flexible Foundations for Healing: Rachel's Vineyard on the Emerald Isle

By Kevin Burke, LSW

Post abortion healing is a relatively new field of study and practice that developed after Roe V Wade as church and pro life ministries reached out to those in desperate need of reconciliation and healing. The initial outreach of the Catholic Church called *Project Rachel* offered counseling and sacramental healing referrals. Initially those that offered this model of care viewed any group work with post abortive mothers with suspicion and feared it would harm participants. In the initial stages of Project Rachel (and in some diocese to this day) the consistency of care and efficacy of treatment varied widely and in many cases was poorly attended.

Rachel's Vineyard introduced the concept of a *community healing model* in 1994. This approach featured a healing weekend program developed by Theresa Burke, Ph.D. involving post abortive mothers and fathers, grandparents, siblings and welcoming anyone who participated in the death of an unborn child. This treatment was based on an understanding of trauma and neuroscience and integrated psychological as well as spiritual healing. Initially Rachel's Vineyard was received with suspicion if not outright hostility by many diocesan/chancery personnel in respect life and project Rachel offices. This type of initial resistance was often done without malice but with a desire to protect what they saw as a vulnerable population. However the fears behind this desire to protect the vulnerable can prevent wounded individuals the access to the type of comprehensive treatment they need that will alleviate their symptoms and bring them reconciliation and peace.

Prevailing Orthodoxy in Post Abortion Treatment: The Development of Rachel's Vineyard in Ireland

Historically new developments in science and medicine that challenge prevailing

“orthodoxy” are sometimes viewed with great suspicion and often suppressed. Consider the field of psychiatry where for many years the theory and practice of psychoanalysis was considered the authoritative treatment model for mental illness. There are now exciting and ongoing developments in the fields of neuropsychiatry along with the success of short term models of treatment based on cognitive-behavioral interventions. These have proven far more effective for those struggling with trauma and mental illness. Though well meaning, psychoanalytic interpretation of trauma and treatment within a long term therapeutic relationship is now seen as counterproductive and often doing more harm than good. The latest research is revealing that “talk therapy” alone does not resolve the trauma and relieve the painful symptoms.

While within the Catholic Church there is now a much greater diversity of responses to post abortion healing, there are still some stubborn post abortion healing *orthodoxies* that are based on outdated misinformed assumptions. The development of Rachel’s Vineyard in Ireland provides a good opportunity to shed light on one of these important myths.

As we began to plant and grow the Rachel’s Vineyard ministry in Ireland and later Europe we spoke with laity and religious interested in post abortion ministry who had consulted with a Project Rachel or related institutional church representative in the United States. They were told by these individuals that the Rachel’s Vineyard treatment program was *intense* (a red-flag buzzword sure to raise anxiety.) They advised them to first take an extended period of time and develop a Project Rachel program so they had the infrastructure in place before offering *intensive* healing retreats like Rachel's Vineyard.

Does this ministry assumption from well meaning representatives of Project Rachel U.S.A. hold true under the scrutiny of real ministry experience on the ground?

**Bernadette Goulding:
Rachel’s Vineyard Missionary to the United Kingdom**

We interviewed Bernadette Goulding, the woman most responsible for the spread of Rachel’s Vineyard in the United Kingdom and parts of Europe.

Bernadette how did you get involved initially with post abortion healing?

I was invited to attend a Heartbeat International conference on post abortion healing in the U.S. in 1999. I attended several of these conferences and I also did a distance learning course (Concert Course) and received a certificate as a Crisis Pregnancy Consultant. I began to see women in crisis around 1998. I thank God that many mothers were saved from the devastating consequences of abortion and many little babies were born. During that time I began to see that many of these women had already had an abortion, and as Theresa reveals in her book [Forbidden Grief](#) they were about to re-enact that trauma again. Heartbeat has a post abortion program “HEART” (Healing the effects of abortion related trauma) I used this program for a while and it was good but when I experienced the Rachel's Vineyard Retreat I knew that this is where God was calling me to serve.

How did Rachel’s Vineyard come to the Emerald Isle?

*The first RV retreat was held in Cork in October 2003. Seven women participated. Dr. Martha Shuping (a psychiatrist and member of the **Rachel's Vineyard Medical Advisory Board**) came to Ireland and facilitated the first two RV retreats. I remember thinking as the weekend progressed, how can these women possibly be healed. By the end of the weekend I began to realize that God's power is made perfect in our weakness. The healing that these women received was amazing and could only be of a heavenly origin.*

As you know some in the U.S. associated with Project Rachel advised against proceeding with the retreats because you would not have a network of priests and counselors (i.e., a Project Rachel Program) to support women before and after the retreat weekend. What was your experience as you grew the ministry from ground up?

I had several post abortive psychotherapists and counselors participate in the retreats, and they are in awe of the healing they have received. On each retreat I encourage the participants to continue seeing their Therapists and Counselors. I explain that we help them to heal from the abortion but that other problems may have arisen as a result of the abortion, addictions, etc. I encourage them to tell their therapist's and counselors about the retreat and healing they have received. I have built up a good rapport with these professionals and they now refer women on to me. So you see that the retreat weekend and the experience of witnessing the healing of the participants led to the organic development of a network that understood how the Rachel's Vineyard Retreat served an important role in their therapeutic and/or pastoral care relationship with their clients. These were professionals with a heart for this ministry. I think that in our experience our vibrant post abortion ministry did not develop out of any Project Rachel office, but rather from a dynamic growth that flowed out of the powerful healing work of Christ and His Church manifest on the weekend itself.

Was it hard to get priests involved initially?

I was blessed to have the support of three priests who had participated in a retreat and knew that these retreats were the work of the Holy Spirit. We began with one retreat in 2003 and then two retreats the following year, and at present I have five retreats in the South of Ireland each year. The retreats are booked out in advance. I approached the Bishop of the diocese and received his blessing. Several priests have participated and help on the retreats. Once again the experience of the priests serving on the Rachel's Vineyard team on the weekend gave them an excellent foundation for their ongoing pastoral ministry.

How did you grow the ministry and get the word out?

We did not have a big advertising campaign but worked quietly. The participants were my advertisers. I encouraged them to go back to their Doctors, Priests, and Therapist's and share with them how the retreat had helped them. They would take the Rachel's Vineyard brochures and place them in Churches, Blessed Sacrament chapels etc. I also encouraged them to share with a friend or family member about their abortion.

You have now emerged as a leader in post abortion healing in Ireland and now Europe and beyond - sharing your own healing and the work of Rachel's

Vineyard beyond the shores of Ireland. How did this happen?

I was invited to write my story for several magazines and used the opportunity to promote the work of Rachel's Vineyard. Word began to spread about these retreats and I began to get invitations to speak in Churches colleges and conferences. I received an invitation from The College of Psychotherapist's and Counselors to do a workshop. I was very nervous about this and I remember I called Theresa Burke and she assured me that I would be just fine. I was so anxious as to how I would fill in the time from 10.am to 5pm but to my amazement I could have done with more time. The participants were very impressed.

To date I have facilitated at least 70 retreats and have been invited to several countries, England, Scotland, Malta, and Lebanon. I facilitated the first Rachel's Vineyard retreat in Korea on the weekend of 29th of October 2011.

Conclusion

In the United States many Rachel's Vineyard programs were established in diocese that had an existing Project Rachel program. As reported in the July 2011 edition of *Vine and Branches* story entitled [The Early Project Rachel Model: Ministry by Professionals](#) the retreat weekend has become a centerpiece of their post abortion ministry and revitalized their outreach. These programs can certainly work collaboratively and share their respective gifts with the post abortive population and the Church. But as the Ireland experience tells us, we have to be careful to respect that the Holy Spirit may inspire a diversity of methods to spread the Church's mission of post abortion healing in other countries and cultures. The experience of Bernadette Goulding on the Emerald Isle reveals to us that it would be a tragic mistake to inhibit and delay the important work of healing and reconciliation because of the false assumption that safe and effective post abortion ministry necessitates a pre existing Project Rachel Program.

"We all suffer for each other, and gain by each other's suffering; for man never stands alone here, though he will stand alone hereafter; but here is he a social being, and goes forward to his long home as one of a large company."

~Cardinal Newman

A Note from the Pastoral Director

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Year in Review Report for Rachel's Vineyard in 2011 is well worth reading (see <http://bit.ly/yiTKKh>). It is inspiring to see the continued growth of this ministry, and refreshing just to sit back and review all the Lord has done through the commitment of

everyone involved.

Many are still not aware of Rachel's Vineyard. Let's keep expanding the circle of those who know us, especially by helping them see this impressive report.

We are in the Lenten season, and the urgent call to repentance that marks this time is lived out each day in Rachel's Vineyard. We might call it a Vineyard of repentance, because there we see the grace, the power, the change, and the transformation that are all included in the concept of repentance. The Word and the Sacraments bring this about, in a context aided by the best insights of psychology. Let our own personal observance of Lent, therefore, renew our commitment to spreading and serving this great work of God known as Rachel's Vineyard!

Sincerely,

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

"But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings"
~ Malachi 4:2

High School Healing

By Amanda Conklin

Recently Kathleen Corrigan and I traveled to three different Catholic high schools to present on the healing work of Rachel's Vineyard. We were invited to speak at Allentown Central Catholic as the keynote speakers for their annual "pro-life prayer service." Each year, Central Catholic has a large group of students who attend the March for Life in Washington, D.C. The Central community holds a prayer service before-hand to really get the students engaged and excited. Central Catholic's student body has about 800 students. Our presentation to the school was received so well, that we were asked to stay for the day and speak in some Theology classes. The students were very interested and asked many good questions.

We also recently traveled to Camden Catholic and Gloucester Catholic High Schools, both in New Jersey. We were invited to speak by Fr. Chuck Colozzi. Fr. Chuck is the Campus Minister/Chaplain for both high schools. We spoke in a lot of Theology classes at Camden Catholic following a key-note presentation by a member of the Silent No More Awareness Campaign. Unfortunately, the keynote speaker for Gloucester Catholic fell through at the last minute and we were asked to give the keynote! We shared about Julia Holcomb's story ([click here](#) to read more) and shared about many celebrities who are post-abortive and have revealed their trauma, which the students really connected to.

It is a sad reality that many of the students who we spoke to are either already post-abortive, or will be by the time they graduate high school. Many of them have siblings, parents, aunts and uncles who are post-abortive. Several of those students struggle with post-abortive trauma in their lives. Hopefully after these visits they know that they're not alone and that there is a place where they can go to grieve.

If you'd like to have us come to your local high school, please contact Kathleen at our national office at 2assistant@rachelsvineyard.org

Spanish Version of "Forbidden Grief" Now Available!

The Spanish version of "Forbidden Grief" By Dr. Theresa Burke and David Reardon is now available! Please [click here](#) for more information or to order!

A Lenten Appeal

Lent is a time when we are called to deeply examine ourselves and our spiritual life. Lent can be a difficult time for many who feel seperated from God due to guilt and shame after an abortion. You can help someone re-connect with Christ this Lent through a Rachel's Vineyard retreat.

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

By Phone: 610-354-0555

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

"Humanity is never so beautiful as when praying for forgiveness, or else forgiving another. ~ *Jean P.F Richter*

Rachel's Vineyard Recommends

Friday, March 09, 2012 -- Sunday, March 11, 2012

2012 Australian Conference for Rachel's Vineyard Ministries- Sydney, Australia

A conference supporting networking and development of those in Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Ministries to people seeking spiritual healing from the grief and loss after an abortion. The conference will feature a special video message from Dr. Theresa Burke.

Contact: info@rachelvineyard.org.au for more information or visit <http://www.rachelvineyard.org.au/>

March 25-31, 2012 Hope Alive Training Course

Training in group counseling for counselors of men and women damaged by child abuse, neglect, and Pregnancy Losses, especially Abortion.

Hope Alive trainees study to understand the origin of basic conflicts, why tragedies repeat from one generation to another and how treatment works. The training is experiential and the trainees learn much about themselves.

Contact mtjoycollege@islandnet.com or 250-642-1848 for more information.

New Book- *A Voice to the Inner Pain: A Path to Faith, Hope and Grace* By Jodi Miller

A Voice to the Inner Pain reveals the experiences that often shape the emotional needs that can ultimately lead to abortion. Common threads exist for many facing this choice: family dysfunction and divorce, a desperate need for acceptance, fear of abandonment, emptiness and loneliness. A misconception exists that abortion solves "the problem," but in truth, the procedure can begin an unexpected lifetime of heartache. Jodi and Ron Miller share their story of abortion and its pain. Their hope is that readers suffering from abortion's emotional consequences will experience a transformation through God's grace, just as they did. The couple went from despair and blame to hope, forgiveness, healing and peace. At the same time, they hope those considering abortion will gain enlightenment about the possible lifetime of repercussions from this act.

Dr. Theresa Burke, founder of Rachel's Vineyard Ministries endorses Jodi's book!
"**Magnificent!** *A Voice to the Inner Pain: A Path to Faith, Hope and Grace* is a moving account of despair turned into hope, faith and love – a dramatic unfolding of redemption! God uses everything in Jodi's past for his purpose once she reached out and asked him for help. This book demonstrates the extraordinary work of God, who will respond to every desperate prayer we have uttered. *A Voice to the Inner Pain* will motivate you and inspire you to travel the road less taken – the painful one, the real one, and the challenging one which eventually leads into the warm embrace of a tender

God who welcomes us and **can be** trusted."

Theresa met Jodi and Ron on one of the first Rachel's Vineyard retreats in Philadelphia and they have remained close friends ever since. In case you did not know, Jodi is Joy Crimmins' sister. We all know and love Joy since she has been running Rachel's Vineyard retreats in Harrisburg and helped on Theresa's original team in Philly for many years.

Visit www.hisgraceheals.com for more information or to order.

New Movie-*October Baby*

October Baby follows the story of Hannah, a 19-year old college freshman who learns that she is a adopted and is the survivor of a failed abortion attempt. This shocking revelation sets Hannah on a journey in search of her birth mother and answers to her hidden past. However, what she ultimately discovers is the power and healing nature of forgiveness. The film will be released into theaters nationwide on **Friday, March 23rd, 2012.**

Jon and Andrew Erwin, the producers of the film, have assigned 10 percent of all ticket sale profits to the *Every Life is Beautiful Fund*, which will be used to support frontline organizations helping women face crisis pregnancies, life-affirming adoption agencies and those caring for orphans. Visit www.octoberbabymovie.net for more information.

A Rachel's Vineyard team member recently attended a viewing of the movie and shared her thoughts: "I attended a pre-screening of the movie *October Baby* which will air in theaters on March 23rd. It is a story loosely based on the life of Gianna Jessen who survived a saline abortion at 24 weeks. The movie deals with many levels of the abortion experience but most especially the feelings of a young woman who discovers that her real parents are really not her real parents and that her biological mother tried abort her in the second trimester. It is very well done and deals with the post abortive mother with sensitivity and honesty. There is no sugar-coating in this movie but it is not judgemental, I didn't think. It is geared for teens and young adults but I really liked it. It needs to be seen by every youth group in the world. It was especially compelling for me to watch because my grand-daughter survived a first trimester abortion in the early 90's and is still struggling with some of the issues that the young lady in the movie does. I just thought I would pass on my thoughts and I hope the movie will be well received and I believe that Rachel's Vineyards retreat sites will begin to get many calls from those who have seen the movie."

Rachel's Vineyard 2011 Leadership Conference CDs Now Available!

All of the talks from the 2011 Rachel's Vineyard Leadership Conference were recorded live by Vincent & Barbara Sumoski (Love Tape-CD Ministry) and are available on CD for

purchase. There were 53 excellent talks. You can purchase CDs individually or buy the entire set. FREE SHIPPING & Conference SPECIALS! Contact rv@sumoski.com or 610-779-8989.

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

Facebook Cause: www.causes.com/rachelsvineyard

Check out our new Youtube videos!: www.youtube.com/user/rachelsvineyard

"Sinful men and women can be changed into new creatures by the marvellous work of God in Christ Jesus, which is prior to all experience." ~ *Oswald Chambers*

United in Prayer

We pray for the following intentions:

For **Fr. Dana Clark** of the Hays, KS retreat site. Fr. Clarke was diagnosed with colon cancer which has spread to his lung. We pray that Fr. Clarke experiences peace and the healing love of Christ during this difficult time.

For Rachel's Vineyard Founder, **Dr. Theresa Burke** who has been struggling with Reflexive Sympathetic Dystrophy (RSD) since she broke her foot at the Rachel's Vineyard Leadership Conference in July. We pray for her complete recovery and remission from this illness.

We Pray in Thanksgiving:

For the birth of Joe and **Gail Checco's** new grandson, **Simon Jeffrey Checco**. Simon was born on February 5th. Gail Checco used to volunteer for Rachel's Vineyard in **St. Paul, MN** when Rachel's Vineyard was first getting started. We also pray for **Gail's father** who passed away recently. May he be welcomed by angels into heaven.

Upcoming Rachel's Vineyard Retreats

Kansas City (Northland), MO

Contact: Kathy & Dan Hawk 816-401-4594 rv.north.kc@gmail.com

Friday, March 02, 2012 - Sunday, March 04, 2012

Janesville, WI

Retreat Location: Conference Point Center in Williams Bay

Local Host: Pregnancy Helpline of Janesville

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

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

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

Friday, March 02, 2012- Sunday, March 04, 2012

York County, PA

Retreat Location: Canna Valley Inn

Local Host: Diocese of Harrisburg

Website Address: www.cannainnbandb.com

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

Friday, March 02, 2012 - Sunday, March 04, 2012

Prescott Valley, AZ

Retreat Location: Mission Canyon

Contact: Debra 928-713-9504 rvrpvaz@gmail.com

Friday, March 02, 2012 - Sunday, March 04, 2012

Sacramento, CA

Contact: Annette Evans 916-733-0161 projectrachel@diocese-sacramento.org

Friday, March 02, 2012 - Sunday, March 04, 2012

Denver, CO

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

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

Friday, March 02, 2012 - Sunday, March 04, 2012

Washington DC Metro Area, DC

Contact: Deborah Penzak (English) 240-423-6083 dpenzak@hotmail.com

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

Friday, March 02, 2012 - Sunday, March 04, 2012

Kansas City, KS

Contact: Kathy & Dan Hawk 816-401-4594 rv.north.kc@gmail.com

Friday, March 02, 2012 - Sunday, March 04, 2012

DC Metro Area, MD

Contact: Deborah Penzak (English) 240-423-6083 dpenzak@hotmail.com

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

Friday, March 02, 2012 - Sunday, March 04, 2012

Lancaster, KY

Local Host: Catholic Diocese of Lexington

Contact: Sharla Wells 877-792-3330 sharlaky@yahoo.com

Contact: Sharla Wells 859-792-3333

Friday, March 09, 2012 - Sunday, March 11, 2012

Linden, NJ

Local Host: Archdiocese of Newark

Contact: Michelle Krystofik 732-388-8211 arnewrespect@sjanj.net

Friday, March 09, 2012 - Sunday, March 11, 2012

Savannah, GA

Retreat Location: Family Life Office, Catholic Pastoral Center
601 E Liberty St.

Savannah, Ga. 41301

Local Host: Family Life Office-Diocese of Savannah

Website Address: www.diosav.org

Contact: Stephanie May 912-201-4059 scmay@diosav.org

Friday, March 09, 2012 - Sunday, March 11, 2012

Vienna, Austria

Contact: Claudia Brandhuber (+43) 0699-1021-4241 info@rachelsweinberg.at

Language: German

Friday, March 09, 2012 - Sunday, March 11, 2012

Asheville, NC

Local Host: Diocese of Charlotte

Contact: Carla Haire 828-342-4655 cwool76@frontier.com

Contact: Shelley Glanton 828-230-4940

Contact: Shelley Glanton 828-670-8192 sglantonop@charter.net

Friday, March 16, 2012 - Sunday, March 18, 2012

Lafayette, LA

Contact: Karol D. Meynard 337-261-5607 kmeynard@diolaf.org

Contact: Trista M. Littell 337-261-5607 tlittell@diolaf.org

Friday, March 16, 2012 - Sunday, March 18, 2012

Fort Worth, TX

Website Address: www.racheltx.org

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

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

Friday, March 16, 2012 - Sunday, March 18, 2012

Tulsa, OK

Contact: Mary Lee Ingram 918-508-7142 m Ingram@catholiccharitiestulsa.org

Friday, March 16, 2012 - Sunday, March 18, 2012

Granbury, TX

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

Friday, March 16, 2012 - Sunday, March 18, 2012

Miami, FL

Local Host: St. Kevin Catholic Church

Contact: Christy Acevedo 305-479-9230 cloesq28@bellsouth.net

Friday, March 16, 2012 - Sunday, March 18, 2012

Rio Grande City, TX

Local Host: Benedictine Sisters of the Good Shepherd
Contact: Phyllis Young 956-541-2720 young.phil@sbcglobal.net
Friday, March 23, 2012 - Sunday, March 25, 2012

Georgetown (Interdenom), DE

Contact: Teresa Bolden 302-856-4344 caringheart@sussexpregnancy.com
Friday, March 23, 2012 - Sunday, March 25, 2012

Litchfield, CT

Local Host: Archdiocese of Hartford
Contact: Mary Hayden 203-882-1326 mmhdfc@sbcglobal.net
Friday, March 23, 2012 - Sunday, March 25, 2012

Indianapolis, IN

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
Friday, March 23, 2012 - Sunday, March 25, 2012

Medford, OR

Contact: Lori Eckstine 541-942-2861 ProjectAurora@aol.com
Friday, March 23, 2012 - Sunday, March 25, 2012

Providence, RI

Local Host: Life & Family Ministry, Diocese of Providence
Website Address: www.dioceseofprovidence.org
Contact: Carol Owens 401-421-7833 x118
rachelsvineyard@dioceseofprovidence.org
Friday, March 23, 2012 - Sunday, March 25, 2012

Philadelphia Area, PA

Contact: Geri Simboli 610-399-0890 simboli2@earthlink.net
Contact: Priscilla 215-906-6337 occonnorp1@comcast.net
Friday, March 23, 2012 - Sunday, March 25, 2012

Madison, WI

Retreat Location: Durward's Glen Retreat Center, www.durwardsglen.org
Local Host: Diocese of Madison
Website Address: www.madisondiocese.org/rachel
Contact: Mary Mead 608-221-9593 meadmt@sbcglobal.net
Contact: Mary Mead 608-821-3177 rachel@straphael.org
Friday, March 23, 2012 - Sunday, March 25, 2012

Corpus Christi, TX

Contact: Fr. Tom Goodwin 361-947-2624 thepadre@goccn.org
Contact: Pat Pulliam 361-790-5902 patpulliamjmj@gmail.com
Friday, March 23, 2012 - Sunday, March 25, 2012

Bologna, Italy

Website Address: www.vignadirachele.org
Contact: Italia-Nord Valeria D'Antonio 011-39-347-262-5321
valedantony@katamail.com

Contact: Italia-Sud Monika e Domenico Montanaro 39.099.7724.518
info.vignadirachele@yahoo.it

Friday, March 23, 2012 - Sunday, March 25, 2012

Ottawa, ON

Retreat Location: Galilee Retreat Centre

Local Host: New Wine Church

Website Address: www.newwine.ca

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

Friday, March 23, 2012 - Sunday, March 25, 2012

Bahía Blanca , BAA

Contact: Lala Rey Méndez 0291 154 74 4500 lalareymendez@gmail.com

Language: Spanish

Friday, March 23, 2012 - Sunday, March 25, 2012

Hankinson, ND

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

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

Friday, March 30, 2012 - Sunday, April 01, 2012

San Jose (Interdenominational), CA

Retreat Location: Vallombrosa Center | 250 Oak Grove Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025

Local Host: RealOptions Medical Center

Website Address: realoptions.net/hope_details.html

Contact: Maria Klein 650-988-9400 maria@dxdt.com

Friday, March 30, 2012 - Sunday, April 01, 2012

Joliet / Romeoville, IL

Local Host: Joliet Diocesan Life Office

Contact: Kay Corcoran 866-99-4-GIVE corcoran-family@sbcglobal.net

Friday, March 30, 2012 - Sunday, April 01, 2012

Temecula, CA

Contact: Dolores Dunphy 951-325-7702 rvtemecula@msn.com

Friday, March 30, 2012 - Sunday, April 01, 2012

Temecula (Español), CA

Contact: Berta Romero 951-907-1353 vdrtemecula@gmail.com

Friday, March 30, 2012 - Sunday, April 01, 2012

Arlington, VA

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

Contact: Project Rachel 888-456-HOPE

Friday, April 13, 2012 - Sunday, April 15, 2012

Los Angeles, CA

Local Host: Rachel's Vineyard Los Angeles

Contact: Christine Lowe 866-2-RACHEL rvla.christine@gmail.com

Friday, April 13, 2012 - Sunday, April 15, 2012

Hobart, TAS

Contact: Anne Sherston 03-6229 8739 rachelsvineyardtas@aapt.net.au

Friday, April 13, 2012 - Sunday, April 15, 2012

Singapore, Singapore

Contact: Rose Boon 65-63399770 roseboonms@gmail.com

Monday, April 16, 2012 - Wednesday, April 18, 2012

Friday, April 20, 2012 - Sunday, April 22, 2012

Cache Creek, BC

Retreat Location: Immaculate Heart of Mary, Shrine and Retreat Centre

Local Host: Kamloops Diocese

Contact: Nancy Hadden 250-267-5081 rvkamloops@yahoo.ca

Wednesday, April 18, 2012 - Friday, April 20, 2012

Tampa, FL

Retreat Location: Bethany Retreat Center, Lutz, FL

Contact: Emma Boe 813-924-4173 emmaboe@aol.com

Friday, April 20, 2012 - Sunday, April 22, 2012

Knoxville, TN

Contact: Catherine McHugh 865-694-4971 peace4lilith@aol.com

Friday, April 20, 2012 - Sunday, April 22, 2012

Wheeling, WV

Local Host: Catholic Charities of West Virginia

Contact: Tawnya Knierim 304-242-7878 rachelsvineyardwv@comcast.net

Friday, April 20, 2012 - Sunday, April 22, 2012

Location: Charleston

Doylestown, PA

Retreat Location: National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa – Ave Maria Retreat

Contact: Cindy 484-401-4829 missionfarm29@yahoo.com

Friday, April 20, 2012 - Sunday, April 22, 2012

Fond du Lac (Interdenom), WI

Retreat Location: Tree of Life Retreat Center

Local Host: Hartford Pregnancy Help Center, Inc.

Website Address: www.hartfordpregnancy.org

Contact: Hartford Pregnancy Help Center 262-673-3733

Contact: Laura Denk 262-224-5617 laura@hartfordpregnancy.org

Friday, April 20, 2012 - Sunday, April 22, 2012

Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN

Contact: Nancy Blom 763-250-9313 rvr-nancy@usfamily.net

Friday, April 20, 2012 - Sunday, April 22, 2012

Chandler (Interdenom), AZ

Contact: Linda Diamond 480-309-0625 RachelsVineyardAZ@hotmail.com

Friday, April 20, 2012 - Sunday, April 22, 2012

Bend, OR

Contact: Lori Eckstine 800-249-8074 ProjectRachel@CatholicCharitiesOregon.org
Friday, April 27, 2012 - Sunday, April 29, 2012

Orange County (Interdenom), CA

Retreat Location: California Pro Sanctity Center
Local Host: The Order of St. Martin
Website Address: <http://www.abortionhelprachelsvineyardoc-ca.com>
Contact: Sandy White 949-322-8575 ocrvinterdenom@gmail.com
Friday, April 27, 2012 - Sunday, April 29, 2012

Honolulu, HI

Contact: Lisa Shorba 808-349-5071 RVinHawaii@gmail.com
Friday, April 27, 2012 - Sunday, April 29, 2012

Longbranch, WA

Contact: (Español) 206-450-7814
Contact: Valerie Jacobs 800-822-HOPE valeriepr@aol.com
Language: Spanish
Friday, April 27, 2012 - Sunday, April 29, 2012

Steubenville, OH

Contact: Sharon Maedke 740-283-3636 aimhelpcenter@sbcglobal.net
Friday, April 27, 2012 - Sunday, April 29, 2012

Rapid City, SD

Local Host: Family Life Ministries
Website Address: www.rapidcitydiocese.org
Contact: Carol Kling 605-374-5639 ckling@sdplains.com
Friday, April 27, 2012 - Sunday, April 29, 2012

Providence, RI

Local Host: Life & Family Ministry, Diocese of Providence
Website Address: www.dioceseofprovidence.org
Contact: Carol Owens 401-421-7833 x118
rachelsvineyard@dioceseofprovidence.org
Language: Spanish
Friday, April 27, 2012 - Sunday, April 29, 2012

Baltimore, MD

Retreat Location: Project Rachel & Rachel's Vineyard
Local Host: Archdiocese of Baltimore
Website Address: www.rachelsvineyardbaltimore.org
Contact: Deacon Frank Zeiler 410-299-9597 Fzeiler@archbalt.org
Contact: Denise Douglas, R.N. 410-625-8491 rvbaltimore@archbalt.org
Friday, April 27, 2012 - Sunday, April 29, 2012

Grand Rapids, MI

Contact: Maggie Walsh 616-340-1824 mwalsh@ccwestmi.org
Contact: Toll-free (MI only) 800-800-8284
Friday, April 27, 2012 - Sunday, April 29, 2012

Great Falls/Helena, MT

Local Host: CSSMT - Rachel's Hope
Website Address: www.cssmt.org/html/rachels_hope.php
Contact: Susan Gliko 406-442-0607 susanmtrv@msn.com
Friday, April 27, 2012 - Sunday, April 29, 2012

To subscribe to this newsletter: Send e-mail to newsletter@rachelsvineyard.org
Type "SUBSCRIBE VINE & BRANCHES" in the subject line or body of your e-mail.
To unsubscribe, click here: newsletter@rachelsvineyard.org
Publisher: Rachel's Vineyard Ministries
Editor: Amanda Conklin
Comments and questions: assistant@rachelsvineyard.org

Rachel's Vineyard ® All rights reserved.
© 2012