

Dear Friends

Welcome to the September issue of *Life and Family Issues*, a collaboration between the [Queensland Bioethics Centre](#) and [JPPII Centre for Family and Life](#), agencies of the Archdiocese of Brisbane. Articles are selected from information we receive and which we hope are of interest to you. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Queensland Bioethics Centre or the JPPII Centre.

Is fear of nursing homes a reason for Dutch Euthanasia

Michael Cook: A Dutch euthanasia clinic is being investigated for helping an elderly woman to die because she did not want to live in a nursing home. This is the second time in four months that the [Levensindekliniek](#) (End of Life Clinic) in The Hague has been reprimanded. (BioEdge)

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Christian Motherhood

Carrie McCormack: The transition into motherhood is an epic adventure. Whether you've always wanted to be a mother or not, the real-life stakes of parenting are high. I liken the impact of being pregnant and childbirth to "bodyline", a term used in cricket in the day of Don Bradman. "Bodyline" was considered by many to be intimidating and physically threatening. (The Catholic Leader)

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Cool heads are needed on the abortion-breast cancer link

David Van Gend: A Mexican wave of moral indignation swept through the chattering class this month in Australia when the hypothesis was raised of a link between abortion and breast cancer. We heard, in shrill tones, that claims of such a link are "factually incorrect" (blogger Mia Freedman), "absurd" (Simon Breheny of the IPA) and even "an insult to all women" (Greens MP Adam Bandt). With the arrival this week of breast surgeon and cancer researcher Dr Angela Lanfranchi to speak to this hypothesis, we can expect a resurgence of this rage. (Mercatornet)

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Baby Gammy has shown the need for debate on surrogacy

Renate Klein: As the fallout from baby Gammy continues and Thailand moves to make commercial surrogacy illegal, calls are intensifying for Australia to legalise paid surrogacy with a 'carefully designed system' as columnist Julie Szego proposed on these pages last week. (Canberratimes.com.au)

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Teaching your kids to be happy

Tamara Rajakariar: Let's face it - kids are meant to be happy and full of life, but all too often these days we come across little ones that are sulky, moody, and just keen to get back on their mum's iPad. Not ideal! So when I came across this Time article about happiness, I thought it had some good ideas that could be worth taking on and instilling in your children. There are the usual ones like learning to give, but here are a few more (Family Edge)

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Australian participants hope synod on family will show a better way

Peter Bugden: Australians invited to the extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family are not hoping for changes in Church teaching, but for better ways to spread its message of love and compassion and to pastorally support families. (The Catholic Leader)

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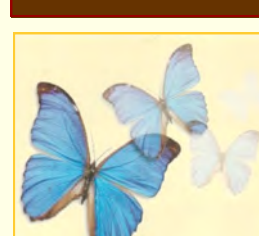
Fathers and families: their impact on a child's development

Fr John Flynn LC: Fathers play a vital role in the upbringing of their children, different from that of a mother, according to a recent book that examines a variety of scientific evidence. (Zenit.org)

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Walking with Love
alternatives to abortion
and responses to abortion



Date Claimers

Aria Angels

Music, art, hospitality and prayer! These 90 minute sessions are an excellent opportunity to develop the social, emotional, spiritual, physical and intellectual domains of children through music, art, hospitality and prayer. For children birth - 5 years with parents, grandparents, caregivers and friends. Cost: \$5.00 per family each week, see dates and locations below. **Please phone to enrol:**

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish: 9.30-11.00am Wednesdays during school term

121 Mains Road, Sunnybank. Contact: Parish Office: 3345 3766

St Matthew's Parish: 9.00-10.30am Thursdays during school term

180 Bryants Road, Loganholme. Contact: Parish Office: 38011 626

St Rita's Parish: 9.00-10.30am Wednesdays during school term

37 Benfer Road, Victoria Point. Contact: Parish Office: 3207 9177 or email

pa.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au

Mothers Prayers

Wednesdays at 9.00am and Thursdays 9.30am

Mothers, grandmothers and spiritual mothers are invited to Mothers Prayers at St Rita's Parish, 37 Benfer Road, Victoria Point. Contact: Parish Office 07 32079177 or email

pa.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au

Pro Life Procession

Third Saturday of each month.

The Pro Life Procession incorporates prayer and action to end abortion. Prayer for the unborn, their parents and abortuary workers begins with mass at 6.30am at St Brigid's, 78 Musgrave Road, Red Hill, then gathering at Roma Street Parkland for procession. Further information:

www.prolifeprocession.org

Worldwide Marriage Encounter:

A weekend away for married couples in peaceful, picturesque surroundings - away from the distractions of everyday living. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . your Marriage! This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again!

Weekend date: 31st Oct - 2nd Nov 2014

Venue: Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston QLD (on Brisbane's bayside)

For bookings/details contact: Tamara and Scott Menteith, ph (07) 4634 3559,

stjmen@aapt.net.au Information website: www.wwme.org.au

Children First Program 2014

The Children First programme is an educative, peer support programme offered by Centacare Catholic Family and Relationship Services for children who are experiencing the separation or divorce of their parents. The programme is designed to assist children adjust to the change in their family situation, to understand that they are not alone in this experience, to clarify and manage their feelings in relation to the changes that have occurred, to strengthen their self-esteem and to gain a realistic picture of their new family situation. Through practical and sensitive activities, children are helped through this often painful transition with support, care and encouragement. The programme caters for young people aged between 5 - 13 years. Children are grouped in small, age appropriate groups where they work with an experienced facilitator.

The next Centacare FRS Children First programme is a school holiday programme and runs from Monday September 29th to Friday October 3rd 2014 from 10am- 12midday. For more information

please call Centacare FRS on 07 3252 4371 or email

cfrs.fvadmin@bne.centacare.net.au

Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass

Saturday 4th October 2014

Couples celebrating 50 years or more of marriage together with family and friends are invited to attend. Mass will be followed by refreshments in the Hanly Room, Francis Rush Centre.

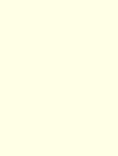
RSVP: Cathedral of St Stephen - cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au by Wednesday 1 October 2014.

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The Queensland Bioethics Centre is now on Facebook! [Click here to visit our page](#), and remember to 'like' the page to keep updated on current news, articles and events to do with bioethics in Brisbane, Australia and around the world.

