

"Many from that town came to believe in him because of the woman's testimony."
(John 4:39)



Your June Newsletter

Our Mission:

to provide counseling which is faithful to the teachings, values, and traditions of the Catholic Church.

Our Primary Services:

Evaluation and Treatment for mental illness, addictions, and spiritual distress.

Fortnight for Freedom

As in previous years, the 12 days leading up to the 4th of July have been designated as the "[fortnight for freedom](#)" by the US Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB) to spotlight the challenges to religious liberty being experienced in this country in recent years. Today, the US Supreme Court [ruled in favor](#) of Hobby Lobby's wish to be exempted from some ACA requirements. This is important news for organizations like Gratia Plena.

Evangelization and Gratia Plena Services

Some people wonder "if you serve mostly Catholics, then how does that help Christ's mission to spread the Good News?" Our answer is that we believe that each person has a mission or vocation, a calling from God to do some service in the community. This service is an action of love, and Christ made it clear that we are to love God but also to love and take care of each other. Mental illness and addictions can sometimes get in the way of a person pursuing his or her vocation of service, of being ready to spread the Good News. Gratia Plena services then with the grace of the Spirit can facilitate healing so that Catholics (and others) can get back to doing the good work of the Church, the mission of Christ. In fact, people who have found healing can be among the most effective evangelists. We see this frequently in the scriptures. We are all called to the [New Evangelization!](#)

Synod on the Pastoral Care of the Family

Pope Francis has called for a [synod of bishops](#) in October 2015 to address the pastoral care of the family. A preparatory meeting will be held this October (2014). The healthy

functioning and growth of the family is critical for the fabric of society. We hope that the measures taken by bishops to enhance the pastoral care of the family will include some recognition of the role of mental illness and addiction, and the value of treatment.

Marriage Building and Rebuilding

Recognizing the importance of sacred marriage and its foundation for the family, St. Laurence and St. Michael parishes have held special programs recently to help build strong and healthy relationships. Gratia Plena staff have assisted with these programs in both parishes. We see lots of couples in our office for counseling. This is very important work. Marriage is under attack now more than ever. Find and attend a good marriage program at a church or retreat center, decide on a home study program with your spouse. [Learn all you can](#) about marriage. Pray for marriage!

WellCatholic

Gratia Plena is listed in this [new website](#). The service helps Catholics find Catholic doctors. Not all doctors are informed about and sensitive to the values, teachings, and traditions of the Church.

Book of the Month Recommendation:

We recommend this month the book "[Bought with a Price](#)" by Bishop Paul Loverde, Bishop of Arlington. It can be read online or downloaded free. It should be read by all fathers and husbands, and can be a good platform of discussion between fathers and sons. The focus is "every man's duty to protect himself and his family from a pornographic culture." In next month's newsletter, watch for our "Movie of the Month" recommendation.

Disclaimer: Gratia Plena and its staff do not receive any compensation or earthly benefits from recommending books, movies, music, websites, blogs, apps, et cetera...

[follow on Twitter](#) [friend on Facebook](#) [forward to a friend](#)

Copyright © 2014 Gratia Plena, All rights reserved.

Contact Us:

10701 Corporate Drive, Suite 190, Stafford, TX 77477
(832) 532-0129 (office landline)
www.gratiaplenacounseling.org

MailChimp

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)