

MISSION & BRIEF HISTORY

The **Donum Vitae Institute** is an educational outreach program of **The Children First Foundation** that is dedicated to saving the lives of *unwanted unborn children* by promoting and supporting **adoption** as a loving and merciful choice for all unwanted newborns, unwanted pregnancies, and unwanted human embryos.

The **Donum Vitae Institute** is dedicated to promoting the clear magisterial teachings contained in *Donum Vitae, an "Instruction on Respect for Human Life in Its Origin and on The Dignity of Procreation: Replies to Certain Questions of the Day"* which was promulgated by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith on February 22, 1987, during the Pontificate of Saint John Paul II.

The Children First Foundation, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization.

Adoption Gives the Gift of Life!

Thank you for putting

"Children First"

"ONE MUST HOLD AS LICIT PROCEDURES CARRIED OUT ON THE HUMAN EMBRYO WHICH RESPECT THE LIFE AND INTEGRITY OF THE EMBRYO AND DO NOT INVOLVE DISPROPORTIONATE RISKS FOR IT, BUT ARE DIRECTED TOWARD ITS HEALING, THE IMPROVEMENT OF ITS CONDITION OF HEALTH, OR ITS INDIVIDUAL SURVIVAL."

~ DONUM VITAE I,3; THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, # 2275

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***"HUMAN LIFE
MUST BE RESPECTED
AND PROTECTED
ABSOLUTELY FROM THE
MOMENT OF CONCEPTION."***

***~ DONUM VITAE I, 1;
CATECHISM OF THE
CATHOLIC CHURCH,
#2270***

Donum Vitae II.B.5

"Although the manner in which human conception is achieved with IVF and ET cannot be approved, every child which comes into the world must in any case be accepted as a living gift of Divine Goodness and must be brought up with love."

DONUM VITAE INSTITUTE

***DEFENDING NASCENT HUMAN LIFE
FROM THE FIRST MOMENT OF
CONCEPTION***



WHO WE ARE

PRESIDENT:

ELIZABETH B. REX, MBA, PHD, THD (CAND.)

Dr. Rex earned her BA at Columbia University and her PhD in Thomistic Ethics at the University of Navarra in Rome. Dr. Rex taught Catholic Bioethics at Holy Apostles College & Seminary and has been a frequent contributor to the *National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly*.

SENIOR FELLOW:

FRANCIS ETHEREDGE, MA, PGC

Francis Etheredge earned a BA in Divinity, MA in Catholic Theology, MA in Marriage & Family, PGC in Biblical Studies, and PGC in Education. His many scholarly books include, among others:
~ *Human Person: A Bioethical Word*;
~ *Conception: An Icon of the Beginning*;
~ *Mary and Bioethics: An Exploration*; and
~ *The ABCQ of Conceiving Conception*.

DVI RESEARCH FELLOWS:

CHRISTOPHER REILLY, MA in Theology; Master of Philosophy, Master in Public & International Affairs

DCN WILLIAM GALLERIZZO, MA in Theology, PhD (Candidate)

THOMAS CREMONA, MA in Theology, PharmD



"[A] child is a gift, 'the supreme gift.'"
Donum Vitae II.B.8. (cfr. GS, no.50)



WHAT WE DO

The **Children First Foundation** is an adoption advocacy and charitable foundation that raises awareness and funding to promote and support pro-life Pregnancy Care Centers and Safe Haven efforts. To date, Children First has distributed over \$200,000 to help women "choose life" - and consider adoption - as a loving alternative for an unplanned pregnancy.

The **Donum Vitae Institute** is likewise dedicated to increasing embryo adoption advocacy that will help promote and defend the ethical healthcare, public policies, and legal protections that voiceless, frozen, and unwanted human embryos need and deserve.

Please contact us to schedule a **DVI Lecture** at your high school, college, university, seminary, or church. Here are possible topics:

- ~ IVF, Surrogacy, and Embryo Adoption: What is Ethical, What is Not Ethical, and Why?
- ~ IVF & Surrogacy (ARTs) versus Embryo Transfer & Adoption: What Does the Catholic Church Teach?
- ~ *Donum Vitae*, *Dignitas Personae*, and the Moral Arguments in the Embryo Adoption Debate
- ~ Embryo Adoption: A Radically Counter-Cultural Act of Mercy (cfr. *Dignitas* 27, no. 1-4 (2020): pp 28-32)