

January 4, 2023 For Immediate Release Contact: Frank Gonzales, fgonzales@prolifedallas.org

Rachel's Vineyard[™] Retreat Dallas Celebrates 75th Retreat in English

The Catholic Pro-Life Community is proud to announce the completion of the 75th Rachel's Vineyard[™] Retreat in English. The retreat, which took place November 18-20, 2022, offers a pathway to forgiveness and healing, helping the suffering soul heal by finding a voice, and transforming the pain of the past into hope for the future.

The Director of the Healing After Abortion Ministry at the Dallas Pro-Life Community, Eileen Kuhlmann, said of the achievement, "RVR Dallas is considered a leader in the world in these healing retreats as we were one of the first to offer these weekends, and the first to offer them in Spanish. So, it is a triumphant moment to reach seventy-five retreats in English!"

The Rachel's Vineyard[™] Retreat was started in 1995 by Dr. Theresa Burke, the founder of Rachel's Vineyard Ministries. The first Dallas retreat in English was in 1999. The retreats in Spanish began in 2003 and over fifty have taken place. Since its initial retreat in Dallas, around 75-80 people a year have come to seek healing after having been involved in an abortion decision and who have remained with that footprint of regret on their hearts.

Kuhlmann continues, "Every Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat is a profound journey for any person, woman or man, who struggles with the emotional and spiritual pain caused by abortion, where they can experience the mercy and compassion of God. We pride ourselves in taking the utmost care to ensure a safe and

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confidential place is offered to renew, rebuild, and redeem hearts broken by losses due to abortion decisions."

Geralyn Kaminsky, Executive Director of the Catholic Pro-Life Community praises the continued success of the Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat and its lasting impact in the community. "As the Respect Life Ministry of the Diocese of Dallas, we are blessed to have offered these healing retreats for 23 years and look forward to even more opportunities to serve those whose hearts and lives have been shattered by their loss due to an abortion decision."

Retreatants are welcomed with compassion and no judgement as their stories unfold and how their decision has affected them in so many ways. The retreats allow them to be surrounded by those who have walked in similar shoes, as well as those who are footsteps ahead and have received their healing and have returned to serve them. They encounter mental health professionals and clergy on retreat desiring nothing more than to help them see clearly, to see their own lives with compassion and to help them know they are loved and not alone.

Future Rachel's Vineyard[™] Retreats in Dallas will take place in English on March 17-19, August 4-6, and November 3-5, 2023. Retreats in Spanish will take place the weekends of February 24-26, June 23-25, and October 20-22. Rachel's Vineyard[™] retreats are for both women and men. Project Joseph[©] Retreats, which are an outreach specifically to men suffering from abortion, are also held in English August 26-27 and in Spanish on September 23-24.

Kuhlmann concludes, "God is always ready to heal broken hearts shattered by abortion decisions. People are seeking that healing, and as director, I stand with my team always keenly aware of what an honor, privilege, and a joy it is to walk on sacred ground with those who seek healing and shine our lights on their path until they can clearly see His light once again."

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For more information or for confidential inquiries on Rachel's Vineyard[™] Retreats go to <u>www.Racheldallas.org</u>. Project Joseph[©] Retreat information and confidential inquiries can be found at <u>www.Projectjosephdallas.org</u>. Contact <u>www.prolifedallas.org</u> or call (972) 267-LIFE (5433) to reach the Healing After Abortion Ministry of the Catholic Pro-Life Community.

The Catholic Pro-Life Community, the Respect Life Ministry of the Diocese of Dallas commissioned in 1993, is devoted to ending abortion and restoring respect and legal protection for every human life. The CPLC carries out this mission through life-saving ministries serving the public with supportive services for mothers and their children, education and advocacy on life issues and women's health, and abortion aftercare. The CPLC has been called the largest and most effective diocesan pro-life organization in the world and a model for the nation.

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