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## news and articles

### A Different Kind of Perfect

By George Michael Lane

The following testimony is a powerful story of a father struggling with the issue of abortion in learning that his unborn baby had Down's syndrome. As a result of a retreat at Malvern Retreat House, Amy K. Lane was born. Amy inspired George Lane, her father, to write a book entitled [A Different Kind of Perfect](#) which has been officially endorsed by Cardinal Justin Rigali.

"I regularly attend retreats at Malvern, which is a special place for me, particularly because of its connection to my daughter. On a memorable fall weekend in 1986, I discovered that Malvern was not a miracle waiting to happen, but one that was happening all around me—in the dark woods, the solace of the oratory, the social interaction, the conferences, and in the seclusion of the magnificent countryside. At this first retreat, God touched me with His love and helped me to understand His perfection and how to accept and embrace a child to be born with Down syndrome.

Therefore, in April, 2008 I published a book, *A Different Kind of Perfect, The Story of Parents' Choices and a Special Child's Blessings* (Gom Paraclete Press), about this first retreat at Malvern and how it began a journey on which our Lord has been with my family every step of the way—a retreat that showed me that God doesn't create our trials and tribulations, but walks with us during them. That fall at Malvern, I choose to trust the Lord and to step out onto water in the midst of a storm; I have spent the rest of my life experiencing the elation and gifts that can only come from having trusted in the Lord and walked on the water.

journey through suffering and sacrifice as they seek to remain faithful to the Church's teaching on the inviolable dignity of all human life. The resolution of the journey presents a resilient defense of the gift of the child. This work demonstrates in a personal and touching manner that the path to the Civilization of Love will emerge only through the Culture of Life.'

When visiting Malvern years later, my daughter read a commemorative brick, which is part of the Founder's Walk in front of the Memorial Hall Dining Room and on which is etched: 'Amy K. Lane, Our Miracle at Malvern.' She asked, 'Was I born here?' I smiled and replied, 'Yes.' "

*For more information, contact Anne M. McGlone is director of Marketing and Public Relations at the Malvern Retreat House, P.O. Box 315, Malvern, PA 19355, 484-321-2534, [www.malvernretreat.com](http://www.malvernretreat.com)*

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