

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear friends,

As Thanksgiving approaches, I find myself reflecting on the deep meaning of care and compassion in our work. Recently, while reading John 21:15-19, I was struck by Jesus' exchange with Peter, where He asks, "Do you love me?" When Peter responds affirmatively, Jesus instructs him three times: "Feed my lambs... Tend my sheep... Feed my sheep." I was drawn to Jesus' choice of words, especially His first command: "Feed my lambs." In calling Peter to care for the "lambs," Jesus is asking him to look after the most vulnerable among us—the young and defenseless, those who cannot care for themselves.



In this, I see our mission at Mother of Life Center: to care for and protect the most vulnerable—our babies and families who need support. We are entrusted to nurture life, just as Jesus asked of Peter. It is a mission filled with purpose, and it is only possible because of the generosity and dedication of people like you.

This Thanksgiving, I want to express my deepest gratitude to each of you who support the Center. Whether through your time, resources, or simply standing with us, you make all the difference. You help us continue being a beacon of hope and love to those who need it most, embodying a commitment to life that is deeply impactful.

Thank you for your ongoing support, prayers, and friendship. Together, we look toward a future where every life is cherished and protected, and where the tragedy of abortion is replaced by a culture of love and respect for all.

With heartfelt gratitude, prayers, and best wishes for a blessed Thanksgiving,



Lise Doyle
Executive Director

40 YEARS OF EXTRAORDINARY SIGNIFICANCE

In Holy Scripture when we see the number forty in the history of Israel and the lives of the prophets and our Lord Himself, we are being told that something extraordinary is happening. And so it has been, is, and shall be for Mother of Life Center.

What a great blessing it was to enjoy our 40th Anniversary Rose Gala with so many supporters, both longtime and recent! The love, energy, and enthusiasm in the room were unmistakable.

Blessing both our meal and the mission we uphold together, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus Robert C. Evans honored the Center, and its founders, leaders, donors and staff with a beautiful Invocation.

A central feature of the event was Father Christopher Mahar's account of the Center's rich history which filled the room with gratitude for all that's been accomplished. His own story of involvement in the early years was very touching.



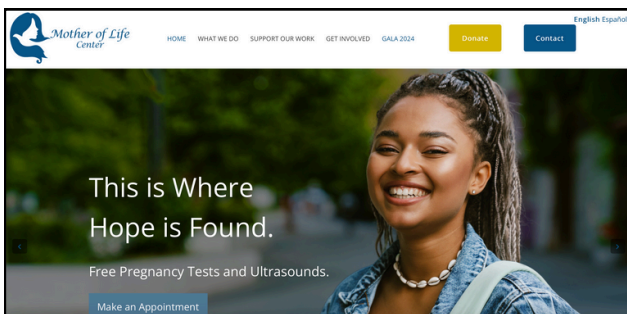
Father Mahar describing his evocative personal encounter distinguishing the vital effects of the Center.

Keynote Speaker Linda Ruf, CEO of St. John Paul II Life Center in Austin, Texas, inspired us with her talk on "being the change in the world," reminding us of the powerful role we each play in leading others to the light of life.

Julie Lamin Sparling, the Center's Client & Family Advocate, shared moving testimonials about our clients, such as the woman who,

see *Gala*, page 2

NEW WEBSITE DRAWING WANTED ATTENTION



Always striving to reach a greater number of abortion-vulnerable women, we recently invested a substantial amount of thought and time in overhauling and modernizing our website, motheroflife.org.

Paramount in the effort was giving help-seeking women a clear sense that the Center is fundamentally a resource while at the same time being a haven of compassion.

Pray with us, please, that women searching for support will find the Center, receive holy help, choose life and appreciate its beauty, and be inspired to love and serve Christ Jesus.

Gala, from page 1

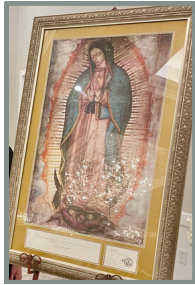
despite a challenging family background and intense personal struggles, found hope at Mother of Life Center. Inspired by the Center's compassionate staff, she is now nurturing her baby and considering a career path in sonography.

The Center's Patroness, Our Lady of Guadalupe, was prominently present in two particularly lovely ways:

Loaned to the Center for the Gala, this framed image was touched to the tilma of St. Juan Diego, and contains a small vessel of soil from the site of the first chapel built at



Tepeyac in 1531. Blessed by Pope Benedict XVI, it is associated with reputed miracles.



Center co-director Rebecca Schulte made this pretty devotional quilt for our raffle.

Rose Gala photos courtesy of Paul Gebhart, Life Director for the R.I. State Council Knights of Columbus.



Seeing the enthusiasm and commitment of our youth volunteers from Saint Philip Church and guests from Chesterton Academy gave us a glimpse of the bright future for the pro-life cause. These are among the special souls who will lead the pro-life community for the next 40 years!

We are also pleased to report a very successful paddle raise. If you have not yet fulfilled your commitment, please click **Donate** at motheroflife.org, notation: *Paddle Raise*.

Thank you, everyone, for your continued support, prayers, and friendship. Your participation is invaluable to our mission, and we look forward to sharing many more meaningful moments with you!

Father Mahar's presentation



Excerpts from Linda Ruf



A GLIMPSE INSIDE™

"I thought it was so cool that the baby was the size of a grain of rice and it still had a heartbeat." Imagine how different the world will be when every male middle school student has such a perspective as Brady, the boy herein quoted.

Presented by keynote speaker Linda Ruf at our Rose Gala and available for viewing on our website, "A Glimpse Inside" is both a short, powerful video that opens the eyes, minds and hearts of viewers, and a pro-life teaching tool.

The program uses physician-led videos on fetal development, guided 3D/4D ultrasounds, and a thought-provoking curriculum to provide scientific evidence of life in the womb, empowering young people to understand a most pressing

question: When does life begin? High school student Marissa responded, "This showed me that it doesn't matter how developed you are, you're always going to be the same person with the same dignity."



Image courtesy of St. John Paul II Life Center, jpiilifecenter.org, partnering with Mother of Life Center to promote Life and learning.

To watch this gently impactful 3.5-minute video, scan this code or visit motheroflife.org, tab **What We Do / Education**.



You could ask your pastor to visit GlimpseInside.org so that he might consider including the video in the Catechism curriculum. Certainly share this lesson about the beauty of life with the youth in your family!

A NOTE WRITTEN BY B & G, A COUPLE THAT RECEIVED SERVICES AND GOODS FROM THE CENTER:

"Your support, kindness and generosity have made a powerful mark in our lives and bring us closer to God, truth, and good values."

WHEN ASKED IF WE COULD PRAY FOR HER, U.P. SAID:

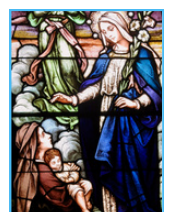
"For wisdom and guidance to always make the right choices."

WONDERS & DESIGNS

The Center's uniquely Catholic, Christo-centric mission and physical design infuses our daily work. We begin our day in prayer, asking for holy guidance. Then, during intake interviews of new pregnant clients, Julie asks if they have the support of family, friends, or faith.

Recently, two plainly sad women spoke of having no one. Julie gently asked about their desire to experience the support of a faith community. Their responses being affirmative, she suggested two local Catholic churches. By the conclusion of their interviews they were shining, lit up with smiles because they felt supported not only by the services, goods and resources we give free of charge, but also because they experienced the spiritual encouragement that is fundamental to their wellness. Both are now finding peace in prayer and worship.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, thank you!



BECOME PART OF OUR NEW CIRCLE OF LIFE RECURRING GIFT SOCIETY

Already striding boldly into its fifth decade, the Center relies, as always, on your sustaining support throughout the journey. We speak of it as our need, but really we are simply pass-along ambassadors for our needy clients.

The Circle of Life Gift Society is a community of dedicated individuals committed to making a lasting difference in the lives of those whom we serve.

Various categories of contributions confer a variety of benefits, including Masses offered for loved ones, memorial bricks and nameplates, and more.

The methods and levels of giving that suit your well-being are best determined in prayer and discussion with family and licensed, professional financial advisors.

Perhaps legacy giving, memorials, matched contributions, IRAs or QCDs are your preferred resources.

The outline of options regarding ways of giving to the Center is presented at motheroflife.org under the **Support Our Work** tab. Please visit and consider how you can buttress the Center for as many years as it is needed. Thank you for your kind consideration.



MATERNITY & BABY GOODS NEEDED

Would you like to help keep our shelves stocked with the great variety and quantity of materials needed by mothers and their infants and young babies?

Current acute needs are: diaper cream, lotion, baby wash and shampoo, wipes, diapers (sizes 4, 5, 6), breast pads for nursing, pacifiers, clothing for boys and girls (sizes newborn, 0-3 months, 3 months, 12 months, and 3T/4T), socks (sizes 0-6 months, 6-12, 12-24, and 2T). To arrange for our grateful reception of your contribution, please call Client & Family Advocate Julie Lamin Sparling at 401-421-0821.

Stay in touch with clients needs by receiving our emails. Contact info@motheroflife.org to be included. Also, visit Mother of Life Center on facebook, and check the **Get Involved / Material Needs** tab at motheroflife.org.

ROSE SALES' SWEET SUCCESSES

In both May and October our annual rose sales produced bountiful harvests of appreciation and support at scores of parishes throughout the state, including three churches that had not previously participated! The Center is also blessed by the several churches that send donations in lieu of hosting the rose sale.

Conducting these very important fundraisers requires the magnanimity of dozens of volunteer coordinators and sales assistants. Above all, though, nothing would come to fruition without the hospitality and blessings of our precious pastors and parishioners, and the sometimes-unsung secretaries and office managers.

We pray for great bouquets of blessings upon everyone who supports the Center through these activities. *Thank you all so much!*



Autumn roses praise the parish patroness at Saint Mary Church, Providence.
Photo courtesy of Claire Gruneberg.

SUMMARY TIMELINE OF THE CENTER

1973: Joanne McOsker founded Catholics for Life nine months after the injudicious U.S. Supreme Court Roe v. Wade ruling.

For many years thereafter courageous people prayed the Rosary and engaged in pro-life intervention on the sidewalk outside the abortion clinic at 386 Atwells Avenue, at the corner of Hewitt Street. Directly across Hewitt, at 400 Atwells, was a vacant lot that during previous decades was occupied by Federal Hill House, a community resource center.

August 14, 1984: Joanne McOsker incorporated Problem Pregnancy of Providence in an office located at the corner of Dean and Broadway. This organization provided crucial support to women facing unplanned pregnancies, offering material goods, counseling and friendship. Many mothers were helped, but Joanne envisioned something greater: a Catholic, pro-life center directly opposite the abortion clinic on Atwells.

News of this aspiration ignited a groundswell of support within the Catholic community, sparking rallies, planning sessions, and a remarkable outpouring of broad-based generosity.

August 15, 2003 – Feast of the Assumption of Mary: At 400 Atwells, ground was broken for the construction of a specially designed pregnancy resource center, at the heart of which there would be a beautiful chapel.

Building Plan

We have already purchased the land. Center construction will cost \$350,000, and an endowment of \$200,000 will be established for operating support. This results in a total funding need of \$550,000.

The Mother of Life main entrance reception hall will feature a single-issue commissioned sculpture in glass encasement recognizing a Leadership Gift of \$200,000.

Other named gift opportunities include:

Chapel	\$100,000	Director's Office	\$50,000
Counseling Room	\$50,000	12 Stations of the Cross	\$25,000
Sonogram Room	\$50,000	Book Store	\$25,000
Director's Office	\$50,000	Press	\$10,000
Conference Room	\$50,000		

continued, see Timeline, page 4

KNIGHTS COOK UP HOSPITALITY



Photo courtesy of Fr. Donnelly Council member Paul Gebhart.

One-year-old Mac from Massachusetts was among the dozens of guests who attended, with his mom Krista, the fourth annual Knights of Columbus Cookout and Mother of Life Center Open House hosted by Father Donnelly Council #322 on August 17.

We give thanks for the many attendees who brought contributions of baby goods and financial support!



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Hope is Found.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



December 12 – The Feast of
Our Lady of Guadalupe,
Patroness of the Center.
*Please make a year-end
donation in her honor.*

Timeline, from page 3

August 15, 2004: Mother of Life Center opened to offer free and confidential pregnancy testing, pro-life counseling, and ongoing support to pregnant and nursing mothers and their babies.

August 29, 2004 – Passion of Saint John the Baptist: In the Center's new chapel, the first Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was offered. Forty days later, the abortion clinic across the street closed.

May 2023: The building formerly occupied by the clinic was demolished.

In the course of 40 years, what was once an edifice for evil became a parking lot, and what was once a vacant lot became a humble palace fit for the King of Goodness and Life!



RECEIVE A BLESSING, GIVE A BLESSING

Reacting to the recent elections, the value of stocks are leaping upwards, which might be considerably raising the worth of your Donor Advised Funds. A commensurate gift granted to the Center will enable us to reliably assist the babies and families whose most significant portfolio is their trust in folks like you.

Every dollar does good: \$500 helps save a baby from chemical abortion • \$250 can provide a life-saving ultrasound each month • \$100 supplies a family with a month of diapers • \$75 supports monthly childbirth and parenting classes. **Can you help now?**

WHY MONTHLY GIVING IS GOOD FOR YOU

The case for how monthly-giving benefits the Center is plain and simple. Such gifts stabilize the Center, enabling the organization to meet recurring obligations, such as utility and insurance bills, while also operating in readiness to meet its clients' acute needs.

For similar reasons it benefits you. First, it's convenient, quick and easy at **motheroflife.org**. Just click *Donate* and then select *Make this a monthly donation*. Automation saves you from having to remember this meaningful commitment in the midst of busyness.

Second, these gifts spread the weight of your overall contribution in such a way as to stabilize your budget, establishing a very mutualistic relationship between us.

Ultimately, your generous and thoughtful strategy makes a compounded positive impact on our work, which enables us to ask less and act more.

While contributing is secure, simple and easy at **motheroflife.org/donate**, you may alternatively use the enclosed donation form and pre-addressed envelope.

Thank you for your special considerations. Daily, we give thanks to God and implore His blessings upon all our donors, without whose support we cannot function!