

You are Invited to Brunch at Madison Hotel

Joint Event to Benefit Mothers and Babies of New Jersey

The very special event is scheduled for 10:30 am next Sunday, November 10, co-sponsored by Good Counsel Homes and the Legal Center for Defense of Life. (More about them below.) Besides showing your support for these two organizations, you will find the event especially rewarding because the guest speaker is Austin Ruse, President of the **Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute**. Mr. Ruse does a super-hero's job at the United Nations, working with the Vatican and representatives of numerous nations to defend the dignity of human life in UN programs and policies. Besides, with our very own "jokester" Sean Flanagan as MC of the festivities, you are bound to have a great time.

As a fundraiser for the two organizations, reservations are \$65 per person, payable by credit card - call 201-795-0637, or email silvana_cowden@goodcounselhomes.org.

Many of us plan to attend the 9:00 am Mass here, and then go to the Madison Hotel for the brunch. If you need a lift, contact Barbara or Frank Tinari 973-822-0084.

"There's very little help for a mom with a child. That's what led us to eventually creating Good Counsel Homes."

Chris Bell, founder

Helping Moms and their Babies

Both Good Counsel Homes and the Legal Center for Defense of Life spring from the same Christian foundations: to provide assistance to those in need. **Good Counsel** operates five homes in NJ and NY, offering residential care and community-based services for homeless, expectant, and new mothers and their children in the context of the Catholic social tradition. The homes have become a lifeline to desperate women since they were founded in 1985.

Founder Chris Bell was living and working in Times Square in 1979, helping homeless and runaway kids. He was taken aback when he met young homeless mothers and their babies. A young woman asked him: Can you help me? That led Bell to discover what little was available in NY and led him to start Good Counsel Homes.

Headquartered in Morristown, the **Legal Center's**

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Parish Activities

■ Our annual parish pro-life **Poster Contest** is being offered to all 7th and 8th graders in Florham Park.

■ The Madison Hotel **Brunch** is scheduled for Sunday, November 10. (See story to the left.)

■ Plan your work and/or vacation schedule now for January 22nd when our **annual bus trip** to Washington, DC, is scheduled. As a recent Gospel reading emphasized, we must be persistent in our prayers and actions.

■ Six of our parishioners participated in the National Life Chain peaceful protest on October 6th.

■ On Oct. 20, numerous parishioners left baby items for the Holy Family Baby Shower. These were delivered to a Good Counsel home.

■ On Oct. 26-27, many parishioners purchased New Jersey Right to Life raffle tickets. Here's hoping one of our parishioners is the winner!

United Way?

Spread the pro-life and chastity messages

Do you give to United Way through your company? If so, consider allocating your United Way contribution to the following eligible pro-life educational organization:

*LIFENET - Public Education, PO Box 1800, Montclair 07042
Call Christine Flaherty (973-509-8123) for more info.*

What do the U.S.A., North Korea, Canada and China have in common?

Under their national laws, only these four allow abortion for any reason after fetal viability. The U.S. is also among only nine nations that allow abortion after 14 weeks.

According to liberals such as Laurence Tribe of Harvard Law School and Supreme Court Judge Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision in 1973 was not a "measured motion" because it was not in "dialogue with legislators."

This and other insights are found in a new book by Clarke D. Forsythe entitled **Abuse of Discretion: The Inside Story of Roe v. Wade**. (Encounter Books, 477 pp., \$28) In it, we learn how legislation in the U.S. rightly reflected advances in medical knowledge of the pre-born, that is, until *Roe v. Wade*. Now, states are taking the lead by adding reasonable abortion restrictions.

Helping Moms & Babies (continued from page 1)

services have included protecting the free-speech rights of pro-life demonstrators and sidewalk counselors, advising and representing pregnant mothers who are being coerced into abortion, defending the rights of the elderly and infirm, and assisting crisis pregnancy centers and shelter homes. The Legal Center has compiled an impressive list of published decisions in cutting-edge cases in both federal and state courts, including two opinions by Supreme Court Justice Scalia agreeing with Legal Center attorneys' arguments.

Our civil liberties, though enshrined in law, are sometimes abused by those in positions of power. Legal Center attorneys are volunteers whose belief in the sanctity of human life drives them to assist when abuse of power occurs.

As Catholics, we are blessed to have both Good Counsel Homes and the Legal Center for Defense of Life in our area. We urge every parishioner to assist them in any way you can.

Immoral to Buy Health Insurance Now?

The National Catholic Bioethics Center (NCBC) states that a person paying for insurance that includes immoral procedures (surgical sterilization, morning-after abortion pill, IUDs, and Ella (emergency contraception) could do so under protest, while always seeking alternatives. Subscribers would not be responsible for those persons who choose to use the procedures.

But for business owners who fund the medical insurance policies, it is a more serious moral burden. The NCBC says that they may find it best to discontinue providing health insurance to employees. (See www.ncbcenter.org)

The HHS Mandate represents coerced personal and institutional involvement in the commission of intrinsic evils. No person should ever be so coerced. The Mandate is an affront to every American. If the government's current attempt to coerce Americans into violating their most deeply held convictions doesn't breach their religious freedom, then nothing does. No individual or institution should have to worry about violating their conscience when they merely seek to safeguard the well being of themselves, their families, or their employees by purchasing health insurance.

Little Sisters of the Poor, an international order caring for needy elderly people, filed a lawsuit to challenge the HHS Mandate. The class action represents hundreds of Catholic groups and nonprofits who cannot comply with the mandate.

What exactly is "Love"?

The 'Theology of the Body' is Pope John Paul II's integrated vision of the human person - body, soul, and spirit. As he explains, the physical human body has a specific meaning and is capable of revealing answers regarding fundamental questions about us and our lives:

Is there a real purpose to life and if so, what is it?

Why were we created male and female? Does it really matter if we are one sex or another?

Why were man and woman called to communion from the beginning? What does the marital union of a man and woman say to us about God and his plan for our lives?

What is the purpose of the married & celibate vocations?

What exactly is "Love"?

Is it truly possible to be pure of heart?

For couples planning to have children:

Natural Family Planning Classes are offered in our Paterson Diocese. Call 973-777-8818, ext. 264, for info.

All of these questions and many more are answered in Pope John Paul II's reflections based on Scripture (especially the Gospels, St. Paul and the Book of Genesis), and contain a vision of the human person truly worthy of man.

The website www.TheologyOfTheBody.net, is dedicated to the promotion of the Pope's revolutionary and life-transforming message of hope that counteracts societal trends which urge us to view the body as an object of pleasure or as a machine for manipulation. He portrays a beautiful vision of sexuality in his Theology of the Body and other earlier works including Love and Responsibility. He encourages a true reverence for the gift of our sexuality and challenges us to live it in a way worthy of our great dignity as human persons. His theology is not only for young adults or married couples, but for all ages and vocations since it sums up the true meaning of the human person.

NOTE: another new book ***The Dark Night of the Body*** (www.BooksforCatholics.com) by Dr. Alice von Hildebrand addresses the theology of body and its relationship to intimacy, modesty, pornography, and sexuality.

Pope Francis in the news!

The media have been ecstatic over Pope Francis' interview remarks saying the Church cannot insist only on issues of abortion, gay marriage, etc. The next day, to put things in proper perspective, he told doctors that "the first right of the human person is his life."