

Canticle of praise



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ME ABOUT BEING A SAINT



Serving the Body of Christ as a Pro-Life Home of Formation For Pregnant Women and Their Children

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The “Yes” That Changed History

What a joyous season! Soon we’ll celebrate the most amazing event in history—the Creator of the Universe entering the world as a tiny, helpless infant.

The miracle of Christmas could not have taken place without Mary’s *yes*. Her joyful response to the Angel Gabriel’s message changed the course of human history.

Our Lady’s *yes* to God’s will was a courageous choice. As a young, pregnant woman, betrothed but not yet living with her husband, Mary was in a particularly vulnerable situation. And yet, she held nothing back. *“Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word”* (Luke 1:38).

St. Joseph, too, said *yes* to God’s plan, even when that plan appeared difficult at first glance. His faithful paternal care of the Holy Family played a crucial role in bringing about Christ’s birth.

Whether it is an unexpected pregnancy or lack of shelter, many women face a situation similar to the Holy Family’s. In hard or uncertain circumstances, they are called to give a heroic *yes* to God—to welcome a new life into the world.

“Thanks to you, these women are able to echo Mary’s yes.”

Thanks to you, these women are able to echo Mary’s *yes*. They are able to joyfully embrace the Heavenly Father’s plan for them, just as the Holy Family did.

Your support of the Saint Gianna and Pietro Molla Maternity Home provides these women and their children with safe shelter, food, clothing, education, and a loving, supportive home environment.

Please take a few minutes to read the stories in this newsletter. They are stories of how your generosity helped families in need this year.

I hope these stories will call to mind Christ’s words, *“Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me”* (Matthew. 25:40). As you provide for these women and children in need, you also provide for the Baby Jesus.

Thank you for bringing our mothers the love and joy of Christ. We wish you and your loved ones a merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!





“God always has a plan, even when darkness is closing in.”



One Phone Call, Four Changed Lives

Tyler and Rachel's Story

Rachel and I got married in 2018. It has always been our dream to start a family, so shortly after marriage we started trying to conceive. After a couple years of trying and countless visits to doctors and fertility clinics, we began pursuing adoption.

In 2021 we decided to try a national infant adoption. Our adoption profile started circulating to potential birth mothers throughout the country the following April.

A couple months later, my mother asked Rachel and me if she could share our profile with her old high school classmate who is involved with the Saint Gianna and Pietro Molla Maternity Home. We said yes.

Then we received a call that would change our lives forever. A young woman at the Saint Gianna and Pietro

Molla Home wanted to meet us and potentially match for an adoption.

We met Mariana—the birth mother of our child—at a restaurant in early July. By the end of dinner, she had asked us to be the parents of her baby. Our beautiful Theodore was welcomed into the world two months later.

Theodore has been the light of our lives ever since. Not only have we welcomed a new son into our family, but we also have an ongoing relationship with Mariana.

We feel incredibly blessed to have been chosen to be Theodore's parents and are grateful for the gift of adoption!

Mariana's Story

In December of 2021, I found out I was pregnant. I was just 17 years old.

My mom and I called the Saint Gianna and Pietro Molla Maternity Home. Mary Pat was so understanding. We both felt at peace hearing her voice, and we asked a lot of questions about the Home.

Initially, I thought that I was going to parent, thinking I could do it all by myself with the support of family and friends. But then something more amazing unfolded.

One day, Mary Pat and I were having a discussion. I told her that I had decided to choose adoption for my son. At that moment, a notification on Mary Pat's phone interrupted us.

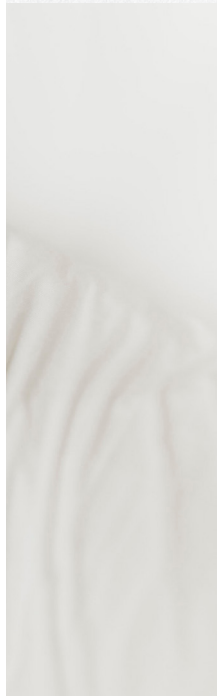
She opened a text and saw a video sent to her from a friend. The video was of a young couple looking for a child to adopt. I watched the video and loved them both instantly.

Mary Pat arranged a meeting with the couple. That evening is one I'll never forget. As we left dinner, I looked at them and said, "I would love to continue to meet and get to know you." I knew then without a doubt that they would be my baby's parents.

Theodore Diego was born on September 2, 2022. I love the name Diego, and we both agreed on the name Theodore, which means "Gift from God."

Every day I pray for him and his amazing parents, Tyler and Rachel. The unplanned pregnancy and the decision to choose adoption were so difficult for me. But choosing Theodore's family was easy. God was with me in these difficulties—I am at so much peace with this adoption.

God always has a plan, even when darkness is closing in. Always choose life!



even
in.”





La Vita è Bella . . . A Brand-New Home

We are excited to share that our new La Vita è Bella Home was dedicated this fall!

As you know, this home came about thanks in large part to the generosity of Dr. Michelle Bianco and her husband, Robert, along with their daughters Anna and Elise. After an April move-in, we celebrated the new home's ribbon cutting and blessing with the Bianco family in September.

Already, the La Vita è Bella Home is housing Maternity Home staff and children, as well as providing much-needed meeting and office space. This, in turn, frees up more space in the Maternity Home for residents.

The La Vita è Bella Home strengthens and sustains our mission, and ensures the Maternity Home will be serving mothers for generations to come. It provides for current staffing needs, allows us to serve more mothers and children, and will also help attract and retain talented employees who might otherwise be hard-pressed to find viable housing. In the future, it may provide a home for Saint Gianna and Pietro Molla housemothers, a staff family, or even a group of religious who are aiding the mission.

As we rejoice in this beautiful new home, we are full of gratitude: to the Bianco family for their generosity . . . to the volunteers who helped build the home . . . to you for your prayers for this important project . . . and of course, to Our Lord, Who has provided for us every step of the way.





Christmas Greetings from Us to You

As we enter into Advent and the season of Christmas, please know how profoundly grateful we are for your loving support of the Saint Gianna and Pietro Molla Maternity Home. Young mothers come to the Maternity Home, like the Holy Family seeking shelter in Bethlehem, in such need of support.

Everyone here at the Maternity Home—residents and staff alike—draw courage and joy from the consideration you show in helping young mothers say “Yes!” to life and to God’s grace in their lives. We will be praying for you this Christmas season. Please pray for us as well!



Help someone.

Mark your calendars for Giving Hearts Day on February 9, 2023!

Giving Hearts Day is a 24-hour online fundraising event that is held each February. It’s our biggest fundraising campaign of the year. The money raised gives women the opportunity to choose life and helps reach even more families in need.

Every year we choose a family or child to represent the work of Saint Gianna’s for Giving Hearts Day. **We are excited to announce that this year’s Giving Hearts Baby is Brooklynn!** Brooklynn’s mom Rozalyn has a beautiful conversion story, which we will share in our next newsletter—stay tuned!



Saint Gianna and Pietro Molla Maternity Home

What My Dad Taught Me About Being a Saint

We recently renamed Saint Gianna's Maternity Home to add in her devoted husband, Pietro. Here, the Mollas' daughter and our dear friend, Gianna Emanuela, shares some memories of her holy father.

During the forty-eight years that Dad lived without my Mom's visible presence, they went on to be "one heart and soul," very spiritually united and in communion with each other.

She helped him to carry his cross, day after day, and to realize God's will in a heroic way. Only two years after my Mom's death, my older sister, Mariolina, died at the tender age of 6, of an acute glomerulus-nephrite and kidney failure.

I remember that Dad prayed a great deal and continued thanking the Lord, for everything. I was surprised that, even though he had suffered tremendously during his long life, he always told me: *"Eternity will not be enough for me to thank the Lord for all the graces He granted me during my long life."*

While living with him, I completely understood why my Saint Mom took example from him, and I learned what it means to be a "saint of everyday life." His life and writings reveal that his soul was totally immersed in God; that his unshakable faith permeated and strengthened every single aspect of his life.

How many times has my Dad repeated these words to me: *"Jesus Christ came on this earth to serve, not to be served, and we must do the same."*

And since I was a child, I could understand very well the deep meaning of these words, because I have seen my holy Dad personally testify to this exhortation by his daily example.

He left me an extraordinary spiritual legacy, through his Christian and moral virtues.

"Jesus Christ came on this earth to serve, not to be served, and we must do the same."

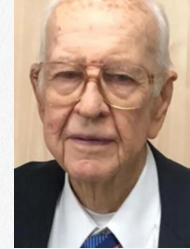
—Pietro Molla



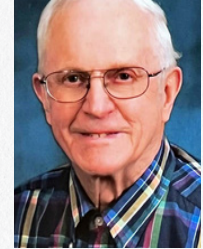
In Memoriam

The Saint Gianna and Pietro Molla Home lost our dear friends Ole Aasand and Michael McGurran this past November. Both were faithful and generous supporters of the Saint Gianna and Pietro Molla Home. Ole bought new flooring for us, as well as bedroom furniture. Michael regularly contributed to the Home and was always spreading the word about our mission. Please keep their souls in your prayers.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.



Ole Aasand



Michael McGurran

In memory of...

- ✦ **OLE AASAND** by Kevin & Phylis Frederickson
- ✦ **CAROL ALFORD** by Jerome Alford
- ✦ **ELMER ALTENDORF** by Marvin & Sherrie Altendorf
- ✦ **MARY ANNA ALTHOFF** by Anonymous
- ✦ **BABE BELZER, COLLEEN KUKLOK** by Paul & Heather Belzer
- ✦ **DEBORAH BELFORD BONE** by Rodger & Celinda Wetzal
- ✦ **THERESA BROSSART** by Mary Frelch
- ✦ **LUDWINA F. BUDZISZEWSKI** by James & Ione Kuznia
- ✦ **JAMES RICHARD BUETTNER** by Jeff & Joann Kitchens
- ✦ **WILLIAM & EVELYN CAMPBELL** by Daniel Campbell
- ✦ **TOM CAREW** by Ann Bailey
- ✦ **RONALD CARIGNAN** by Wade & Diane Melton
- ✦ **PHIL CASSIDY** by Brian Beaton
- ✦ **JANE COMEAU** by Bill & Kerry Marti
- ✦ **JOHN DINNEEN** by Beth Dinneen, Mike & Renee Daffinrud, Michael & Jane Seifert
- ✦ **ROGER DUFAULT** by Earl & Lydia Plutowski
- ✦ **DECEASED MEMBERS OF DORSHER & HAJICEK FAMILIES** by Doug & Madonna Hajicek
- ✦ **AGGIE ECKROTH** by Brenda Rohrich
- ✦ **WALLACE FELTMAN** by Marie Bellerud, Merlyn & Dolores Grabanski
- ✦ **DECEASED PARENTS** by Mary Finken
- ✦ **DIANE FORDE, KATIE LINDSEY, MARY ANN NOSBUSCH, RALPH NOSBUSCH** by Al Nosbusch
- ✦ **DEAN FUGLEM, FRANK HEINZ, MARGARET MAERTENS, CHAD ZIMPRICH** by Deacon Wallace & Colleen Dalman
- ✦ **JAMES FRUHWIRTH** by Lowell & Juliann Fruhwirth
- ✦ **MACKENZI GERSZEWSKI** by Deacon Tom & Mary Geffre
- ✦ **RICHARD GERSZEWSKI** by Don & Susan Barclay, Delores Burianek, Pat & Rita Lauer, Galen & Bonnie Scheresky
- ✦ **SHARON GUNWALL, JEAN HOLMGREN** by Ron & Linda Beare
- ✦ **PAUL & LEONA GUSTIN** by Albert & Virginia Dolajak
- ✦ **EMILY HARRINGTON** by William & Peggy Mager
- ✦ **DAVID HEGGEN, REX INGRAM, RICHARD LETZRING, MARY EVE WHALEN** by Curt & Mary Ellen Kirking
- ✦ **IRENE HENDRICKS** by Tim & Briann McKenna
- ✦ **KATHY ANN HERREID** by Lawrence & Marianne Kepler
- ✦ **MARLY MARIE HILLMAN** by Dave & Danell Dougherty
- ✦ **KEVIN HOENKE** by Sheila Trontvet
- ✦ **CORNELIA JONK** by Karla Lovaaesen, Yvonne Jonk & families (Cindy, John, Tim, Vince, Lia, Luella & Steve.)
- ✦ **LAURA JOHNSON, NOLAN KJOS** by Juliana Kuznia
- ✦ **JOAN JOYCE** by Charles & Barbara Ruzicka
- ✦ **KENNETH & JAMIE KIRCHMEIER** by Ida Kirchmeier
- ✦ **PAUL KNOSALLA** by Gail Erlendson

- ✦ **MAURICE & SOPHIE KORYNTA** by Ernes & Roxanne Korynta
- ✦ **DANIEL KOUBA** by George & Faye Moen
- ✦ **HARLEY KREIN, PASTOR DAVE LIGGETT** by Angie Marsh
- ✦ **JOSEPH L. LECH** by Margy Froelich, Deacon Tom & Mary Geffre
- ✦ **RAY LEIN** by George & Georgian Wysocki
- ✦ **JOSEPH LUKE** by Brian & Rhonda Kvidt
- ✦ **MARY ELIZABETH LENZ** by Al & Connie Brandt
- ✦ **CLARK MCGLYNN** by Louann McGlynn
- ✦ **J. MICHAEL MCGURRAN** by John & Peg Brossart, Wayne & Theresa Devine, Terry & Sharon Litchy, Terry & Mary Ann McKenna, Jerry & Nancy Obritsch, Paul Plutowski, Sign Badgers Team, Olive Swen & Sheri.
- ✦ **ROBERT MLCOCH** by Sheila Trontvet, Carl & Phyllis Wilkes
- ✦ **ORLO & LORRAINE MOSTAD** by Remi & Betty Beauchamp
- ✦ **MARY ELLEN NAADEN** by Connie & David Sprynczynatyk, Carol & Daniel Weiler, Jeanne & Dan Flaherty, Thomas & Cheryl Beadnell, Victor & Alice Carufel, Randel & Bethanie Christmann, Vince & Patty Foley, Sandra Glau, Bill & Diane Hartman, Bill & Donna Howard, Brian & Audrey Kane, Richard & Lois Kelly, John & Lesley Phillips, William & Elaine Ryan, Glenaris Sisco, Betty Trzpuć
- ✦ **PAUL & RANDY** by Don & Marie Nistler
- ✦ **DORIS NYHUS** by Glen & Tawnia Heilman
- ✦ **NICK OLHEISER** by Bernard & Bernie Zastoupil
- ✦ **VALOIE OLSON** by Arthur Olson
- ✦ **TED PASSA** by Lucille Passa
- ✦ **VIRGINIA PEDELISKI** by Paul & Pauline Savageau
- ✦ **JEAN M. "JAMOM" QUARRY** by Jill Quarry
- ✦ **SHARON RENICK** by Tim & Mary Hauser
- ✦ **SUSAN RODILES, TARA SINKLER** by Dale & Mary Klein
- ✦ **PARENTS, ISADORE & AURELIA ROLCZYNSKI, BROTHERS JOHN & LARRY** by Ron & Annette Ebbighausen
- ✦ **JAN RIVARD** by Al Rivard
- ✦ **VERNON ROGALLA** by Arlene Thune, George & Georgian Wysocki
- ✦ **LEO SCHAEFFER** by Mike & Julie Fedorchak, Setrak Haroutounian
- ✦ **LEO & RUTH SCHAEFFER** by Minot Knights of Columbus #4894
- ✦ **JACK SHARPE** by Father Peter Sharpe, Phillip & Edith Stoppleworth
- ✦ **BONNIE SIMS** by Patricia Kukert
- ✦ **DAVID, DOROTHY & STANLEY SLOMINSKI** by Deb Slominski
- ✦ **HELEN JOYCE STOCKER** by Michael & Michelle Schumacher
- ✦ **MARY SUE THOMPSON** by Frank & Susanne Argenziano
- ✦ **DECEASED FAMILY & RELATIVES** by Arlene Thune
- ✦ **CURTIS J. TUHY** by Angie Marsh, Jon & Marie Tuhy and girls
- ✦ **CHARLOTTE VECELLIO** by James & Ione Kuznia, Juliana Kuznia
- ✦ **BECKY WALD** by Jacob & Molly Rodenbiker
- ✦ **KIM & KEVIN WOINAROWICZ** by Ardyce Woinarowicz

In honor...

- ✦ **Arian & Marge Vonesh 50th wedding anniversary** by Frank & Susanne Argenziano
- ✦ **All Pro-Lifers** by Brian Beaton
- ✦ **Our children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren** by Remi & Betty Beauchamp
- ✦ **Our children's birthparents** by Kasper & Connie Bertsch
- ✦ **Daughter, Cecilia** by Jennifer Corgan
- ✦ **Life for all babies** by James & Clarisse Fasbender
- ✦ **Isaac & Laurelee Joerger** by Candonn & Cheryl Granger
- ✦ **Mary Ann McKenna, Carol Rerick's birthdays** by Delores Hackenberg
- ✦ **Rosemary Patricia Matthews** by Lawrence & Marianne Kepler
- ✦ **Monsignor Thomas Richter, Father Grant Dvorak** by Angie Marsh
- ✦ **Delores Hackenberg's birthday** by Terry & Mary Ann McKenna
- ✦ **Nistler family** by Don & Marie Nistler
- ✦ **Catholic schools, teachers, and staff** by Jay & Erin Ovsak
- ✦ **Bishop Andrew Cozzens** by James & Joanne Ranstrom
- ✦ **All the mothers and fathers who chose life** by Joe & Connie Savageau
- ✦ **Kylie Oversen** by Roger & Mary Sayler
- ✦ **Theodore (Teddy) Diego Rivard on his Baptism Day** by Beverly Schons
- ✦ **Sharon Solum's retirement** by Essentia Health
- ✦ **Our newest grandbaby, Sylvie Noelle** by Steve & Ellen Wallgren
- ✦ **Jon & Courtney Sims, Ken & Vickie Sims, Dcn. Allen & Patricia's 45th anniversary, Daniel & Catie Klocke, Lynae Sims, Dan & Shari Sims, Tom & Jill Moraghan, Dorothy & Tony Flood, our children & grandchildren, Father Ermer, Hilary & Casey Odegaard family, Lucas & Lori Klocke** by John & Jan Klocke

In celebration...

- ✦ **Maggie Casey's 12th birthday** by Francis & Sally Casey, Steven & Marsha Schmidt
- ✦ **Our 25th wedding anniversary** by Thomas & Corrie Enanders
- ✦ **Jim & Mary Ann Schillo's 50th wedding anniversary** by Angie Marsh
- ✦ **Our 62nd wedding anniversary** by Bob & Donna Harvey
- ✦ **Kirk & Leann Ripplinger's 25th wedding anniversary** by Michael & Kristin Higgins
- ✦ **Marriages of Aaron & Katie Peterka, Keith & Tori Beneda** by Philomena Kazmierczak
- ✦ **Father Rick Lambert's birthday** by Arlene Thune
- ✦ **Francis Williams' 90th birthday** by Janet Williams
- ✦ **Tom & Corrie Enanders 25th wedding anniversary** by Ryan & Kimberly Wilson

In thanksgiving...

- ✦ **Prayers answered** by Robert & Robyn Dion
- ✦ **Our grandchildren** by Tom & Diane Mertens
- ✦ **Birth of grandson, Luke Lee Howell** by Wallace & Colleen Dalman
- ✦ **11th anniversary of Deaconate Ordination of Deacon Wally Dalman** by Colleen Dalman

In gratitude...

- ✦ **To Amy Dallum Photography** who photographed the Adoption Ceremony
- ✦ **To Heather Samson Photography** who photographed the La Vita e Bella Ceremony

Prayers / special intentions

- ✦ *By* Brian Beaton
- ✦ **Friend battling colon cancer** by Joe & Melinda Fridrich
- ✦ *By* Gene & Rose Funseth
- ✦ *By* Candonn & Cheryl Granger
- ✦ **Grandchildren** by Angie Marsh
- ✦ *By* MaryJane Henley
- ✦ *By* Kirk & Mary Ellen Kirking
- ✦ *By* Anonymous
- ✦ **Families going through divorce** by Anonymous
- ✦ **Jaden** by Anonymous
- ✦ **Susan Schock** by Angie Marsh
- ✦ *By* Duane & Gayle Noraker
- ✦ **Those struggling with mental health issues** by Anonymous
- ✦ **Baby Ayla Rose** by Chris & Emma Savageau
- ✦ *By* Terry & Mary Jo Schmitz
- ✦ *By* Mike & Cindi Wavra
- ✦ **For Saint Gianna & Pietro Molla Maternity Home staff** by Tom Williams
- ✦ **Riske & Wocken families for November** by Robert & Marilyn Wocken
- ✦ **To end all wars** by Brian Beaton
- ✦ **For Father Kevin** by Brian Beaton

We celebrated the baptisms of three beautiful babies this fall!

