



For the Study of Human Reproduction

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Omaha, Neb. USA
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Fitzgeralds Find a Second Home at Pope Paul VI Institute

DEACON TOM FITZGERALD AND HIS WIFE MARILYN share more than just a marriage; for the past 26 years, they have shared a common workplace, the Pope Paul VI Institute, where Deacon Tom works in the publications department and Marilyn works as an RN.



Deacon Tom Fitzgerald and his wife Marilyn

The roads which initially led them to the Institute are as different as their jobs.

Following the completion of her nursing studies in 1988, Marilyn was seeking a job where she could help people, and she was drawn to the Pope Paul VI Institute and the work being done by Dr. Thomas Hilgers. Tom, meanwhile, a Deacon at St. Margaret Mary Church in Omaha, took a part-time job with the Institute mailing out packets to students in the Institute Education Program — a job which would eventually grow into a full-time position.

Twenty-six years later, the couple has witnessed many changes at the Institute. Most notably, tremendous advances in technology have had a profound impact in their respective areas of publications and patient care. Despite the challenge of these ever-evolving professions, the Fitzgeralds have found a home at the Pope Paul VI Institute.

“It’s the people here,” shares Marilyn. “Dr. Hilgers, the staff, the patients ... They are just amazing. It is a very supportive and positive environment.”

In addition to his responsibilities in the publications department, Tom also serves as resident Chaplain, where he assists with mass services in the Chapel.

As an RN, Marilyn has the opportunity to work with patients on a day-to-day basis and sees first-hand the impact the Institute has on these women and families.

“The methods developed by Dr. Hilgers are so effective, and it surprises so many women who have suffered without answers,” she said. “That is probably why so many of our patients later become educators: to help other women find true healing.”

BISHOPS’ ADVISORY BOARD

*The following bishops recognize and offer prayers and support for the ground-breaking work being conducted at the Pope Paul VI Institute for the Study of Human Reproduction, including the development and use of the new women’s health science known as **NaProTECHNOLOGY**.*

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Institute Hosts Pre-Medical and Medical Students for an “Amazing” Summer

EACH YEAR, THE POPE PAUL VI INSTITUTE attracts a select number of pre-medical and medical students from across the United States to participate in a summer-long internship program that immerses each intern in the Institute’s cutting-edge research and medical environment.

This year’s interns included Courtney Skow (Texas A&M University), Emily O’Donnell (University of Nebraska-Omaha), Dino Francescutti (University of Tennessee-Knoxville), and siblings Marah Smith (University of South Dakota-Vermillion) and Samuel Smith (South Dakota State University).

During their time at the Institute, the interns shadowed Dr. Hilgers and other medical staff, providing them the opportunity to view ultrasounds, and participate in lab reviews. One student even observed a robotic surgery.

The Internship Program is one of many programs sponsored by the Institute’s education department, and similar to the Institute’s other educational initiatives, it is designed to build a culture of life in women’s health care.

This mission was not lost on the students.

“It radically changed the trajectory of my life, my



From left to right: Courtney Skow, Emily O’Donnell, Dr. Tom Hilgers, Marah Smith, Dino Francescutti, and Samuel Smith .

goals, and further strengthened my views on Catholic social teaching,” remarked Emily. “I definitely want to pursue a career that supports Dr. Hilgers’ work.”

For Marah, the experience had an equally strong impact. “If you are a Catholic and you are going into medicine, it is easy to avoid issues such as contraception, sterilization, and

so many others. To come here and see medicine that is inspired by the Catholic faith ... it is something that makes you very proud to be a Catholic.”

Her brother, Samuel, agrees. “It is a medical community that promotes the Gospel and there are so many great people here who are living out their faith in the community.”

Perhaps one of the most memorable aspects of the internship was the opportunity to work directly with Dr. Hilgers, who the interns affectionately describe as both a “role model” and “hero.”

“Despite everything I knew about the Institute, I was still surprised by the scope of his research,” said Dino, referring to Dr. Hilgers. “It’s amazing to think that one guy made all this.”

Including the Pope Paul VI Institute in your Estate Planning

MOST PEOPLE have good intentions to do something for others, but the biggest problem is to implement those intentions and turn them into action. Admittedly, we tend to procrastinate, sometimes putting something off until it’s too late. This often happens with a charitable gift.

Undoubtedly, many are aware of our continuing financial needs, but for one reason or another, you may have put off making a gift. It would be a simple matter to include a bequest to the Pope Paul VI Institute directly in your will. To expedite your good intentions, here are recommended clauses for making an unrestricted bequest to us:

“I give to the Pope Paul VI Institute for the Study of Human Reproduction the sum of \$_____ / or x % of the residue of my estate free of all duties and deductions to be used for its general purposes. The receipt of an authorized officer of the Pope Paul VI Institute shall be deemed proof of payment.”

Tax ID #: 36-3313152. Address: 6901 Mercy Road, Omaha, NE 68106.

Please let us know if you have included us in your will as it helps plan our financial future. Thank you.

**Always consult your attorney for proper legal advice.*



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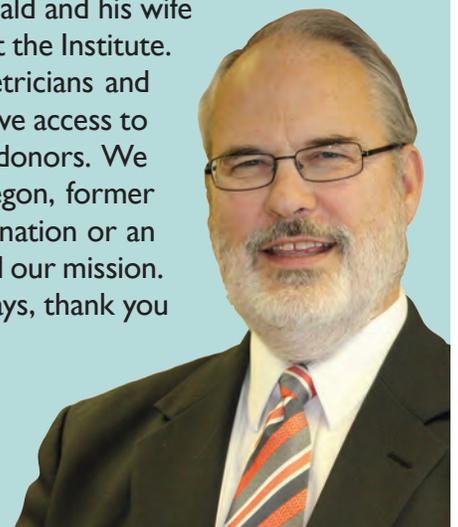
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Message from the director

We are building a Culture of Life here — you, me and the staff at the Pope Paul VI Institute. As the enclosed stories will testify, the Institute is supported by so many talented and committed individuals. We are lucky to have staff members like Deacon Tom Fitzgerald and his wife Marilyn, both of whom are living out their faith through their work here at the Institute. There are our summer interns — the next generation of pro-life obstetricians and gynecologists — whose work will ensure that many future generations have access to life-fostering women's health care. Last, but certainly not least, are our donors. We are fortunate to have donors like Dirk and Allison Anderson from Oregon, former patients and members of our monthly giving club. Whether it is a \$5 donation or an estate gift, these contributions make it possible for us to serve and expand our mission. I hope you enjoy this issue of the Culture of Life Newsletter, and, as always, thank you for your ongoing support and interest in our work.

Thomas W. Hayes, MD



Building a *Culture of Life* in Women's Health Care



A newsletter of the Pope Paul VI Institute for the Study of Human Reproduction

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On page 3 read about the Institute's summer interns above:
Courtney, Emily, Marah, Dino, and Sam.

Andersons Proud to Help Build Culture of Life

HAVING SUFFERED THROUGH FOUR MISCARRIAGES, Allison Anderson and her husband, Dirk, of Portland, Oregon, found themselves hopeless. That is, until they found the Pope Paul VI Institute.

An initial conversation with a nurse at the Institute confirmed for them that they had chosen the right place.

"She told me that they treated every life equally ... whether that child is four months old or still within the womb," recounts Allison.

Upon arriving at the Pope Paul VI Institute after a long trip from the west coast, their first impression of the Institute was a good one. "We saw the building," Allison said, "and right there, at the top, was the Chapel ... God was at the top."

The healing and services she and her husband would soon receive at the Institute would have a profound effect on the Andersons. Not only did they lead to healing and the birth of a beautiful baby girl, Gloria Anne (who was born on Easter Day), but they would also inspire the Andersons to give back to the Institute, which had given them so much.

"We were shocked at the medical services we received through our ordeal. Dr. Hilgers was different. He did not rely on the temporary 'fixes' we had found with other doctors, fixes that were ultimately unsuccessful," said Allison. "He instead looked at the underlying causes, and this led to true healing."

As a long-time member of the monthly giving club, the Andersons provide a monthly contribution to the Institute. Through their tax-deductible donation, the Andersons are helping the Institute build a



The Anderson Children (from left to right): Gloria (4), Mary (12), Joseph (10), and Martha (13).

culture of life in reproductive health care, ensuring more women and families receive the healing and comfort she found at the Pope Paul VI Institute.

"If not for the generosity of other people whose donations helped build the Institute, Gloria Anne might not be here today. In fact there are a lot of lives in the world today solely because of Dr. Hilgers' research," she said. "It is another good Samaritan story, and we are proud to be supporting what we strongly feel is the Lord's work."

If you wish to become a **Partner in Life** member, please visit popepaulvi.com/give