Womankind is in need of volunteers to pick up and deliver lab work to St. Vincent Charity Medical Center on Tuesday mornings. Must have valid driver’s license and use your own car.

Contact
For Life is a quarterly publication and educational service of the Office for Human Life of the Diocese of Cleveland.

Office for Human Life
7911 Detroit Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44102
(216) 334-2965
pmgerovac@clevelandcatholiccharities.org
www.ccdocle.org/office-human-life

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✓ Posts on diocesan, local, national, and international items of interest
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If you would like to receive more periodic E-mails to keep you up to date...
Please send your e-mail address to:
jmuscatello@clevelandcatholiccharities.org

Womankind Maternal and Prenatal Care Center

New Volunteer Information Sessions

Thursday, November 6th 10-11 a.m. and 5-6 p.m.

To register for either session, or for more information, please contact Dianna or JoAnn at 216-662-5700.

Volunteer Lab Couriers Needed

Soccer Legend Ronaldo is Alive Thanks to a Conscientious Objector Physician

Mother of Talented Portuguese Soccer Player Says She Would Have Aborted Him But for Refusal of Her Doctor

ROME, July 22, 2014 (ZENIT.org) - Seventy individual prizes, among which are two Gold Balls and a FIFA World Player, a jubilee of trophies won with the jerseys of Sporting Lisbona, Barcelona United and Real Madrid.

No small merit for these achievements is owed to an unknown Portuguese doctor. Small and fragile is the vulnerable body that grows day by day in the womb of a woman, but great is the noble gesture of one who carries out his work with professionalism and faith and thus succeeds in saving a human life from abortion.

Back in 1984, the life that this man saved was that of Cristiano Ronaldo, one of the most prolific soccer players in terms of achievement in recent years. It was the mother herself of the star player of Real Madrid and the Portuguese national side who revealed the behind-the-scene action in her autobiography Mother Courage.

A rather delicate behind-the-scenes story, which his mother decided to publish after being authorized by her son Cristiano, who today even has the strength to joke about it: “See, mother, you wanted to abort me and now it is I who hold the purse strings at home,” and to think that the temptation to end the pregnancy stemmed in fact from economic difficulties. If that doctor had not been faithful to his oath and, therefore, firm in his opposition to abortion, today the soccer world would have one star less in its firmament. And to look at the firmament, we know, we must look up. This is why conscientious objection is always a gesture that looks on high.

We Use Recycled Paper
“Bloodshed is the continued legacy of indifference,” the pope said. Being indifferent began with Cain murdering his brother Abel and then rebuking God for asking where his now-dead brother was, replying, “Am I my brother’s keeper?” Above the tombs of so many dead, Pope Francis said, “hovers the sneering motto of war” — Cain’s complaint of “What do I care?”

“All these people, here in eternal rest, they had plans, had dreams, but their lives were broken. Why? Because humanity said, ‘What do I care?’”

And like Cain, their hearts have become so corrupt, “they’ve lost the ability to cry,” much less do what Jesus asks — to help the sick, the wounded and the hungry, the pope said.

The pope asked people to pray that their heart be transformed from one that has stopped caring to one that can weep “for all those who have fallen in useless massacres, for all the victims of the insanity of war of every era. Tears. Brothers and sisters, humanity needs to cry, this is the moment to cry.”

You have talents and wisdom far beyond your years. I don’t think you realize this. That is my job. You have enthusiasm for science, word play in poetry, and mythical creatures. I can’t teach creativity and passion. You got it. Others may brush you off. There he goes again. I smile. You were given a window into this world that not a lot of us have. You have the power to get so wrapped up in what interests you the rest of the world disappears.

Throughout the day students see how special you are to me. I model how to treat you with respect and dignity. I model how to talk to and appreciate you. Your classmates observe and follow my lead. The classroom wouldn’t be the same without you. There would be a void. Too quiet. Too blah. We need you in our patchwork. I see your classmates look out for you. I see protectiveness grow. We are a unit and team. We have your back.

You have your days when the tears come fast. When you blink rapidly and try to stand strong. These are the days when you have missed the social cues. Social cues. Little things we take for granted that are land mines for you. I assure you. I remind you of powerful affirmations you can repeat. Take deep breaths. I listen and help you to navigate the confusion. I try to provide the best Cliff Notes I can so that in the future, an encounter with your peer may come easier.

Thank you for your honesty. Your bluntness. Thank you for coloring outside the metaphorical lines. Thank you for being in my class. My heart has grown so fond of you. You push me to be a better and more patient teacher. You make me laugh. There are times when you say things and I shouldn’t laugh. But I can’t hold it in. You make me laugh so hard that it echoes off the walls of our classroom and fills the hearts of all my students. My mission every day is to make you smile. You approach life with a forrowed brow and seriousness. I make little silly sounds and shoot funny faces just for you to see. I send you a wink. If I am lucky, for a brief moment, I see the glimmer in your eye. Maybe we have connected.

I am your teacher, and I will fight for you every day. I just see you. Thank you for being you.

Love,

Your Teacher

Dear Child with Autism....

You brighten each and every day. You may not know this but I look forward to school because of you. I know school is hard. Every day I see the worry on your face.

Daily changes throw you off-course. You worry. About yourself. You worry because you have no friends. No one invites you to their birthday party. You worry about the weather. In a drought will the animals suffer? You obsess.

You have talents and wisdom far beyond your years. I don’t think you realize this. That is my job. You have enthusiasm for science, word play in poetry, and mythical creatures. I can’t teach creativity and passion. You got it. Others may brush you off. There he goes again. I smile. You were given a window into this world that not a lot of us have. You have the power to get so wrapped up in what interests you the rest of the world disappears.

Throughout the day students see how special you are to me. I model how to treat you with respect and dignity. I model how to talk to and appreciate you. Your classmates observe and follow my lead. The classroom wouldn’t be the same without you. There would be a void. Too quiet. Too blah. We need you in our patchwork. I see your classmates look out for you. I see protectiveness grow. We are a unit and team. We have your back.

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Love,

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Slavery deals a murderous blow to this fundamental fraternity, and so to peace as well. Peace can only exist when each human being recognizes every other person as a brother or sister with the same dignity.

Shamefully, individuals and groups around the world profit from this slavery. They take advantage of the world’s many conflicts, of the economic crisis and of corruption in order to carry out their evil.

Slavery is a terrible open wound on the contemporary social body, a fatal running sore on the flesh of Christ!

Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God’s creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.”

Pope Francis’ Day for Life Greeting

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — When will people ever learn that war is madness and conflicts are only resolved by forgiveness, Pope Francis asked.

The pope said it is believed that more than 8 million soldiers and 7 million civilians died during World War I — a four-year-long conflict that began 100 years ago.

“Greed, intolerance, a lust for power, these are the reasons that incite decisions to go to war,” he said.

Also, “behind the scenes, there are special interests, geopolitical plots, lust for money,” he said, as well as the powerful arms industry.

Continued...
This year during Respect Life Month, we have two new very special feast days to celebrate. Pope Francis has decreed that October 11th is the feast day for St. John XXIII and October 22nd for St. John Paul II. The Holy Father stated in his decree, "Taking into consideration the countless requests from every part of the world," he took "as his own, the unanimous wishes of the people of God."

It seems that many people around the world requested official feast days for these two recently canonized saints. So now, these two champions for life can be special advocates for us as we go about our prayer and activities during Respect Life Month.

Two very important documents for the Church, for the world, and for a “Culture of Life” were written by these holy men. John XXIII wrote Pacem in Teris (Peace on Earth) as his last encyclical before his death. John Paul II wrote Evangelium Vitae (The Gospel of Life.)

In Pacem in Teris, St. John wrote that conflicts "should not be resolved by recourse to arms, but rather by negotiation". He further emphasizes the importance of respect of human rights as an essential consequence of the Christian understanding of human life. John XXIII said, "...That every [one] has the right to life, to bodily integrity, and to the means which are suitable for the proper development of life..."

John Paul II’s encyclical Evangelium Vitae, the introduction states that “every person sincerely open to truth and goodness can, by the light of reason and hidden action of grace, come to recognize in the natural law, written in the heart, the sacred value of human life from its very beginning until its end, and can affirm the right of every human being to have this primary good respected to the highest degree.”

How wonderful that we the Church in United States, as we celebrate Respect Life Month, are graced with these feast days to add to our prayer and reflection. The feast days of these two Shepherds who truly knew and taught about the value of each and every life, offer the opportunity to focus our attention during the liturgies of the day. The feasts can also inspire us to gather knowledge from the encyclicals. We may also pray for their intercession on all our acts of mercy and evangelization to spread this beautiful message of the Culture of Life to our Church and world.

When the road gets hard, and we know celebrating life is not always welcomed in a world that sees death as an answer to conflict, we can thank Pope Francis for helping us focus on the beautiful teaching and inspiration Saint John XXIII and Saint John Paul II. By naming October 11th and 22nd their Feast Days, we are honored and blessed to include them in our personal and public journeys toward building respect for every human life.

Peggy Gerovac
LET US PRAY...

Written by The Most Reverend Richard G. Lennon, Bishop Diocese of Cleveland, on behalf of 40 Days for Life Campaign

Almighty God, as people of faith we are always reminded of Your great love for us and for every individual You created. Yet our hearts are heavy as we mourn the unborn who have not had the opportunity to live full lives.

We mourn the loss of our sisters and brothers who were denied the gift of life through abortion.

We also mourn the loss of their gifts to the world, which would have enriched the lives of so many.

During these 40 Day of the Prayer Campaign for Life our prayer is for a conversion of heart for all who contribute to the act of abortion. We pray that they may grow to appreciate God’s life in the womb and His love for all who share in His life. We also pray for the conversion of our own hearts so that we may be worthy instruments for God’s love for others by what we say and do. May God bless all who are dedicated to protecting all human life from conception to natural death.

May their efforts be strengthened by this time of prayer and fasting.

40 Days for Life Fall Campaign
September 24—November 2 2014

40 Days for Life is a national program of prayer, fasting and peaceful vigils. Learn more about this program or sign up for a vigil time at: www.40daysforlife.com/cleveland or call 216.245.9744

Kick-off Rally at St. Columbkille Church
September 23, 2014, 7:00 p.m.
Sign up for one hour or commit to praying Weekly www.40daysforlife.com

Family Planning
Location: 54 S. State Street, Painesville
Location Contact: Renee 440.520.3493
Schedule Online: www.40daysforlife.com/painesville

Preterm
Location: 12000 Shaker Blvd., Cleveland
Location Contact: Peggy 216.382.9170
Schedule Online: www.40daysforlife.com/cleveland

Planned Parenthood
Location: 25350 Rockside Road
Location Contact: John 216-641-6587
Schedule Online: www.40daysforlife.com/bedfordheights

Please help spread the word about this important community outreach. For more information and to volunteer to help, please contact: John Noall @ 216.245.9744 or via email at: clevelandpraysforlife@gamil.com.
**Respect Life Events 2014**

**September 27, 2014**
Cleveland Pregnancy Center
Walk for Life
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Nike Park, 11828 W. Pleasant Valley Road, Parma
Register at: cpcevent.org or call 216-631-0964

**October 3, 2014**
LifeWorks Ohio
...The Choose Life! Banquet & Fundraiser
Speaker: Sam Rutigliano
Windows, 200 Sycamore Street, Cleveland

**October 4, 2014**
37TH ANNUAL WALK OF HOPE
FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
OLA/ST. JOSEPH CENTER IN TREMONT
2346 West 14th Street, Cleveland

Registration Begins at 8:30 a.m.
Enjoy a 2 mile walk through Tremont
Special Walk around Lincoln Park at 11:00 a.m.
No Registration Fee/No Minimum Donation
For Information contact 216.334-2963 or mjscott@clevelandcatholiccharities.org

**October 4, 2014**
Rosary for Life

St. Andrew’s Abbey, 2900 Martin Luther King Dr., Cleveland
8:30 a.m. confession followed by
9:15 Mass for the Unborn
After Mass everyone will reassemble on the sidewalk in front of Preterm abortion facility at 12000 Shaker Blvd.
Note, all other Saturdays in Saturdays, Prayer Services will begin at 9:30 a.m. in front of Preterm

**October 5, 2014**
St. Ladislas Parish
2345 Bassett Road
Westlake, Ohio
Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction
12:00 Noon — 3:30 p.m.
Closing Benediction 3:30 — 4:00 p.m.

Please direct any questions to Bob Bernath @ 440-250-0514 or rbernath4173@wowway.com

**Life Chain Events**
**Sunday, October 5, 2014**

**Lake County’s 21st Annual Life Chain**
1:30 to 2:30
At the intersection of Route 20 (Mentor Ave.) and Route 306 (Reynolds Rd.)
Mentor, Ohio
Immaculate Conception
Pro-Life Commission
(Contact Jean @440-942-7906)

1:00 to 2:00
Cleveland/East—Scared Heart of Jesus
Please gather at Scared Heart of Jesus Parish 1545 S. Green Rd., South Euclid
At 12:45 p.m. for a peaceful and prayerful public witness at the intersection of Mayfield Rd. and S. Green Rd. Signs will be provided.

2:00 to 3:30
Suburban West/Right to Life
20800 Center Ridge Road
(across from Westgate Mall)
Questions: Call 440.331.2602

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# Respect Life Events 2014

## October 7, 2014

Catholic Students for Peace & Justice

Annual Respect Life Mass at the Cathedral of Saint John followed by a Public Witness on Public Square

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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## October 10, — October 11, 2014

St. Mary’s Church, 250 Kraft Street, Berea

Respect Life Mass & All-Night Adoration

Beginning @ 7:00 p.m, concluding @ 8:00 a.m.

with a Closing Benediction

All are encouraged to come and pray at any time throughout the night!

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## October 12, 2014

Holy Rosary Church

12021 Mayfield Road, Cleveland

An Afternoon of Prayerful Remembrance & Intercession including Eucharistic Adoration, intercessory prayer and the rosary, personal testimonies, Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Celebrant Most Reverend Roger Gries

For more information, please contact Tammy Moore, Family Ministry @ 216.421-2995 ext 18

Or via e-mail: tmoore@holy-rosary.org

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## October 18, 2014

Womankind 19th Annual Hearts and Hands Luncheon

Author/Speaker Maria Isabella

The Country Club

2825 Lander Rd., Pepper Pike

Doors open at 10:30 a.m. Luncheon at Noon

Contact 216.662.5700 for more information

www.womankindcleveland.com

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## October 23, 2014

St. Joseph Parish

32929 Lake Road, Avon Lake

Be Not Afraid—Evening of Hope

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. in the Social Hall

Speakers include:
- Patrick J. Perotti, Esq.
- Ed Wacker, Lorain Right to Life
- James Matheson, OB/GYN
- Stephanie Koebel, Dir. of Birthright of Lorain

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## October 17—18, 2014

Healing Retreat

Loyola Retreat House

700 Killinger Road, Clinton, Ohio

Private weekend of healing facilitated by Bethesda House of Mercy.

For more information contact 1-800.482.4100 or email: BethesdsaHouse@aol.com

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## October 25, 2014

Ohio Fair Trade Expo

October 25, 2014

John Carroll University

University Heights, Ohio

Marketplace — Food — Speakers

Free Admission 9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

Learn More & Register At:

ohiofairtrade.com