

A Canticle of praise



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

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To our benefactors, we are grateful to God for you. And all of us here at the Home remember you at daily Mass and in our prayers, that God would reward you for your goodness. We can't do it without you.



We have much to be grateful to God for

Homily by Father Joseph Christensen, FMI
at the 20th Anniversary Celebration Mass

I wish the Saint Gianna & Pietro Molla Maternity Home staff, board members, and all of you a happy 20-year anniversary as we celebrate life, love, and the many gifts that God has given us. We place our trust in God in all these years of this work with the Saint Gianna & Pietro Molla Maternity Home and in the pro-life movement.

I think about the many years, and especially as Mary Pat tells the story from the beginning, how it was difficult, right? Starting the 501(c)3 . . . starting the Gianna Home . . . remodeling . . . all these things that had to be done. And she and the others around her weren't experts at doing this. But they tried and they kept going, and they're still going, and they've made a difference. All of you together with those who work on the ground here make a difference in 300 plus lives.

We have much to be grateful to God for. Big things and small things, so many graces that God has given in these past 20 years on so many levels. We're grateful to the board members who have stuck with us, and those who have joined since then. We're grateful for the work that you do, and for these great women who help to guide and do this work.

To our benefactors, we are grateful to God for you. And all of us here at the Home remember you at daily Mass and in our prayers, that God would reward you for your goodness. We can't do it without you.

Embracing the cross

The other day, Mary Pat's daughter Aubrey was very excited and she came running up to me when I went to the Saint Gianna & Pietro Molla Maternity Home. She had her hands behind her back and she said, "I have a surprise for you." She said, "You love these things." I thought, I don't know; a candy bar or something? And so I said, "Well, what is it?" And she pulled it out. It's a cross. And I have to laugh, because I love crosses. That's the Christian way, isn't it? To love the cross, to embrace the cross, to live the cross. Because we know, beyond the cross is the Resurrection.

Continued next page



Continued from page three

We don't want mothers or children to suffer. We don't want anyone to suffer. We want everyone to enjoy life and to live it to the full. We know that suffering is part of salvation, but we want to help relieve suffering. This is what we'll be judged on, according to Matthew 25. In the judgment scene with the sheep and the goats, what does the King look for? To bring relief to our brothers and sisters, to assuage their suffering, to help them, to walk with them, to be with them. As Saint Gianna says: "One cannot love without suffering or suffer without loving."

"a concrete way that we can promote life"

The Saint Gianna & Pietro Molla Maternity Home has responded to a need in our time. This is very important work: To give help, to give hope, to walk with these mothers and their children. And all of us are doing that. I always say that the Saint Gianna & Pietro Molla Maternity Home is a flagship, because people want to do something. And we can. We can pray, we can pray at the abortion facility.

But here is a concrete way that we can help promote life, save lives, and bring relief and guidance and a new life to these mothers and their children.

We think in gratitude about all the lives that have been touched, all the stories. Kassity and Geianna were just little girls when I first came around and now they're young women. The children grow up. Kassity is in college, Geianna is starting college. And so they've been around, and their lives have impacted my life, and you have impacted their lives.

You have helped them to be the beautiful young women that they've grown to be, and we thank God for that and for your support being part of the Saint Gianna & Pietro Molla Maternity Home family. Because as I mentioned, we can't do it without everyone and especially without your prayers. It can be tough work. It's not easy to face these difficulties—and the women who are hurting so much—in order to bring them relief, to bring help and wholeness in their lives. That's a day-to-day, 24-hour process, so we appreciate your prayers.

And now we've celebrated 20 years. Despite the victory of the Dobbs decision, we still have abortion, and—in some cases next door, in the state next to us—very radical proposals against life. We still have women and mothers who are very alone in the world. And that's our task, to reach out to them and help them. We have women and children who are lost, who are addicts, who are overwhelmed with a decision now that they are pregnant.



“

That’s the Christian way, isn’t it? To love the cross, to embrace the cross, to live the cross. Because we know, beyond the cross is the Resurrection.



The choice before us

And I ask you, who is there for them? Who’s encouraging them and which way are they being encouraged: For life or for death? We heard Joshua say to the Israelites, “Fear the Lord and serve him completely. Cast out the gods that our fathers served beyond the river. Decide today.” You and I need to decide today with Joshua. And don’t think that any of us are excused. We all stand before God, and we’re in this solidarity together for life. We all need to bring a change together, because in numbers we can succeed much better.

We know that hearts can be changed. Don’t be discouraged, and don’t say, “Oh, Father, that’s a nice piety, yeah. We’ve been at it 20, 40 years, actually. Yeah. It’s not going to change.” It is going to change, because Christ is victorious.

But it takes work, right? It takes the cross. Each of us picking up our cross, each of us doing our part. It takes effort, years trying, maybe not always succeeding. But we must help and never quit and never stop for the babies, for the mothers, and for life. Our Lord says, “Take heart, take courage. I have overcome the world.” Ask Our Lord in what way he wants you to be an instrument, in what way he wants you to help or to do what you can to promote life and love and dignity for every person.

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SNAPSHOTS FROM OUR 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

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Heroic sacrifice

As a priest, I talk about virtue and gospel values. But each mom — both moms who parent and moms who place for adoption - they walk the walk, they live it. There's no greater love than one who lays down his life for his friend, all these mothers make great sacrifices. They have taught me true love, self-sacrificing love.

We're going to be judged on virtue, on heroism, on love, each of us. So let us continue. You make a difference. You change lives for the good. And that's what our world needs especially now, to give hope and to give love. So please, as we thank you, please continue to pray, to sacrifice, to support the pro-life work, especially at the Saint Gianna & Pietro Molla Maternity Home.

I'm grateful for Mary Pat, the staff, the board members, the house mothers, and all who have helped us. We're grateful to God for his many blessings and gifts. Continue to pray for the Gospel of Life to prevail, to evangelize for life, and to celebrate the wonderful gift of every life. ■



“
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“The doors stay open because of love”

Board Members Share 20 Years of Memories



Eleri Kerian

Before I moved to North Dakota, my now husband would tell me how proud he was of the Blessed Gianna Maternity Home opening up just down the road from his home town. He has always been proud of how pro-life North Dakota is.

But being pro-life has never been all it takes to keep the Saint Gianna & Pietro Molla Maternity Home open. The doors stay open because of love. What are the ways love keeps our doors open? There is love from the local community that supports the residents by accepting them as neighbors and classmates. There is love from our donors, who support our mission financially. And of course, there is love from the staff and volunteers who serve the day-to-day needs of our residents.

There is also the love the mothers show their children by choosing St. Gianna & Pietro Molla Maternity Home as the best place to start their life as a family together—or often times, to create a new family through adoption placement.

I have been involved with the St. Gianna & Pietro Molla Maternity Home for 15 years now. The 20th anniversary event was like looking through a scrapbook of family memories with all the familiar faces filling St. Stanislaus Church for the day. Love has brought all these people together and love will keep all of us going forward to save one mother, one baby, and one family at a time.



Robbyne Sands

For most of my childhood, I saw the old convent in Warsaw deteriorating, and the only memories I thought it would hold were those of my ancestors, including my Dad and my Grandma and her siblings, who attended school and prepared for their First Holy Communion there. Little did I know that the Lord let the old deteriorating convent remain, for He knew the countless new memories and acts of charity and love it would behold.

I was the office manager when the Blessed Gianna Maternity Home opened its doors, and I still remember taking the very first phone call from a young mother. She became our first resident with her little girl. She was also pregnant with the baby who would be the first baby born there. A little while later, I was asked to join the board, and I've been serving in that capacity ever since.

One of my fondest memories is being pregnant at the same time as one of our residents who ended up placing her baby for adoption. Shortly after giving birth, she entered the Church, and I was blessed to be her Godmother and also the Godmother to one of her children.

The Saint Gianna & Pietro Molla Maternity Home has had such a positive impact on countless people. Mary Pat's selfless example of sacrifice and love truly is profound. She has been a mentor to me and every single mother and person who has set foot in the Home. Father Joseph also leads the flock of the Saint Gianna & Pietro Molla Maternity Home with such tenderness and compassion. He shares the gospel of life and embraces the mothers and children wherever they are in their lives, truly showing all the love of Jesus Christ.



Dolores Grabanski

Our son, Bryan, was involved with the renovation of the Saint Gianna & Pietro Molla Maternity Home from the very beginning, and my husband, Merlyn, and I helped with various jobs. I organized groups of women to prepare and serve hot meals at noon for about 25 to 30 men Monday through Saturday. I also did some staining and varnishing at the home. Merlyn and Bryan installed ceramic tile floors and ceramic walls and helped with a number of other jobs. Bryan was one of the first board members of the Saint Gianna & Pietro Molla Maternity Home.

Bryan passed in 2005. Two years later, I was asked to be a board member, and I still remain on the board. The renovation of the home took a lot of hard work by so many people, but Bryan said, "If we can save just one baby, it's worth it."

I feel very grateful and blessed being able to serve the Saint Gianna & Pietro Molla Maternity Home for all these years.

In Memoriam



You and your intentions will be remembered in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass offered each First Saturday of the month. These intentions were from March 26th – July 31st.

In memory of...

- ✦ **CAROL ALFORD** *by Jerome Alford*
- ✦ **BILL ALKOEFER** *by Mike & Michelle Such*
- ✦ **CORBETT EUGENE ANDERSON** *by Corbett J. Anderson*
- ✦ **KENNETH ANDERSON, BETTE PARSONS** *by Deacon Tom & Mary Geffre*
- ✦ **DUANE BABINSKI** *by Ray & Kathy Korynta*
- ✦ **SUELLEN BATEMAN, WILLY KETTERLING, ALBERT SANOFSKY** *by Bob & Karen Landman*
- ✦ **VIOLET BEATON, VIETNAM VETERAN FRIENDS** *by Brian Beaton*
- ✦ **JOE BELFORD, PAT BELFORD, DEBORAH BONE** *by Rodger & Celinda Wetzel*
- ✦ **JEFF BEZDICEK, RON HEISER, JOSEPH S. SENKO** *by Angie Marsh*
- ✦ **MARISSA BOURDAGE, JOFFREY KUZNIA** *by Juliana Kuznia*
- ✦ **GIB BROMENSCHENKEL** *by Deborah Hagen, Randy & Lori Zimprich*
- ✦ **TED CHWIALKOWSKI** *by James & Ione Kuznia, Juliana Kuznia*
- ✦ **MADDY CLARYS** *by Sheila Trontvet*
- ✦ **PAT CONLIN** *by Timothy & Elizabeth Conlin*
- ✦ **IONE DESAUTEL** *by Wally Desautel*
- ✦ **LOIS DURKIN** *by Kevin & Lisa Durkin*
- ✦ **DOROTHY ENDRES, JEANETTE WALLGREN** *by Steve & Ellen Wallgren*
- ✦ **GENE ENGEN** *by Brenda Borowicz*
- ✦ **ANDREW MILTON ERICKSON** *by Terry & Paulette Haman*
- ✦ **MARY FELTMAN** *by Roger & Yvonne Feltman, Carol A. Gustad, Michael & Susan Hill, Glenn & Diane Hoffmann, Jacqueline Holter, Deb Johnson, Joseph & Susan Johnson, Leonard & Pat Kotta*
- ✦ **DEAN FITTERER** *by Bernard & Bernie Zastoupil*
- ✦ **JEAN GIBBENS, MARVIN SAYLER** *by Roger & Mary Sayler*
- ✦ **VERONICA "VONNIE" HALVERSON** *by Al & Connie Brandt*
- ✦ **MILDRED HAWBAKER** *by Shannon Hawbaker*
- ✦ **BOYD HOCH** *by Dale & Mary Klein*
- ✦ **GARY HONER** *by Lorr Evert*
- ✦ **DR. SAMY KARAZ, BEVA PAULSON** *by Ron & Linda Beare*
- ✦ **SUSAN KARY** *by Jon & Jessina Kary*
- ✦ **GENEVIEVE KLAVA** *by Ray & Kathy Korynta*
- ✦ **JOYCE KOEHN, DELORES STENSETH** *by Kevin & Brenda Regan*
- ✦ **RITA KOSMATKA** *by Merlyn & Dolores Grabanski*
- ✦ **RUTH MACK** *by Steve & Annette Hoornaert*

In celebration...

- ✦ **Phyllis Wilkes birthday** *by Delores Hackenberg*
- ✦ **Father Vincent Miller's 25th anniversary of ordination** *by Edwardine Szklarski*
- ✦ **Kelsey Lako's birthday** *by Randy & Lori Zimprich*
- ✦ **Bob & Peggy Plemel's 68th wedding anniversary** *by Therese Flesch*
- ✦ **Joseph Wendell Anthony Sands Confirmation & First Communion** *by Jared & Robbyne Sands*
- ✦ **Penelope Rae Gemma Slominski Confirmation & First Communion** *by Jared & Robbyne Sands*
- ✦ **Barb Geffre's 95th birthday** *by Deacon Tom & Mary Geffre*
- ✦ **Lenora Kutz 80th birthday** *by Deacon Tom & Mary Geffre*
- ✦ **Ken & Sue Haas 40th wedding anniversary** *by Deacon Tom & Mary Geffre*
- ✦ **Father Sean Mulligan's 10th anniversary of priestly ordination** *by Deacon Tom & Mary Geffre*

- ✦ **GENE MARCOTTE** *by Deborah Hagen*
- ✦ **TONY MICHALEK** *by David & Mary Michalak*
- ✦ **MARLYS MILLER** *by Dale & Brenda Collette, Roger & Yvonne Feltman, Bonnie Sampel Family, Jared & Robbyne Sands*
- ✦ **BETTY MORAGHAN** *by Paul & Pauline Savageau*
- ✦ **ISABEL NISWONGER** *by Walhalla Degree of Honor*
- ✦ **KAREN OLSCHLAGER** *by Glen & Tawnia Heilman*
- ✦ **GRETA PASCHKE** *by Merlyn & Dolores Grabanski, Lee & Linda Lessard*
- ✦ **ROSE PAVEK** *by JD Pavek, Boulger Funeral Home*
- ✦ **LOUISE PEDERSON** *by George & Faye Moen*
- ✦ **NAOM SCHLENKER** *by James & Ione Kuznia*
- ✦ **LARRY SCHRADER** *by Leona Schneider*
- ✦ **BABY REIS** *by Bill & Jennifer Schmitt*
- ✦ **JOSEPH STANISLAUS SARANCHUK** *by Michelle Chmay, Veronica Collini, Lino DeGasperis, George Marchionda, William Mathie, Candice Pearson, Wayne & Mary Shepard*
- ✦ **FATHER SCOTT SAUTNER** *by Deacon Tom & Mary Geffre, Lois Titus, Randy & Lori Zimprich*
- ✦ **IRENE SCHANILEC** *by Family & Friends, Ralph & Dawn Applegren, Bernadette Borowicz, Nan Carlisle, Lee & Sheila Czapiewski, Wayne & Carol Denault, Thomas & Avis Dolan, Kevin & Lisa Durkin, Mike & Mary Dvorak, Ron & Annette Ebbighausen, Doris Kiedrowski, Lawrence & Marian Foerster, Tom & Mary Kempf, Joseph & Sharon Marvin, Jack & Constance McDonald, Rod & Cryss Quanbeck, Paul & Eileen Rinde, Bonnie Riske, Bonnie Sampel Family, Jared & Robbyne Sands, Helen Schraufek, Donny & Mary Ellen Skogen, Kathy Slominski, Shirley Suda, John & Susan Svoboda, Anonymous*
- ✦ **SIMON SCHWAN** *by Family & Friends, Chris & Jen Johnson, Leading Edge Equipment*
- ✦ **ANGIE STECKLER-WERNER** *by Clinton & Angela Hoggarth*
- ✦ **BRADLEY TUSOW** *by Rod & Joan Schanilec*
- ✦ **DANIEL VANYO** *by Randall Slominski*
- ✦ **BECKY WALD** *by Jacob & Molly Rodenbiker*
- ✦ **FRIEDA WALSKI** *by Jared & Robbyne Sands*
- ✦ **JOE WANNER** *by Patricia Jahner*



We were blessed by the visit of Nick Proulx who generously celebrated his military promotion by donating to us in honor of the **Minot Bomber Barons**. We are grateful for his service to our country and his generosity in celebration of life.

In honor...

- ♦ **Minot Bomber Barons** by Nicholas Proulx
- ♦ **All the staff over all the years!**
Congratulations on your 20th anniversary
by Angie Marsh
- ♦ **Father James Gross** by Heather Gilbert
- ♦ **Our 6 children and 17 grandchildren** by Roger & Mary Saylor
- ♦ **WWII Veteran Franklin Gibbens 100th birthday** by Roger & Mary Saylor
- ♦ **Margaret Rafferty** by Randy & Lori Zimprich
- ♦ **Chris & Jessica Sims family, Daniel & Katie Klocke family, Joe & Jolene Hendrickx family, Tony & Dorothy Flood family** by John & Jan Klocke
- ♦ **Foster mothers who care for mothers who chose life** by Michelle Snyder
- ♦ **Mary Ann McKenna** by Michael McKenna
- ♦ **Gabe, son-in-law, who graduated from the University of Mary** by Ed & Carrie Zimprich
- ♦ **Stanley & Diantha Kaznowski, Sally Havercamp** by David & Mary Michalak
- ♦ **Beverly Schons** by Courtney Savageau
- ♦ **Mike & Barb Little** by Philip Little

In thanksgiving...

- ♦ **Healing** by Angie Marsh
- ♦ **Monsignor James B. Braaten, Father James Kilzer, OSB, Father Bruce Krebs, Father Thomas Grafsgaard** by Mary Ann Wanner

Prayers / special intentions

- ♦ **Sister and her husband** by Brian Beaton
- ♦ **Twin great nephews' birth** by Sharon Reidy
- ♦ **By Gerald Hunt**
- ♦ **Children & grandchildren** by David & Mary Michalak
- ♦ **Abigail Clare Good** by Stephen & Clare Laylock
- ♦ **Angie Marsh** by Pamela Kolling
- ♦ **By Ray & Lisa Christensen**
- ♦ **Robert** by Dale & Mary Klein
- ♦ **Landis family** by David & Kristi Landis
- ♦ **By Derek & Jennifer Nelson**
- ♦ **By Tom Cieszinski**
- ♦ **Family** by Deb Howland
- ♦ **By Dorothy Feist**
- ♦ **By Pamela Kolling**
- ♦ **Healthy birth of granddaughter** by Debora Bailey
- ♦ **Sister** by Shelley Ackerman
- ♦ **By Courtney Savageau**
- ♦ **Tiffany** by Peggy O'Shea

Special Intention:

Pray for Housemothers!

Dear friends,

As you know, our ministry depends on being able to give mothers and their babies the personal attention and support they need. Our housemothers play a most important part in the life of the Maternity Home. Without them, we simply cannot serve everyone who turns to Saint Gianna & Pietro Molla Maternity Home for help.

Right now, we urgently need housemothers! We are accepting applications for three positions, starting this fall. If you know of any women who might be interested, please share this newsletter with them. And please remember this special intention in your daily prayers.

Being a housemother is a unique opportunity to take part in the pro-life cause in a very personal way. It is a chance to live a life of prayer and service, while preparing for a vocation and discerning the path God has laid out.

In Christ,

Mary Pat Jahner,
Director

P.S. – If you have any questions about the housemother position, feel free to email sgpmollahome@outlook.com or call 701-248-3077.

20 *years of joy*

*Thank you for helping mothers
courageously choose life!*



20 SAINT GIANNA
PIETRO MOLLA
Parish Center

R S