***Life Ministry Speaker Bureau***

**Deacon Bob Anderson**

**St. Frances Cabrini Parish****deaconbob1982@tampabay.rr.com**

Deacon Bob Anderson was ordained a Permanent Deacon in June 1982 in Hartford, Connecticut. While living in Connecticut, he and his wife spent eight years working with the St. Vincent DePaul Society running a homeless shelter and other low-income properties. In addition to volunteering there every Saturday night, his wife was the business manager for the society and Deacon Bob served as Secretary of the Board of Directors. They left Connecticut as a result of a company transfer to New Hampshire. After taking an early retirement from a high tech company, Deacon Bob went to work for the Diocese of Manchester, NH, as Director of the Respect Life Office, Director of Institutional Ministries (being responsible for all Catholic chaplains in health care and corrections institutions in the state), and co-director of the Office of Public Policy. He also worked with hospice patients. Since moving to Florida, he has been assigned to St. Frances Cabrini parish.

**Topics:** **Respect Life; Social Justice Issues;** **End of Life and Stem Cell Research**

**Emma M. Boe**

eboe@ccosp.org

A graduate of Nicholl's State University in Louisiana, Emma Boe has been part of the Respect Life Ministry since moving into the Tampa Bay area in 1972. Formerly the Director of Life Services of Catholic Charities for 17 years Emma retired in June 2010. Presently the Director of Project Rachel Ministry for the Diocese of St. Petersburg, Emma has been facilitating Rachel's Vineyard Retreats since 1998 and has trained individuals to provide post abortion support throughout the diocese. Emma also leads a group of individuals in a "prayer vigil"

outside the abortion mill on Fletcher on the first Sat. of the month called "Helpers of God's Precious Infants."

Topics: Post abortion Healing, Sidewalk Prayer Ministry.

**Kip Corriveau M. Div., MSSA**|Director of Mission

Bon Secours St. Petersburg Health System
10300 4th Street North |St. Petersburg, FL  33716
(727) 568-1042

Kip currently serves as the Director of Mission for the Bon Secours St Petersburg Health System, a Catholic Healthcare ministry under the sponsorship of the Sisters of Bon Secours. In his role as Mission leader, Kip is responsible for areas such as educating leadership, staff, and medical providers on the *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services* and promoting their integration into all relevant dimensions of the organization. He also chairs Bon Secours St Petersburg Health System’s Ethics Committee and serves on the End of Life Care Committee of the Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Prior to joining Bon Secours, he served as the Director of Social Services for The Salvation Army of Upper Pinellas County where he oversaw a transitional housing program for homeless families, a food pantry and food distribution program, and an emergency rent and utility assistance program. Kip received a M.Div. from St. Mary’s Seminary and University, a MSSA (MSW) from Case Western Reserve University. He serves the Pinellas Emergency Food and Shelter Board, 211 Tampa Bay Cares Advisory Board, and the Hispanic Leadership Council.

**Topics:**

Catholic Social Justice Tradition
Ethical & Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services
Advanced Directives & End of Life issues
Poverty, Homelessness, Housing, and Economic Justice
Human Trafficking
Catholic Identity in a Diverse Workplace & World

**Allison Ferber Miller**

ferberorama@gmail.com

After graduating from the University of Notre Dame and Florida State Law, Allison has been working as an Assistant Public Defender at the Office of the Public Defender in Clearwater for the last 8 years.  Allison represents approximately 60-70 people at any given time for all alleged felony and capital crimes.  Having represented dozens of people charged with capital first degree murder, Allison is of the firm belief that these people are broken, not bad.  As such, she believes her faith commands her to advocate on behalf of these people and for the abolition of the death penalty.

**Chaplain Blair Holtey, BCC
Morton Plant Mease Health Care****Blair.Holtey@baycare.org**

Blair Holtey, M.Div., serves as the National Board-certified Staff Chaplain at Mease Countryside Hospital in Safety Harbor, Florida, is a Board member of the Clearwater, Homeless Emergency Project (HEP), and Committee member of the Partners for Creative Aging in Pinellas County, Advance Care Planning Partnership of Suncoast Hospice and Project Grace, Ethics Committees of Morton Plant Mease Health Care and BayCare Health System, and a member of the Healing and Spirituality Committee of Morton Plant Mease Health Care and the National Association of Catholic Chaplains (NACC) Task Force for the Recruitment of Chaplains.

He is trained in Basic Critical Incident Stress Management, Relaxation Response, Advance Care Planning Facilitation for Respecting Choices, and he has taught classes at St. Petersburg College Continuing Education Health Department. He is published in the American Journal of Geriatric Cardiology: “Ethical Issues in the Management of Geriatric Cardiac Patients.”

His recognitions and/or awards include a Circle of Excellence Bronze Award – Recognizing Teams who Demonstrate Quality Improvement, “With Wings As Eagles” Leadership Award – Department of Pastoral Care, Contributions to Arts in Medicine in the September-October “Parent Guide” magazine, Co-coordinator with Ruth Eckerd Hall - Marcia P. Hoffman Institute Performing Arts for developing, implementing and coordinating the Arts In Medicine Program at Morton Plant Mease Health Care.

**Topics: Palliative Care and End of Life Issues**

**Mary Ann C. Holtz****maryannwalt@gmail.com**

Mary Ann C. Holtz has been a justice and peace educator and activist since 1979 and a Christian psychotherapist in the Counseling Ministry at St. Paul's Parish in St. Petersburg since 1985. Mary Ann and her husband, Walt Davin, are founding members of St. Paul’s Partners with Haiti. She helped to facilitate the JustFaith process at St. Paul's and led the parish Green Team for several years.

For the last 6 years Mary Ann's focus has been in the area of Caring for Creation.  As Pope Francis has been reminding us, we are all called to protect the natural world,

To assist our community in this endeavor, this Earth Day, April 22, 2013, Mary Ann updated a worksheet which she presented at a workshop during ourDiocese's Caring for God's Creation conference in April 2008. "**Ten Action Steps for Individuals and Families Responding to the Current Global Crises of Energy, Environment, and Economy,** **Discovering Active Hope".** Available online at <http://paxchristiflorida.files.wordpress.com/2013/04/10actionstepsupdatedforearthday4-22-13.pdf>.

If you are interested in offering this workshop or similar presentations at your parish, please contact Mary Ann for more information.

**Topic: Environmental Justice**

**Lily Abadal**

**labadal@spchs.org**

Lily King is a PhD student at the University of South Florida, studying philosophy and religion. Her area of specialty is medieval philosophy (Augustine, Aquinas, Anselm, etc.) but she is also interested in ethical philosophy, most specifically the personalism of Pope John Paul II. She is currently teaching theology at St. Petersburg Catholic High School. Lily was born and raised in the Catholic Church, which is evident to those around her, being that her mother is one of 12 children and she has 40 cousins.

Rose Llauget

rllauget@ccdosp.org

Rose Llauget joined Catholic Charities in November 2009 as Program Coordinator for Pregnancy Plus Medical - Pinellas. In February, 2010, she assumed Haitian Relief responsibilities following the 2010 earthquake. In July 2010, she was appointed Program Manager for Pregnancy and Adoption Services overseeing Catholic Charities’ four Foundations of Life Pregnancy Centers and Adoption Services in the Diocese of St. Petersburg, Venice and Orlando.

 Prior to joining the Catholic Charities, Ms. Llauget retired after a 28 year career with GTE Telecommunications, Inc. (now Verizon). She served as Director – International Sales for Latin America and the Caribbean with GTE Telecommunications Services (now Syniverse) establishing GTE as a major player in the Latin American wireless market. Ms. Llauget also taught Business Communication, a college level course adapted for grades 6-8, at Villa Madonna School.

She is a volunteer Guardian ad Litem for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit in Hillsborough County Florida, providing a strong voice in court on behalf of abused and neglected children. She is the Catholic Religious Medal Counselor trainer for the Diocese of St. Petersburg Committee on Scouting. She attends St. Timothy Catholic Church where she is a Eucharistic Minister and a member of the Catholic Council of Women.

Ms. Llauget holds a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from the University of South Florida and a Master’s degree in Education Leadership from Saint Leo University. She is a former licensed private pilot and certified scuba diver. She is married to Ron and has two sons, Michael and Alexander. She enjoys spending time at their beach home, beachcombing, shell collecting, biking, and occasionally surfing.

Speaker Bureau Areas:

Pregnancy Center Topics, Adoptions, Catholic Charities

**Pat Mermelstein****pmerm7@cs.com**

In 1995, Pat resigned from her nursing supervisory position in an OB/GYN office after she became aware about the highly abortifacient nature of the contraceptive materials, routinely prescribed in the busy office.  This event coincided with her return to the Catholic Church after 25 years.  Pat soon became active in her Long Island parish Respect Life Committee, until moving to Florida in 1998.  She accepted a position as Diocesan Respect Life Area Coordinator for West Pasco and worked with Sharon Iler for about three years and now serves in that capacity under Life Ministries Director, Sabrina Burton Shultz.

Pat works with Project Rachel and is the Respect Life coordinator at St. James the Apostle. She is the Chairperson for the Directors of Development Committee at Catholic Charities Foundations of Life Pregnancy Center, in Spring Hill and is also a freelance writer and speaker. Pat and her husband, Stan, have four adult children and eight grandchildren.

**Topics: Advancing the Culture of Life, (in the parish and in the community), Human Embryonic Development and the Personhood of the Human Embryo.**

**James Munro, Ph.D.**

**Munro.jim@gmail.com**

Dr. Jim Munro successfully completed the 2014-15 National Catholic Certification Program in Health Care Ethics offered by The National Catholic Bioethics Center. He holds the title Professor Emeritus at the South Dakota School of Mine and Technology where he served as Professor of Chemical Engineering and Department Chair. He now resides in the Diocese of St. Petersburg. He offers engaging 30-60 minute presentation for adult audiences on bioethical issues. Topics are end-of-life decision we need to make now, Death with dignity? What does the Church say?

**Mary Palamar****mpalamar@tamparbay.rr.com**

Mary C Palamar, born in Brooklyn NY, has a BA degree (biology major) from Rutgers University, a master’s degree in elementary education from SUNY Brockport, and a doctorate in education from the University of Rochester. She holds certification in elementary education, special education and administration. Mary has been a bacteriologist, special education teacher, special education secondary administrator and, for twenty years, a professor of education at Nazareth College of Rochester. At Nazareth she served as director of graduate and undergraduate programs in special education and later as chairperson of the Education Department. When she retired in 2002, the college named her Professor Emeritus. In Florida, Mary is a hospice volunteer. Mary and her husband Peter live in New Port Richey, Florida and in the Thousand Islands, New York. They have three grown sons and six grandchildren.

Topics: Human Trafficking, Human Rights and Women’s’ Issues

**Lou Pekrul****pwh@tampabay.rr.com**

Lou Pekrul has been a parishioner at St. Paul Parish in St. Petersburg since 1972. He has been involved with the parish ministry to Haiti since 1998. In 1999, the parish entered a twinning relationship with St. Isidore Parish in Haiti. Lou had been the coordinator of this ministry for the past ten years, having made seven trips to Haiti. He is now the  coordinator of the water program the ministry has established to supply a means for the parishioners of St. Isidore to have access to clean water. Lou has been a teacher in Pinellas County for the past 43 years. He and his wife, Peg, have been married for 43 years. They have five children and six grandchildren.

**Topic: Parish Twinning**

**Dan Pepin****pepindan@hotmail.com**

Dr. Dan Pepin is a professor of anatomy & physiology, instructor of human biology and consultant on bioethics.  He has developed six programs dealing with some of the more controversial bioethical issues of today. These programs are designed to educate audiences, small or large, and are appropriate for churches, pro-life organizations, the public at large, as well as high school and college campuses.  The goal of each program is to replace the “complacency of ignorance” with the “responsibility for knowledge”.

**Topic: Bioethical Issues**

**Anne Richter****arichter58@msn.com**

 Anne Richter is a certified nurse-midwife, with a master’s degree in Public Health from Johns Hopkins University. She has worked in a variety of maternal and child health programs for over 30 years in Africa, Asia and the United States. After retiring from The Lawton and Rhea Chiles Center at USF in 2003, Anne worked in Kabul on projects aimed at reducing Afghanistan’s high maternal and infant mortality rates, and in Haiti with St. Paul’s (St. Petersburg, FL) Parish Twinning Project. Over the past few years, Anne has spoken onher work in Afghanistan and Haiti to women’s groups, classes in schools and universities and community organizations.

**Topics:  Catholic Social Teaching, international work, parish twinning**

**Ethel Sharp
Executive Director, Aging Matters****sharppax@gmail.com**

Ethel Sharp served as the Director of the Office of Older Adults for the Diocese of St. Petersburg, Appointed by Bishop W. Thomas Larkin in 1988. After leaving this position some 21 years ago, she founded Aging Matters, an organization that advocates for and serves mature adults, adult children of aging parents, and family caregivers. Ms. Sharp serves as a consultant, geriatric care manager, resource counselor, and personal advocate.

In 1991 Ethel was appointed to a special committee under the personal direction of Governor Lawton Childs creating the first State of Florida Department of Elder Affairs. She has written numerous articles for different publications and for 13 years was a columnist for the St. Petersburg Times writing with a focus on Mature Adult issues and needs, Family Caregiving and Adult Children of Aging Parents. Ethel has over 35 years of personal experience as a Family Caregiver and has worked in the community to build awareness and mobilize support for family caregivers and older adults living independently in their own homes.

**Jennifer Elizabeth Stracick
Executive Director for ALPHA House of Pinellas County****jstracick@alphahousepinellas.org**

Jennifer Elizabeth Stracick has been the Executive Director for ALPHA House of Pinellas County since 2006. She received her Associates in Human Services from Niagara County Community College, her Bachelors Degree in Social Work from Buffalo State College and her Masters Degree in Social Work from the University of Buffalo with a Concentration of Children and Youth.

She herself was a homeless teen Mother with no one to help her and was forced to place her child up for adoption. She spent the rest of her life dedicated to helping homeless Teen Moms first with her education and now at the agency she works for.

She is currently working on taking her exam to be a Licensed Social Worker and has also started "The Book Angel Club" which provides books to Chemotherapy patients.

Topics: Teen Pregnancy, Homeless Women and Youth, Adoption

**Rev. John Tapp
Pastor of Nativity Parish, St. Petersburg****jgtapp@aol.com**

 **Fr. Tapp holds a Master of Arts degree in liturgical studies from St. John’s University, Collegeville, MN. Ordained in 1984, he has ministered as associate pastor, pastor and campus minister. Fr. Tapp is currently the pastor of Nativity Parish in Brandon. Fr. Tapp is co-chair of FAST (Faith and Action for Strength Together), an inter-denominational social justice ministry in Pinellas County. He also serves on the diocesan Presbyteral** **Council and various diocesan liturgical boards.**

**Topic: The Mass and Social Justice**

**Debi Vinnedge**

**Executive Director of Children of God for Life**

**debi@cogforlife.org**

Debi Vinnedge is the Executive Director of Children of God for Life, a non-profit, pro-life organization focused on the bioethic issues of human cloning, embryonic and fetal tissue research. Ms Vinnedge is a nationally recognized author and speaker and has provided written testimony for Congressional hearings on embryonic stem cell research. She has appeared on both local and national television programs and has been a guest speaker on major national television and radio broadcasts, including Fox News’ Hannity & Colmes, Vatican Radio, Ave Maria Radio, EWTN, Human Life International and Living His Life Abundantly. Her work has been featured in leading Catholic publications including the Vatican’s Medicini e Morale.

Ms Vinnedge is considered the foremost authority on the use of aborted fetal cell lines in medical products and vaccines. She has given numerous speaking engagements nationwide on the subjects of stem cell research, human cloning, aborted fetal research and vaccines. Ms. Vinnedge currently resides in Largo, FL. She has been married 39 years and has 2 children and 6 grandchildren.