



## *Theresa Karminski Burke, PhD*

### **PASTORAL ASSOCIATE, PRIESTS FOR LIFE FOUNDER, RACHEL'S VINEYARD MINISTRIES**

**THERESA KARMINSKI BURKE, M.A., PHD, NCP, LPC, DAPA** is the founder of Rachel's Vineyard Ministries and the author of *The Rachel's Vineyard Weekend Retreat Manuals* for both Catholic and interdenominational settings. She is also the author of the 15-week support group model *Rachel's Vineyard - A Psychological and Spiritual Journey of Post Abortion Healing* with Barbara Cullen. (Alba House) The Rachel's Vineyard™ support group and retreat models are now offered in 48 states. The international outreach of Rachel's Vineyard is now growing in 25 countries with translations in progress for Japan and Korea. Over 700 retreats are held annually world wide.

Theresa has facilitated the Rachel's Vineyard weekend for women and men throughout the country, training retreat teams in the method and process. She has lectured and trained professionals internationally on the subject of post-abortion trauma and healing. Her books include *Forbidden Grief - The Unspoken Pain of Abortion* with David C. Reardon (Acorn Books) and *The Contraception of Grief - The Genesis of Anguish Conceived by Abortifacients and Sterilization*. *Forbidden Grief* is also available in Spanish, *Mujeres Silenciadas: Como se Explica el Sufrimiento de la Mujer que Aborta* (Sekotia). Theresa has also published a new retreat program specifically designed for those who have suffered sexual abuse entitled *Grief to Grace - Reclaiming the Gift of Sexuality Dignity*. This new retreat model offers healing to victims of abuse, including those who have survived sexual abuse from clergy.

Theresa serves as a Pastoral Associate of *Priests for Life* and for the newly formed Apostolic Society - *Missionaries of the Gospel of Life*. She is frequent guest on EWTN and served as host of the television series *Making Abortion Rare*. She has recently appeared on PBS, the *Religion and Ethics News Weekly*, *Focus on the Family*, EWTN's *Defending Life* with Fr. Frank Pavone and has been interviewed for numerous radio, television, print magazine and news stories.

Theresa's counseling work has focused on women's issues, bereavement, pregnancy loss, sexual abuse, eating disorders and anxiety management. She is the co-administrator and founder of *Covenant Family Resources*, a licensed Children and Youth Agency which supports couples as they build families through adoption. Theresa and her husband ran *Mother's Home*, a crisis pregnancy residence, which provided housing and computer job training for women in crisis pregnancy and their children.

Theresa holds an undergraduate degree in English Communications with a concentration in social work. Theresa went on to earn a master's degree and doctoral degree in Counseling Psychology. She is a Nationally Certified Psychologist, a Certified Diplomat of the American Psychotherapy Association, a Licensed Professional Counselor and a Diplomat of the American Board of Forensic Counselors. She holds membership in the Society for Catholic Social Scientists, the American Counseling Association and the American Association of Christian Counselors. Theresa is the proud mother of five children.

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To arrange a media interview, email [media@priestsforlife.org](mailto:media@priestsforlife.org) or call 732-757-9087.

To invite Theresa to speak in your area, contact our Speakers Bureau at 321-500-1000, ext. 255 or fill out the form at [www.PriestsForLife.org/travels](http://www.PriestsForLife.org/travels) or email: [travels@priestsforlife.org](mailto:travels@priestsforlife.org)