



Vatican official endorses Rachel's Vineyard's Italy Mission

"I am delighted to be informed that Rachel's Vineyard Ministries, a valuable apostolate sponsored by *Priests for Life/Gospel of Life*, is also present and operating in Italy.

Rachel's Vineyard Ministries offers weekend retreats to women and men suffering emotional and spiritual pain following the traumatic experience of abortion.

The retreats are carefully designed to help wounded souls face and overcome the repressed feelings that are often triggered by the abortion experience: anger, shame and guilt. The retreats facilitate the grieving process for aborted children, in such a way that participants experience the mercy and the forgiveness of God.

I wish to express my cordial support and warm encouragement to Rachel's Vineyard Ministries, and I promise my prayers for the success of this apostolate, present in Italy and in other countries around the world."

Renato Raffaele Cardinale Martino
President Emeritus, Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace

29 June 2009