

HV50
Faithful *to*
GOD'S DESIGN
CELEBRATE THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HUMANAE VITAE

*A monthly Reflection
on the
50th Anniversary of
Humanae Vitae*

2018

Edition
No 11



TO THE CLERGY, TO THE FAITHFUL AND TO ALL MEN AND WOMEN OF GOOD WILL
This is who St. Pope Paul VI addressed, when he issued his encyclical July 25, 1968 articulating the timeless teaching of the Catholic Church on the "regulation of birth". This *Faithful to God's Design* monthly news is an invitation to all of us--ALL MEN and WOMEN OF GOOD WILL--to reflect on these truths, during this anniversary year, 50 years later.

ONE DEACON'S EXPERIENCE OF HV50



Deacon Henry Knapp traveled from South Dakota with his son Dr. Michael Knapp to attend the HV50 Celebration and the pre-conference Clergy Day.

I had just graduated from college when Pope Paul VI's encyclical *Humanae Vitae* (HV) was released, ironically on the day after my birthday. Unfortunately, HV was far from my radar screen. I vaguely recall a bunch of controversy concerning HV back then, but I didn't pay much attention to it.

Our son Michael is a NFP physician. He asked me if I would like to accompany him to the HV50 Conference that CANFP was arranging. I agreed, expecting that it would be a good learning experience and a good excursion with our son.

My expectations were not disappointed in either regard. It was a wonderful Conference in both an educational and spiritual sense, and also as a celebration of HV.

During the Conference, I was particularly educated as to the extent of the influence which has been both foisted on and molded society, starting in the late 1950s. Such influence has not dissipated. It seems as virulent as ever. Many within our Church seem to have been brainwashed by this societal revolution, not the least of which have been the perpetrators in our Church's current abuse crisis. The Conference also most emphatically affirmed the sacredness of all human life in all of its stages.

From now on, I will be much more sensitive to the broad spectrum of issues spawned both by societal changes and *Humanae Vitae*. I applaud CANFP for pulling it all together into an outstanding HV50 Conference. I'm sure the Lord's hand was on their efforts, and our ongoing collective efforts to vigorously proclaim the Good News of Jesus.

Full length article by Dcn. Knapp available at www.canfp.org

HUMANAE VITAE SAYS....
God has wisely arranged natural laws and rhythms of fertility which already of themselves bring about a separation in the succession of births. HV11

Deacon Knapp's experience was echoed by many deacons and priests who spent this day studying and discussing *Humanae Vitae* with each other and speakers Archbishop Cordileone, Fr. Luke Dysinger, OSB, MD, Fr. Larry Toschi, OSJ, Elva & Francisco Arroyo, Kristin & Timothy Putnam, Fr. Paul Check, Janet Smith, PhD, and Dr. Lynn Keenan. While most attendees reported HV was NOT a priority in their ministry prior to attending---100% reported HV would NOW be a priority in their ministry AFTER attending the HV Clergy Day!

What did the clergy say they would do differently?

"Promote NFP in my parish"

"Teach about HV"

"Preach more boldly"

"Be more confident in sharing the wisdom of the Church"

"Propose HV to the Pro-life ministry"

"Begin a new cycle of preaching on Humanae Vitae and working with Theology of the Body for the youth"

"Share with others the wonderful experience I had"

"Preach more frequently and with more conviction"

"This is something I will bring back to my parish"

Clergy day Videos can be viewed and shared at www.CelebrateHV50.com

HV50
My HV HERO
Stella Kitchen

nominated by Karen Poehailos, MD



I first met Stella in the 1990's when I was living in the Diocese of Harrisburg PA where she was NFP coordinator. It was there that I learned to use NFP and then realized the Church's call to not prescribe contraception in my practice. I didn't know where to turn to get advice on how to do this, and I was referred to her by my NFP teacher. She was a great source of support for me personally and professionally. After I moved to Virginia, she assisted me when I needed to learn how to teach NFP given the lack of teachers in our diocese. Though it didn't benefit her Diocesan program directly, she then worked with me so I could train local instructors and spread the good news. Stella was instrumental in helping our Richmond Diocese become a USCCB endorsed Diocesan Program—again going beyond the call of duty. I also considered her a great mentor and friend. Sadly, she died in April 2015. I trust she is interceding from us from above and is celebrating this anniversary with us.

THINK ABOUT IT....
TRUE LOVE HOLDS
NOTHING BACK

HV50
FEATURED HV50
VIDEO / AUDIO

**Empowering Young Women
through Cycle Literacy**

*Shared freely at www.CelebrateHV50.com
thanks to the generous support of the Catholic Communication Campaign*

Young women educated to understand their own bodies in the context of fertility appreciation---cycle literate young women---are empowered by this knowledge, and better equipped to confidently respect the nature of the design. In this recording, **Suzanne Spence** and **Brenda Cerkez** share their experience working with young people through their respective programs: **TEEN STAR** and **Family Honor**.

Suzanne Spence worked as an RN in Pediatrics at Stanford early in her nursing career, and in Stanford's School of Immersive Learning Center. Her interest in women's health grew after the birth of her children, and especially as her daughters entered their teen years.



This professional and personal experience, and her passion for educating young women to become cycle literate, led her to become the West Coast Coordinator for **Teen STAR: Sexuality Teaching in the Context of Adult Responsibility**.



Brenda Cerkez, Executive Director of **Family Honor, Inc**, works with parents and ministry leaders, in the U.S. and internationally, who are interested in programs that recognize the importance of family and the unique role of parents in speaking with their children about chastity and the beauty of God's gift of sexuality. She has appeared on EWTN Live, Catholic Connection, On Call with Wendy Weise, and numerous other Catholic programs.

ABOUT FAITHFUL TO GOD'S DESIGN NEWS

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