

Pope St. John Paul II was the first Pope in the history of the Church to speak directly to women who were suffering from their experience of abortion. The mission of Project Rachel is summarized in his words of mercy and compassion in *Evangelium Vitae* (The Gospel of Life) n. 99:

“The wound in your heart may not yet have healed. Certainly what happened was and remains terribly wrong. But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope. Try rather to understand what happened and face it honestly. If you have not already done so, give yourselves over with humility and trust to repentance.

The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. To the same Father and his mercy you can with sure hope entrust your child.”