

## Dear Friends

Welcome to the November 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.

### The trouble with surrogacy on Religion and Ethics Report

Andrew West interviews Margaret Somerville: It's a business worth billions, based on the deepest longing of many couples to have a child they can't conceive naturally. But is commercial surrogacy not just an ethical minefield but a denial of human rights? (Radio National)

[Listen>>](#)

### Lord's Prayer in parliament a good reminder of work beyond politics

Emilie Ng: PRAYING the Lord's Prayer in Queensland Parliament would remind politicians of a higher calling beyond politics, Brisbane Archbishop Mark Coleridge said. (The Catholic Leader)

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### Euthanasia fails in South Australia

Paul Russell: The latest in a long line of euthanasia bills was debated in the South Australian Parliament in a debate which finished at 4.02am this morning. As I sat at my desk last night and listened to the debate I began to compose an email to supporters advising them that, for the first time since 1995, we had lost a debate on a euthanasia bill in an Australian legislature. Adelaide, the state capital is a long way from Europe or North America, but this was an issue with world-wide consequences. (MercatorNet)

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### The Ethics and Law of Applying Clinical Guidelines

Margaret Somerville: On the second day of hearings before the New South Wales Legislative Council committee enquiring into the "under dosing" of cancer patients, the first witness was Dr John Grygiel. (ABC Religion & Ethics)

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### IVF producing new generation of infertile Australian children says Professor John Aitken

Damien Murphy: IVF is producing a new generation of infertile Australian children who will require expensive medical treatment to produce their own offspring, says University of Newcastle laureate professor John Aitken. He also warned of ongoing health problems with IVF children, suggesting that male children of ageing fathers who used assisted pregnancy procedures were prone to cancer. (Sydney Morning Herald)

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### Australian IVF clinics attacked by regulator over deceptive advertising

Michael Cook: The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) has delivered a blistering attack on the advertising practices of IVF clinics. (BioEdge)

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### Abortion trauma link to male suicides

Julie Cook: Although the research in this area is limited, the data available suggests that men can experience similar reactions to abortion as women. For women, evidence is increasingly linking abortion to psychiatric illness, depression, substance abuse, suicide, relationship problems, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder. (News Weekly)

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### Respecting virginity in a hypersexualized culture

Christine Stoddard: TV shows like *Jane the Virgin* have been fueling a new spectator sport in our culture in recent years: 'virgin shaming.' We spoke to several women about their personal experiences and how they stayed strong to their beliefs in a culture that consistently encourages weakness. (Aleteia)

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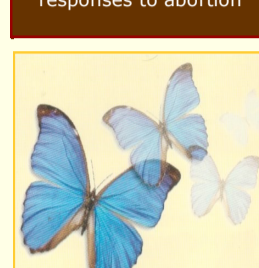
### The overlooked fatherless: one donor-conceived woman's story

Alana S. Newman: Children need to know and be known by their natural mother and father. The first time I considered the ethics of assisted reproduction I was five years old, and in my room, folding laundry with my mom. She told me that my dad was not my biological father. My biological father was an anonymous sperm donor, whom we knew nothing about and would never be able to locate. I was told three elusive facts about him: he had blond hair, blue eyes, and a college degree. (MercatorNet)

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**Walking with Love**  
alternatives and responses to abortion



**Rachel's Vineyard**  
A Post Abortion Healing Project

## 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](mailto:pa.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au)

### Centacare CFRS FOCCUS Individuals Couples Programme

**Tuesday 6 December - Tuesday 20 December or Thursday 8 December - Thursday 22 December 2016, 5.15 pm - 7.30 pm**

Three sessions over consecutive weeks. Programme to be held at Centacare CFRS Fortitude Valley, 58 Morgan Street, Fortitude Valley, Qld. Centacare Family and Relationship Service provides group courses in Pre-Marriage Education which are facilitated by trained relationship educators. The program provides couples with an opportunity to explore their relationship and plan for their future. These sessions can start from either 5.15pm or 6.30pm depending on availability. Please phone Centacare CFRS on (07) 3252 4371 for bookings.

### Centacare CFRS Pre-Marriage Education Group Programme

**Friday 2 December - Saturday 3 December 2016  
Friday 6.30 pm to 8.45 pm and Saturday 9.00 am to 4.15 pm**

Centacare CFRS Fortitude Valley, 58 Morgan Street, Fortitude Valley, Qld. Centacare Family and Relationship Service provides group courses in Pre-Marriage Education which are facilitated by trained relationship educators. The program provides couples with an opportunity to explore their relationship and plan for their future.

For information contact Phone: (07) 3252 4371 Email: [cfrs.fvadmin@bne.centacare.net.au](mailto:cfrs.fvadmin@bne.centacare.net.au)

[Pre-Marriage Education Dates](#) and [centacarebrisbane.net.au](http://centacarebrisbane.net.au)

### A Ceremony of Carols at St Brigid's

**Sunday 11 December at 7 PM - 9 PM**

A Ceremony of Carols at twilight with the St Brigid's choir, performing arrangements of beautiful carols, as well as leading the community in singing well loved Christmas songs. Music includes:

- This Little Babe by Britten;
- Magnificat in G by Stanford;
- Magnum Mysterium by Lauridsen;
- favourite carols for everyone to sing;
- and our Christmas Chamber Strings play Vaughn-Williams 'Fantasia on Greensleeves'.

A little light entertainment follows afterwards over drinks and supper. Where else will you hear classics like

- White Christmas
- Leroy Anderson's Sleigh Ride and Syncopated Clock ...

St Brigid's Catholic Church 78 Musgrave Rd, Red Hill, Qld 4059.

Parking available onsite - access via Musgrave Rd or Cambridge St.

There will be a collection for St Vincent De Pauls and the St Brigid's Choir if you wish to contribute

### 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 3207 9177 or

Email [pa.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:pa.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au)

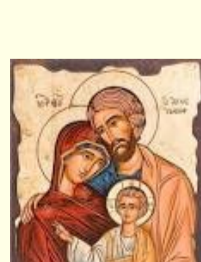
*Wishing you the Lord's blessings for the Christmas season*

*from*

*Queensland Bioethics Centre*

*and*

*John Paul II Centre for Family and Life*



*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.*

