

Rachel's Vineyard

International Leadership Conference 2009

"Reaping the Father's Bountiful Harvest"

About our Speakers:

Donna Augustine, RN

Donna had her own abortion experience 36 years ago. After 26 long years, she came across a brochure while attending Immaculata College in Pennsylvania. She attended a life changing retreat led by Dr. Theresa Burke and Michelle Krystofik in New Jersey in March of 1998. During the three years that followed, she assisted with the RV retreats in Philadelphia. In late 2001 Donna moved to Jacksonville, FL and by the God's grace in 2003 Rachel's Vineyard retreats were being held in Jacksonville under her passionate leadership.

Besides her deep involvement with Rachel's Vineyard, Donna enjoys a career as a nurse specializing in chemotherapy/ oncology. She is extremely grateful for her family, especially her beautiful new grandson, Brennan.



Theresa Burke, PhD, LPC, NCP



Theresa 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* (Alba House). The Rachel's Vineyard support group and retreat models are now offered in forty-seven states. The international outreach of Rachel's Vineyard is now growing in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Africa, South America, Ireland, England, France, Portugal, Scotland, Spain, Taiwan, Jamaica, Italy, Ecuador, Malta and Russia. The manuals have been translated into Portuguese, French, Russian & Spanish with translations in progress for Korea, Germany, China, Italy and Lebanon.

Her other books include *Forbidden Grief – The Unspoken Pain of Abortion*, and *The Contraception of Grief – The Genesis of Anguish Conceived by Abortifacients and Sterilization*. Theresa also developed a new program specifically for those who have suffered abuse entitled *Grief to Grace – Reclaiming the Gift of Sexual Dignity*. Theresa and Kevin have 5 incredible children.

Kevin Burke, MSS, LSW

Kevin is a licensed social worker, Co-Founder of Rachel's Vineyard Ministries, a Pastoral Associate of Priests For Life and a lay member of the Missionaries of the Gospel of Life. He is a graduate of The Bryn Mawr Graduate School of Social Work. Kevin's presentations address the effects of abortion on Men/Couples/Families, The Healing Team Model for Clergy, Servant Leadership in Post-Abortion Healing and Marriage and Family Issues.



Kevin is the co-author of *Redeeming A Father's Heart- Men Share Powerful Stories of Abortion Loss and Recovery* and *Sharing The Heart of Christ: Safe and Effective Post Abortion Ministry for Clergy and Counselors* co- authored with his wife Theresa Burke and Fr Frank Pavone.

Kathryn A. Boyle



Kathryn holds a Bachelors degree in Theology from DeSales University in Allentown, PA where she graduated with honors. Following graduation, Kathryn was a substitute theology teacher and youth minister. She is a member of Bethany Music Ministry, as well as a P.R.E.P. teacher for St. Titus Parish. She currently works at Rachel's Vineyard International Headquarters where she organizes the monthly e-newsletter *Vine and Branches* and has enjoyed preparing for the conference as an administrative assistant.

Fr. Ben Cameron

Fr. Ben Cameron was born in 1969, and is a native of Kokomo, Indiana. In 1992 he became a member of the Congregation of the Fathers of Mercy, and was ordained to the priesthood in 1997. Fr. Ben is a 1991 graduate of Christendom College in Front Royal, Virginia, where he studied political science and history. He studied theology at Holy Apostles Seminary in Cromwell, Connecticut.



As a full-time mission preacher, Fr. Ben came to see that he needed to know more about healing after abortion. He made his Rachel's Vineyard retreat in October 2004 in Philadelphia. With the permission of his religious superiors, he started the Rachel's Vineyard site in western Kentucky, from which the new Nashville, Tennessee site has started. Fr. Ben has previously given workshops and served as chaplain at the Leadership Conferences in 2005 and 2007. Fr. Ben will be serving as chaplain for this Leadership Conference, looking after the pastoral needs of the participants, as well as leading a workshop and Our Holy Hour.

Lori Eckstine

Lori's history includes an abortion at age 16. Twenty years later she served 4 years as the Right-to-Life chairperson for her community. This was followed by volunteering 4 years for 1st Way, a pregnancy support center. In 2000 during her time at 1st Way she participated in an out-of-state Rachel's Vineyard retreat because there were none in Oregon. The retreat was the pivotal episode in a profound life change and led her to become involved in establishing the retreats in Oregon in 2001 through a non profit organization called



Project Aurora that she helped found to serve parts of Oregon. In 2003 Lori was hired as the Project Rachel coordinator for Catholic Charities who serves Oregon's two dioceses - the Archdiocese of Portland and the Diocese of Baker. Lori trained the Oregon teams and has facilitated 30 retreats over the last 7 years through Project Rachel and Project Aurora. Since being hired by Catholic Charities Lori has built a collaborative relationship between Oregon's Rachel's Vineyard teams, as well as networking with those in Washington. She has helped retreat teams in other states with her skills and has been a presenter at Rachel's Vineyard national conferences.

Guido Fetta



Guido Fetta is a sales and marketing executive with 20 years of experience in the chemical, pharmaceutical and food ingredient industries. He has held sales representative, sales manager, and director positions for several international businesses. Guido has managed large and small-scale projects and improved business by streamlining processes and improving product design and sales plans.

In addition, Guido has independently worked on technology development and design for his own business, Cannae Consulting. With a proven track record in new business development, technology, and market development, as well as exceptional organizational and management skills, Guido continues to develop and market innovative business concepts within Words of Wisdom Training, a professional management consulting and training business.

With a focus on business development, Guido specializes in:

Instructional Design	Strategic Planning
Process Improvement	Sales & Marketing Training
Organizational Design and Development	Technical Training
Executive Level Team Building and Coaching	

Guido serves on the board of directors for Rachel's Vineyard and has helped work on the national level. He also works as a support team member for the Doylestown, PA, retreat

site. Guido has a Bachelor's Degree in Chemical Engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University.

Susan Fetta

Susan Fetta has a 22-year career in education, adult learning theory, instructional design, and corporate training. In 1996, Susan transferred her skills into her own consulting company, Words of Wisdom Training, a company that designs programs to meet the specific needs and goals of for-profit and non-profit businesses and organizations. While specializing in trainer training, management and leadership development, communication skills, business writing, and media relations, Susan is also expert in needs analysis, group facilitation, organizational development, and quality systems management. Her client base ranges from small, local businesses to large, well-known corporations where she provides a variety of consulting services in various industries.



Susan attended a Rachel's Vineyard conference given by Dr. Theresa Burke in 1999 and began serving on team first at Mother's Home in Darby, PA, then at the Greater Philadelphia site in Frazer, PA. She currently serves as site leader of the Doylestown, PA, retreat site. Susan has been married to her husband, Guido, for 10 years. They enjoy working together in their professional businesses, Rachel's Vineyard Ministries, and in other church-related and community volunteer activities.

Susan has a BS in Education from Buffalo State College, an MA in Linguistics from The State University of New York at Buffalo, and she attended post-graduate studies in Linguistics and Folklore at Columbia University in NYC.

Fr. Peter Gelfer



Fr. Peter is a native of Long Island, NY. He is an identical twin and has four brothers and one sister. He is a member of the Brothers of St. John of God, an international health care community serving in 50 countries and in Southern California. Fr. Peter has served in various health care ministries, including as the chaplain of St. John's Regional Medical Center in Oxnard, California. Fr. Peter has also been hospice chaplain providing spiritual and bereavement ministry to the terminally ill and dying and is a certified Chaplain with the National Association of Catholic Chaplains. He also provides spiritual formation and leadership in his community for the past 44 years and has been ordained to the priesthood 28 years.

Fr. Peter helped start Rachel's Vineyard in Los Angeles, California and has mentored numerous Rachel's Vineyard sites.

Eugenia Hadley



Eugenia has counseled Hispanic people at Centro Tepeyac for 13 years, the last 5 in charge of post-abortion services and brought Rachel's Vineyard to five different countries: Spain, Uruguay, Puerto Rico, Ecuador, Mexico.

She has mentored the Spanish Rachel's Vineyard in Miami and New Jersey and has led the DC/MD team for the last 5 years. She presented Rachel's Vineyard at the International Pro Life Conference in Mexico City in 2007 and has written about counseling the Latina woman. She has spoken about the Hispanic Outreach at the Rachel's Vineyard Leadership Conference. She was interviewed about Rachel's Vineyard for a New Jersey catholic TV station and a DC catholic radio station, and most recently appeared on Fr. Victor Salomon's series on EWTN, "*Sanando las heridas del aborto*" (Healing the Wounds of Abortion).

Christin Jezak, MA



Christin Jezak

Christin Jezak- performed *Person-to-Person* for the Youth Festival of World Youth Day 08 in Sydney, Australia. She holds an M.A. in theatre from Villanova University, where she was seen in such plays as *The Tempest*, *Urinetown*, and *Our Town*. She has been experimenting with prayer based theatre for over five years. In 2003, she started a ministry called Immaculate Art Ministries, which toured Massachusetts and beyond. She earned her B.A. in theatre from Bridgewater State College and was seen in such roles as Bella from *Big Love* and Berta from *Pippin*. She strives to do theatre, which inspires, uplifts, and stirs society.

Christin will be performing her show, *Person- to- Person* at this year's conference.

Michelle Krystofik

Michelle has been working in the Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of Newark for the past 15 years. She currently serves as the Associate Director and she is the New Site Coordinator for Rachel's Vineyard National. She has planned and coordinated the annual Archdiocesan Pro-Life Seminars and post abortion healing priest and counselor training in the Archdiocese. Michelle has facilitated 46 Rachel's Vineyard retreats in the Archdiocese of Newark since October 1997 and has mentored many new Rachel's Vineyard sites across the country and particularly helping to establish new sites in the Dioceses of Camden, Patterson and Trenton. Michelle has helped coordinate the National Rachel's Vineyard Training Conferences and has presented workshops in Kearny, New Orleans, Oklahoma City and Malvern, PA.



Along with the former Director, Msgr. Richard McGuinness, Michelle has traveled internationally to help establish Rachel's Vineyard in Portugal, planting the vineyard so it can spread into Spain and other parts of Europe.

Prior to working in the Respect Life Office, Michelle worked for ten years as Secretary for the Archdiocese of Newark's Cursillo Movement. She has also been youth minister for St. John the Apostle Church, Linden for 13 years. Michelle is married for 36 years with two children and four grandchildren.

Msgr. Michael T. Mannion, S.T.L., M.A.



Msgr. Michael T. Mannion is the author of several books on abortion trauma and healing such as *Abortion and Healing - A Cry to the Whole* and *Spiritual Reflections of a Pro-Life Pilgrim* and has been involved with Rachel's Vineyard since its genesis, inspiring Dr. Theresa Burke to dive into post abortion healing ministry herself. Msgr. Mannion has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Mt. St. Paul College, a Baccalaureate in Sacred Theology Pontifical, a Licentiate in Sacred Theology, and a Masters degree in Youth Ministry and New Testament Scriptures.

Aside from his involvement in Rachel's Vineyard, Monsignor has also been heavily involved in youth ministry, founding Discovery Ministries and co-founding The Bridge, two groups dedicated to the spiritual enrichment of young people. He is also a founding board member of the National Office of Post-Abortion Reconciliation and Healing. In 2005 Msgr. Mannion was named chaplain to his Holiness by Pope Benedict XVI.

Msgr. Mannion has also ministered as chaplain for firemen, the DA's office and law enforcement in Camden, NJ.

Denise Rowinski Mengak, LCS, BCD

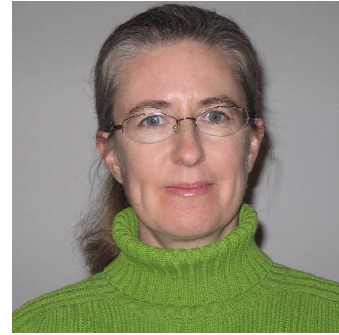
Denise Rowinski Mengak has been honored to coordinate the Rachel's Vineyard retreat ministry within the Diocese of Scranton, Pennsylvania since its inception in 2000. As a licensed clinical social worker, she supervises the Adult and Family Services counseling program of Catholic Social Services of Wyoming Valley located in Wilkes Barre, PA. Denise also coordinates Project Rachel services for the Diocese of Scranton, co-facilitates a regional Suicide Bereavement Support Group and lectures on eating



disorders, grief and post-traumatic stress. She love to sing and garden and resided with her beloved husband Paul, and their fur-bearing children on a mountaintop next to the Susquehanna River in northeastern Pennsylvania.

Monika Rodman Montanaro

From 1997-2007 Monika Rodman coordinated Rachel's Vineyard Retreats and Support Groups as part of the Project Rachel's-inspired ministry *After the Choice* in the Diocese of Oakland, California. Since then she married Domenico Montanaro and now lives in her husband's native Italy, where she serves as Rachel's Vineyard Site Coordinator for that country.



Janet A. Morana, PD



Janet A. Morana serves as the Executive Director of Priests for Life and the Co-Founder of the Silent No More Awareness Campaign, the world's largest mobilization of women and men who have lost children to abortion.

Mrs. Morana was born in Brooklyn, NY. She holds a degree in foreign languages and a Masters degree in Education, as well as a Professional Diploma in Reading.

Since 1989, Mrs. Morana has held various local and national leadership roles in the pro-life movement. She served on the board of the Staten Island Right to Life Committee. She ran for the New

York City Council on the Right-to-Life Line and received the largest percentage of votes of any Right to Life candidate in the Party's history.

She has assisted Fr. Frank Pavone, National Director of Priests for Life, since his ordination in 1988. She has traveled extensively throughout the country and the world, giving pro-life training seminars for clergy and laity, including at Pontifical universities in Rome, and representing Priests for Life at national and international pro-life conferences. She has helped coordinate relationships between pro-life organizations and the Vatican as well as the White House.

She is featured on Fr. Pavone's *Defending Life* television series on EWTN. She is the Co-host and Producer of the Gospel of Life series seen on Sky Angel Network. She is a weekly guest on EWTN Global Catholic Radio with Teresa Tomeo and numerous other media outlets.

Fr. Frank Pavone



Fr. Frank Pavone is one of the most prominent pro-life leaders in the world. Originally from New York, he was ordained in 1988 by Cardinal John O'Connor. He is a priest of the Amarillo Diocese and serves full-time in pro-life leadership with his bishop's permission. In 1993 he became National Director of Priests for Life. He is also the President of the National Pro-life Religious Council, and the National Pastoral Director of Rachel's Vineyard. He travels throughout the country, to an average of four states every week, preaching and teaching the pro-life message. He produces programs regularly for religious and secular radio and television networks. He was asked by Mother Teresa to speak in India on the life issues, and has addressed the pro-life caucus of the United States House of Representatives. He has served as an official of the Pontifical Council for the Family at the Vatican, which coordinates the pro-life activities of the Catholic Church.

Jim & Joy Pinto

Jim and Joy Pinto have lived and ministered the Gospel of Life throughout the nation beginning in their own home and community of Greater Birmingham.

They have dedicated their lives to Christ and to the least, proclaiming the sacredness and dignity of the human person from the moment of conception through natural death. Married over thirty years with four children and ten grandchildren, the Pinto's consider their marriage and family first priority in authenticating their faith in Christ and the Church. Jim serves as the Director of the Missionaries of the Gospel of Life Lay Association and is a Pastoral Associate of Priests for Life.



Cheryl Ryan



We are so pleased to be welcoming Cheryl as the Director of Interdenominational Worship for our 2009 Leadership Conference!

Cheryl is 62 years old and one of the founders of the local Pregnancy Helpline in Janesville, Wisconsin, which opened in June 1983. She serves as Counseling Director, and also facilitates for Interdenominational Rachel's Vineyard Retreats in Janesville, which began in 2003. She has counseled post-abortive women and men for over 25 years now. Over the years she has sat under the

personal teaching of some of the pioneers in post-abortion healing at Healing Visions Conferences, Ramah, and Victims of Choice. She is familiar with, and has used various Bible Studies for one-on-one counsel such as the P.A.C.E. program and Forgiven and Set Free.

Backing up a bit, she was born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and after college worked as a Licensed Practical Nurse. Later in life (when in her 40's) she was called into ministry. She served as a Licensed Pastor in the Free Methodist Church until the year 2001, having had a personal relationship with Jesus for over 30 years. Besides facilitating, she is also available for Pastoral Counsel on RVR weekends.

Cheryl and her husband Randall have been married for 40 years this year. They have four grown children, and 7 grandchildren who they delight in and spend a lot of time with.

Donetta Robben

Donetta Robben is the public relations director for Advantage Studio and Advertising. She is also the author of *Where is My Rainbow* and has spoken for conferences and events around the country regarding abortion and contraceptives. She, along with her husband of 33 years, coordinates Rachel's Vineyard Retreats of the Salina Diocese. They are also on the Salina Diocese Respect Life Commission, Immaculate Heart of Mary Respect Life Committee and are the pro-life chair couple for their local Knights of Columbus chapter. Donetta holds a master's degree in history and a bachelor's degree in communications with a journalism emphasis.



Fr. Victor Salomon



Fr. Victor Salomón was born in Venezuela and is a member of the Diocesan Laborer Priests, an organization that specializes in promoting and helping people in the discernment of their vocations.

He was ordained to the priesthood in 1998 in Caracas, Venezuela. He received a Bachelor in Sociology in 1992, a Bachelor in Theology in 1997, and a Sacred Theology Licentiate in 2004. Fr. Salomón was pastor of María Madre de la Iglesia from 1998 to 2001, and, from 2002 to 2005 he worked in priesthood formation. He also was member of the Diocesan Laborer Priests Council for Venezuela from 1998 until his move to USA in 2005.

Fr. Salomón is part of the team that organizes the Rachel Vineyard Retreats in Washington DC. He also celebrates Mass and attends cases in the Project Rachel's Office of the Archdiocese of Washington.

As a member of the Sol Vocational Institute, he teaches courses to promote vocations. Fr. Salomón is an expert in family communication and gives courses on enculturation for lay leaders. He has also given retreats for laity, seminarians, male and female religious and priests. He offers spiritual direction for singles and married couples and has experience in vocational discernment. He has also been a professor in theology in a variety of different fields.

Most recently, Father Victor taped a Spanish television series— "*Sanando las heridas del aborto*" (Healing the Wounds of Abortion)—for EWTN, which is slated to air in September of this year.

Kelly Smith

Kelly Smith is a recent graduate of DeSales University with a Bachelors of Arts in Marriage and Family Studies. Before joining the Rachel's Vineyard team she worked as a part time Foster Care Case Worker at Catholic Charities in Allentown, PA. She now works as an administrative assistant at the Rachel's Vineyard International Headquarters. She is also a part time Youth Minister at Most Blessed Sacrament Parish in Bally, PA.



Susan Swander, JD



Susan has attended two Rachel's Vineyard retreats for her own healing and the Rachel's Vineyard Living Forgiven retreat for alumni in Colorado. She is working with Lori Eckstine as part of the Oregon RV team and by July 2009 will hopefully have participated in ten retreats as part of the team. She presented a similar talk at the Oakland Conference in 2005.

Her post-abortion story is included in Barbara Horak's book *Real Abortion Stories: The Hurting and the Healing*. Two of her written pieces, "A Need for Compassion" and "Forgiven and Free", have been published in various media (online and print) over the last several years (e.g. Catholic Exchange website; Catholic magazine; Elliot Institute's Post- Abortion Review; Silent No More Awareness' website.) She has shared her P/A story with several different groups of people—a Cursillo meeting, a youth group, a CPC annual board meeting and a number of churches. Operation Outcry just taped her story for the Faces of Abortion TV project.

In February 2009, God willing, she will celebrate 24 years of continuous sobriety. She has shared her alcohol story numerous times as an AA main speaker and one-on-one. For

eight years, she has been one of the leaders of a weekly AA meeting for women in the local jail.

Her educational and work backgrounds include a B.A. in English Literature and a Juris Doctor. She has practiced law including trial work. In her current field of insurance, she presents seminars relevant to her work to various groups of professionals.

Betty Young

Betty Young will be leading our group through “***Devotion with Motion.***” As a devoted follower of yoga and its philosophies, Betty worked in a yoga studio, taught kid’s yoga and became certified as a yoga instructor. Betty learned invaluable lessons and was taught a tremendous amount about alignment, anatomy, focus and discipline among other things through the practice of yoga. However, once her heart returned to Jesus she was no longer comfortable living her life as a yoga practitioner.

After about a year she began to seek God’s wisdom about a Christian alternative to yoga. God surely never wastes anything. She sought the counsel of my wonderful minister and friend who told her, “Betty, stretching is not bad.” Soon after, she bought a sticky mat, took her Bible and a journal and “***Devotion with Motion***” was born.