

Culture of Life Newsletter



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Mother Teresa addresses the crowd of thousands by video in 1993 at the opening mass of the 25th Anniversary of *Humanae Vitae* in Omaha, Neb. See transcript of video on page 2.

Remembering Mother Teresa By Dr. Thomas W. Hilgers

ON SEPTEMBER 4TH, the Catholic Church will pay homage to an extraordinary woman whose life exemplified Christ’s call to compassion and service to others when Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) is canonized a Saint. She joins another modern apostle of mercy — St. John Paul the Great — to be canonized in recent years.

It is quite rare for the Church to declare sainthood in such a short period after one’s death, but as many of us know, these two saints were rare themselves, both in their faith and their ability to discern the signs of the times. In his landmark encyclical *Humanae Vitae*, Pope Paul VI reminded us that the Church is

a “sign of contradiction” to a society that seeks answers in technological, medical and other “advancements,” some of which oppose natural and moral law.

In an age when these advancements grew at unprecedented rates, both St. John Paul the Great and the soon-to-be St. Teresa of Calcutta were clear voices for those marginalized as a result of these advancements.

In 1978, I had the pleasure of meeting Mother Teresa. Years later, in 1993, Mother Teresa accepted our invitation to speak at the Institute’s 25th anniversary celebration of the publication of *Humanae Vitae*. While health reasons prevented Mother Teresa from attending the celebration, she

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Mother Teresa's Video Message to the Institute



Humanae Vitae clearly expresses the mind and will of God about marriage. It reminds us of the beauty of married love in God's plan as an expression of total self-giving and helps us to accept the child as the fruit of that love. The child is a birth gift of God to the family. Contraception can not be an expression of total self-giving because in contraception, something is done to one's self to destroy the bond to conceive a child. Contraception is "yes" to selfishness and "no" to true love because contraception is something done to one's self, turns the attention to one's self. The same selfishness that wants to prevent the child by contraception will grow until it wants to kill the child already conceived. We must fight selfishness with the true generous and self-sacrificing love. Every child at his very conception is created for greater things: to love and to be loved. That is why we must protect life. To destroy the life of the child is to destroy the presence of God in the world. The greatest destroyer of peace in the world today is abortion.

My prayer for you is that you grow in that tender love for each other by praying together by loving each other by helping each other to grow in Holiness. Holiness is not the luxury of the few. It is the simple beauty for you and for me that Jesus has said "Be ye holy, like the father in heaven is holy."

— Message from Mother Teresa at the 25th Anniversary of *Humanae Vitae* in Omaha, Neb. See the full video at popepaulvi.com/motherteresa.

MOTHER TERESA

CANONIZATION SEPT. 4, 2016

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Dr. Hilgers (right) meets Mother Teresa in 1978.

addressed the crowd by video (the entirety of which you can access at the Pope Paul VI Institute website popepaulvi.com/motherteresa).

As was the case when Pope John Paul II was canonized, the Institute feels blessed knowing that yet again another of its strong supporters is being declared a saint. As I have shared so many times before, in our work, we meet great opposition from mainstream medicine and a culture of death that seeks to expand abortion, contraception, sterilization and in-vitro fertilization without limits. The

upcoming canonization provides both encouragement and further validation for our work. Like Mother Teresa of Calcutta, the Pope Paul

VI Institute seeks to serve as a sign of contradiction.

To be clear, at the Institute we don't operate to simply oppose mainstream medicine. Instead, we seek to build a culture of life, where

women and families find healing within God's design for human reproduction and sexuality.

Mother Teresa of Calcutta once said "We must remember that life begins at home and we must also remember that the future of humanity passes through the family."

As the Pope Paul VI Institute continues to build a culture of life in

women's reproductive health care, we thank you, our supporters, for standing as a sign of contradiction with us.

The fruit of prayer is deepening of faith and we will believe, and if we believe we will love, and if we really love we will be able to go and proclaim the good news to the poor — through works of love — that are always works of peace.

May you grow in the knowledge of the faith taught by Christ through His Church and so become holy as your heavenly Father is holy.

*God bless you
All Teresa me*

From Mother Teresa's letter in advance of the Institute's 25th Anniversary of *Humanae Vitae*.

Visiting seminarians from the Institute for Priestly Formation

Every year, the Pope Paul VI Institute invites seminarians from the Institute of Priestly Formation (IPF) to tour our facility and learn more about our work.

For over 20 years, the Institute for Priestly Formation has been assisting bishops in the spiritual formation of diocesan seminarians and priests in the Roman Catholic Church. You can learn more about their work at priestlyformation.org.



Seminarians from the Institute of Priestly Formation tour the Institute with Sister Renée Mirkes and Sue Hilgers.

Fellows Graduation

On July 22, 2016, our three St. John Paul the Great Fellows for 2015–2016 concluded their Fellowship with presentations of their research to the faculty and staff of the Institute.

The presentations shown were: “Endometriosis and Spontaneous Abortions: Is there an Association?” from Dr. Kathleen McGlynn, “Accurate Identification of Endometriosis: A Retrospective Review of Histologic Examination” by Dr. Melissa Taavola, and “Trigger injections for the management of luteinized unruptured follicles — a retrospective chart review” by Dr. Alexis Simon.

Congratulations, Fellows! We will miss you.



Dr. Kathleen McGlynn, Dr. Melissa Taavola, Dr. Thomas W. Hilgers, Sue Hilgers, and Alexis Simon.

AAFCP Annual Meeting

At the end of July, the Pope Paul VI Institute presented at the AAFCP Annual Meeting last week at the University of Notre Dame. It was a unique chance to hear presentations from a variety of speakers.

The four Co-Developers were awarded lifetime certification by the AAFCP Commission on Certification at the closing banquet on Saturday night, and Dr. Hilgers was presented with an award for his 15 years service as founding FCCA President by the FCCA Board of Directors (above right).



2016 SUMMER INTERNS

Meet the Future of NaProTechnology



Above: The 2016 Summer Interns at the Pope Paul VI Institute (left to right)

Helen Ohaeri will be entering her second year of medical school this fall at Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. “I think that my time at the Pope Paul VI Institute is incredibly important in helping me to understand how to meet the challenge of imbalance in health equity in our culture, and exercise orthodoxy to my Catholic faith in how I am able to contribute to health equity.”

Peter Yang is a native of southern California and is a second-year medical student at Creighton University. “My favorite part of the internship was definitely learning more about the Creighton model ... My hope is that more and more people become aware that such a method exists as it has such potential to change lives for the better.”

Nicole Clemen is a junior at the University of South Dakota who is majoring in Medical Biology. “The internship sparked the idea of writing my honors thesis on treatment of infertility ... Pope Paul VI has an amazing foundation in truly addressing infertility.”

Julia Hemman is a Senior at Benedictine College in Atchison KS, majoring in Pre-Medical Biology. “Our Projects this summer have included research into sociologic trends since 1960 and trends in women’s Health care,” she says. “We have helped to look at Ovarian Cysts Treatment at PPVI, Ovulation Patterns, use of Progesterone treatment, use of Cerclages in pregnancy.”

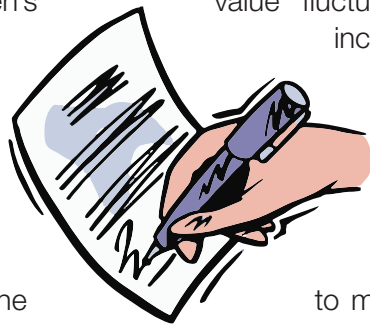
“I am thankful to Dr. Thomas Hilgers for inviting me to share your joy and your hope.”

— Mother Teresa in her video address at the 25th Anniversary of Humanae Vitae

Our Gratitude for your Will Bequest

FROM TIME TO TIME, the Pope Paul VI Institute receives notice that one of our faithful supporters has left us a share of their estate. These bequests come just when we need the funds to carry on the important work of building a culture of life in women’s healthcare. At these times, we experience a great sense of thankfulness to the thoughtful people who make these charitable gifts. We want to take the opportunity to say thank you now to those who have already made provisions in their wills to list the Pope Paul VI Institute as a beneficiary to their estate.

To make a charitable bequest, you need a current or revocable



living trust. Your gift can be made as a percentage of your estate, or you can make a specific bequest by giving a certain amount of cash, securities or property. After your lifetime, the Pope Paul VI Institute receives your gift. As an estate’s value fluctuates over the years, including a bequest of a percentage of your estate ensures that your gift will remain proportionate.

To implement your good intentions to make a bequest to the Pope Paul VI Institute, contact your attorney for legal advice. Also, if you have any questions we can answer, please contact Maureen Karpf at (402) 505-8945 or maureen.karpf@popepaulvi.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS



EDUCATION PROGRAMS

These programs work to produce highly-educated professionals who empower women and couples seeking these services in their communities.

- **Class 39, Omaha, NE USA:**
EP I Oct. 1–8, 2016,
EP II April 1–8, 2017
- **Love & Life Unlimited Conference, Omaha, NE USA:**
Oct. 3–7, 2016
April 3–7, 2017
- **Mexico City EP II: Sept. 5–10, 2016**
Mexico City EP I: Feb. 11–18, 2017

Learn more online
popepaulvi.com/events