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FR. FRANK REPORTS...

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Priests for Life leads the way in healing the wounds of abortion with Rachel's Vineyard, Silent No More, and special anniversaries

By Father Frank Pavone, National Director

One of my greatest joys is to serve as worldwide Pastoral Director of Rachel's Vineyard and the Silent No More Awareness Campaign.

Rachel's Vineyard is, by far, the largest ministry in the world for healing those wounded by abortion.

Silent No More is, by far, the largest mobilization of those who have lost children to abortion, have found healing, and want to share their stories.

This year, the Silent No More Awareness Campaign is 20 years old.

And Rachel's Vineyard has been officially operating for more than 25 years.

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Reuniting with a mom and baby saved from abortion

On Nov. 12, 1994, Helene Lovera went to an abortion mill in Orlando intending to end her unplanned pregnancy. The pro-lifers praying outside the mill included a young Catholic priest, Helene noted.

Praying with the priests were volunteers from the JMJ Pregnancy Center, who were holding signs that offered help to women in Helene's situation. She spoke to them but then headed inside to keep her appointment.

But inside the mill, Helene recalled, "I thought about the offer of help that the pro-lifers were making and I finally asked myself, 'What am I doing in here? I have to get out!' I came out and went over to the pro-lifers



Fr. Frank Pavone with Guadalupe (c), Helene (r) and Guadalupe's two daughters in the foreground

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And in both cases, we've only just begun. Let's review some of the encouraging statistics. Rachel's Vineyard was founded by Kevin and Theresa Burke, who since 2003 have served as full-time pastoral associates of Priests for Life.

As of 2021 Rachel's Vineyard had:

- Served over 334,000 individuals, couples and Families;
- Trained more than 158,000 healing professionals;
- Educated more than 13,500 clergy;
- Organized more than 545 educational seminars for mental health professionals;
- Offered more than 17,050 retreats;
- Offered more than 3,000 support group models;
- Connected millions of visitors to our help resources;
- Disseminated 502,000 books and videos;
- Empowered 502,000 volunteers who volunteer with our ministries;
- Welcomed millions of visitors to our websites and social media presence;
- Garnered thousands of print, radio and media titles regarding our work;
- Published 8 books and 52,500 Retreat manuals

Additionally, as of 2021 there were over 375 Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Sites both national and international.

- 225+ offer Catholic Retreats.
- 75+ offer Interdenominational Retreats.
- 75+ offer Spanish Retreats.

The Rachel's Vineyard site for the Catholic Archdiocese of Newark, New Jersey, just celebrated its 25th anniversary. Kevin and Theresa Burke sent a congratulatory video that was played during a special anniversary mass.

Also recently, Theresa Burke spoke to the Catholic Campus Ministry at the University of Delaware on "Looking Beyond Roe vs Wade: Pregnancy Loss and Unresolved Grief," and completed a Rachel's Vineyard training for the Catholic Diocese of Rapid City, South Dakota.

The 2022 Virtual Leadership Conference, "Leading with Light," began in November and runs through June. You can sign up for it RachelsVineyard.org/announcements.

Please see www.RachelsVineyard.org if you would like to be involved in the ministry or attend a retreat.

As for the Silent No More Awareness Campaign, it is a project of Priests for Life and Anglicans for Life. The Campaign promotes healing and provides a platform for people who want to share their testimonies of the hurt and healing that follow abortion.

The campaign was founded by Priests for Life Executive Director Janet Morana and Anglicans for Life President Georgette Forney.

The Campaign was born on Nov. 11, 2002, and the first testimonies were given at the March for Life in Washington, D.C., in January 2003.

As of April 2022, the Campaign has held 2,268 Gatherings in 17 countries all 50 states with

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6,926 women and men sharing their abortion testimonies. Testimonies have also been shared at 174 high schools and universities in the last 12 years.

There are 3,045 testimonies posted on the Campaign website, with 635 that are shared via video! Currently there are 20,380 people registered with the Campaign representing 77 countries.

People who are not ready to join the Campaign, are invited to "register their regret."

So far, 6,729 women and 716 men have said they regret their abortion or lost fatherhood. A total of 612 women and men have posted memorials to their children.

For more information and to get involved see www.SilentNoMore.com. Read and share the powerful testimonies at www.AbortionTestimonies.com.

Reuniting with a mom and baby saved from abortion

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and accepted their offer of help. I felt so sorry for having even gone inside!"

The young priest outside the facility was Father Frank Pavone, the still-new national director of Priests for Life, who was there as part of his now 30-year pro-life speaking tour.

Father Frank returned to Orlando on Aug. 6, 1995 to baptize the baby saved that November day. Baby Guadalupe was baptized in front of a full Sunday Mass congregation.

"This is what we are about in the pro-life movement," Father Frank told the crowd as he brought Helene and Guadalupe forward. "We are about helping moms and their babies...not one or the other, but both."

Helene and Guadalupe have remained in touch with Priests for Life throughout these years, occasionally taping video updates about their journey of life. At a recent fund-raiser for the JMJ Pregnancy Center in Orlando, they were together again...Father Frank brought the mom and daughter, and Guadalupe's two daughters, as his guests.

"It shows the generational impact the whole pro-life movement has," Fr. Frank said, "and it is very encouraging to those who support pregnancy centers and sidewalk counselors. This happens every day outside abortion mills."

After FBI Raid, Father Denis Wilde, OSA of Priests for Life celebrates Mass with Mark Houck and his Family

It was a terrifying day for the Houck family when 15 or more heavily armed FBI agents showed up at the door of their rural Pennsylvania home on Sept. 23, arresting Mark Houck and charging him with violating the federal Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE) law.

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Mark and his wife, Ryan-Marie, are the parents of seven children.

Ryan-Marie Houck has said the officers pointed their weapons at her and her children before putting her husband in handcuffs.

"The kids were all just screaming," she said. "It was all just very scary and traumatic." Houck has pleaded not guilty to the charge that stems from an altercation outside a Planned Parenthood a year ago and was back at home when Father Denis Wilde, OSA, the associate director of Priests for Life, drove to their home to celebrate Mass.

"Our Mass celebrated the miracle of the sun at Fatima 105 years ago, and today as well," Father Denis said.



Fr. Denis Wilde, OSA with the Houck family

"After Holy Mass, I went through the home blessing each room and even the front entrance where the multi-vehicle, strong-armed FBI nearly broke into the home."

Houck was the first of more than a dozen pro-lifers who have been arrested and charged with FACE violations in recent days.

Father Denis said he is praying for "miracles of the heart not only for the Houcks, who are a model of faith, but for all those intimidated by a bullying government."

Fr. Frank Pavone, National Director also interviewed Mark on our Priests for Life daily broadcast "Praying for America," and, in a separate interview, spoke with pro-life attorney Peter Breen, who is handling Mark's case. For these interviews, see PriestsForLife.org/FBI.

Standing up for babies at the March for Life Ohio

By Bryan Kemper, Youth Outreach Director

It was early Wednesday, Oct. 5 and I was about to go to my first pro-life event since my stroke back in July. I was a little nervous as I climbed onto the parish bus as this was the first time in over 30 years that I was going to just attend a pro-life event and not be working it in some way.

The morning started with the whole bus praying the rosary and Priests for Life's "Prayer to End Abortion" as we rolled to Columbus for the Ohio March for Life. We pulled up to the Capitol around 9:30 a.m. I walked around to look at the exhibit tables and get a feel of the event. I was nervous the day would be a little too much for me, but it turned out to be amazing.

I spoke to so many old friends and fellow pro-life activists. I sat down behind the statehouse with my colleague Alveda King (who served for 15 years as a fulltime associate of Priests for Life and is on our Board of Directors).

I was extremely excited to see Jena Powell, my state representative, there to encourage the

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crowd. My son Atticus and I worked on her campaign in our spare time and knew she would be a force for life in Ohio.

I ended up marching next to Peter Range, Executive Director of Ohio Right to Life, as well as Jeanne Mancini, president of the March for Life. Seeing so many youth was also inspiring.

Christy Ballor, the regional coordinator for central Ohio for the Silent No More Awareness Campaign (a joint project of Priests for Life and Anglicans for Life), attended on a bus with pro-lifers from Stark County. She was spotted at the march carrying our Silent No More sign, "I Regret My Abortion" sign, and her sister-in-law carried another one our Campaign provides that says "Women Do Regret Abortion." Christy did an interview afterward with Saint Gabriel Radio in Columbus.

In all, more than 5,000 people showed up for the first-ever March for Life Ohio and raised their voice for the babies.

Priests for Life leaders organize Life Chain at their parish

Priests for Life Executive Director Janet Morana and Executive Manager Theresa Watson are both parishioners of Divine Mercy Catholic Church in Merritt Island, Florida. On Life Chain Sunday, the two were instrumental in organizing the first-ever Life Chain at the parish.

It was, by all accounts, a success. Sixty people showed up and held pro-life signs for 90 minutes on a busy thoroughfare in their community.

"I was so happy with the turnout," Theresa said. "Most motorists who passed us gave us the thumbs up."

Since 1987, pro-life Christians have gathered on the first Sunday of October to bring their commitment to the unborn to the streets. Hundreds of churches participated in this year's event.

Priests for Life has been the catalyst for organizing participation in Life Chain in other communities around the country as well.

Janet and Theresa also collaborated on two pro-life events in Vero Beach, Florida.

They toured A Caring Center for Women, a pregnancy resource center that supports, educates and helps mothers in every way possible to choose life. Then they were off to St. Helen's Catholic Church, where Janet was the guest speaker at the 14th annual Rosary Prayer Service sponsored by the parish Respect Life Ministry.

"Along with all the national and international pro-life work and events we do, it's always gratifying to bring our experience to bear fruit right here in our own back yard," Janet said.



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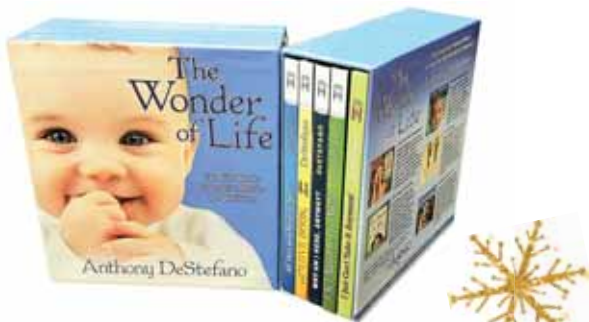
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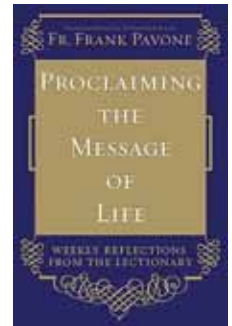


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