

# Saint Gianna's Maternity Home A Canticle of Praise

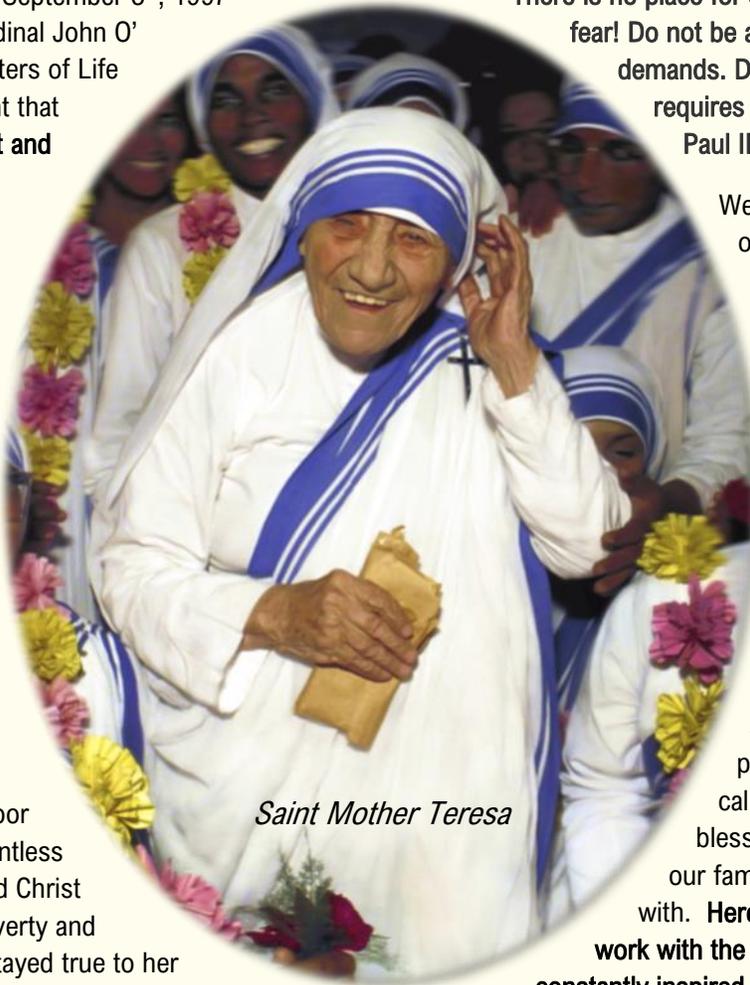


Serving the Body of Christ as a Pro-Life Home of Formation for Pregnant Women and their Children • Spring - 2022

## Life is Beautiful!

When Mother Teresa died on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 1997—a day I will never forget—Cardinal John O' Connor (who founded the Sisters of Life in 1991), released a statement that said: **"The world has both lost and gained a great Saint."** I have pondered these words over many years and in different situations. Those of us who grew up when Mother Teresa was alive were deeply moved by her doing so much good in the world, work that the Missionaries of Charity now continue; she was such a tremendous source of inspiration to me and to so many. Her simplicity, humility, and tremendous fortitude, and her ability to speak and to live so profoundly in her service to Christ in the poorest of the poor has also inspired me and countless others. Mother Teresa served Christ despite the chaos and the poverty and confusion around her. She stayed true to her vocation. "Intense love does not measure; it just gives." -Mother Teresa

John Paul II was another saintly example in life and a remarkable Saint in his death. He was alone in the world in his early 20s: he lived through both the Nazi's and Communism, and yet he had so much courage and hope and brought this with him wherever he went. People were so moved to be in his presence and so inspired by him. Even today when I see a clip or video and hear his voice, it overwhelms me, and I miss him so much – he was truly a holy Father to us all in his life, and now we celebrate his sanctity in Heaven. He is an amazing example of courage and suffering and sacrifice.



*Saint Mother Teresa*

**"There is no place for selfishness—and no place for fear! Do not be afraid, then, when love makes demands. Do not be afraid when love requires sacrifice." – Pope Saint John Paul II**

We have these living examples of faith and hope and love, like Saint John Paul II and Saint Mother Teresa, who help us and call us always to be better! We are all called to holiness, to be Saints, and that begins on our earthly life. Mother Teresa was often told she was a living Saint, and she would sternly reply that, "To be a saint is not the privilege of a few, but the duty of us all." We are all called in a particular way, but we are all called to love. Some of us are blessed to have people like this in our family or among those we work with. **Here at Saint Gianna's as we work with the people we serve, we are constantly inspired and deeply humbled and edified by our Saint Gianna Family...**not just in Saint Gianna and Pietro Molla (we certainly chose Saint Gianna as our patroness for this very reason), but also in the mothers who choose life despite difficult circumstances and situations and in the people who come to pray here, who ask for prayers, and who enrich us with their beautiful example.

Our work here can be challenging here at Saint Gianna's as we see the pain and suffering in the lives of those we serve, of our residents, and our former residents whose situations seem overwhelming at times. And yet **God is still the Good God, life is still a gift from Him, and Life is Beautiful.** Each



## Saint Gianna's Maternity Home

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

Volume 20, No. 1  
Spring - 2022

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life, and each day, is precious and we have so much to be thankful for.

Besides the mothers who live here with their little ones and those same mothers when they move away from Saint Gianna's, we also work spiritually with many people who come to our chapel and to the Shrine of Saint Gianna to ask for prayers in times of deep suffering and need. We feel deeply the call to serve all who enter our home and to fulfill Saint Mother Teresa's call to **"Let no one ever come to you without being better and happier."**

**Not all of our days end with miracles or with great success, but each day is a gift and each person we encounter gives us a glimpse of the beauty of God, of what He is doing in the lives and in the souls of those whom He puts in our life.**

Since the end of last year, we have encountered this rich beauty of God in so many profound ways, and this newsletter is dedicated to a few stories that show that beauty of life and of true love and joy despite hardships and suffering. We are so very richly blessed to be a part of the lives and the beauty and the faith journey of so many people who love our mission and who love Saint Gianna.

And so, we share in this newsletter the stories of Matt and Sarah and their family, of Bob and Michelle and their family, of a family who chose life despite the shortness of life, a short note that showed us our prayers had been answered and a life was saved, and the joy of the graduation of one of our first little ones, Kassity.

This newsletter has a few extra words to read but they are so worth the time. We were so very blessed to have Tanya Watterud, a most talented writer, write the story beginning on page 4. When she sent it to me to proof, **she said wrote** "pour a cup of tea or coffee and then relax as you read about these people of great faith who are making such profound impacts upon the world!" I invite you to do the same (maybe a box of tissues as well). **These stories show us that life is beautiful—even if hard, and God's ways are always good.** I think these people and their stories will touch your heart and inspire you as they certainly have for me and for all of us here at Saint Gianna's.



*Pope Saint John Paul II*

“God gives a home to the lonely...” Psalm 68:7

Marriage and family life is often a delicate balance of “yes” and “no” as the couple and family discern where God is leading them as they journey towards heaven. We write to you today as one of the many families that love and cherish the St. Gianna Maternity Home. We are Matthew and Sarah Effhauser, we have been married for 15 years and we live with our now 6 children in rural East Grand Forks. We just completed an international adoption of the sweetest little boy with Down syndrome from Eastern Europe.

Sarah had always had a heart for orphans throughout their marriage, especially those with Down syndrome and although Matthew felt called to pray for them often, adding one of these precious children to their family was an entirely different calling. In the spring of 2019, we both knew it was time to make a step towards adoption and Sarah resigned from her teaching position to start the transition to being home full time. The moments of discernment that ended in “no” and “not yet” were starting to turn into a “yes” after years of patience and prayer. As each step towards adoption was met with consolation, we continued to look at profiles of waiting children. **In late June, 2020 as the world was closed, we found the profile of the sweetest little boy waiting in Serbia and knew it was now our time for “yes”.**

Starting an international adoption in the midst of the pandemic was not for the faint of heart and although we had our home study and dossier compiled in record time and God opened so many generous hearts to help fund our adoption, it would still be an entire year before we would be invited to travel and bring home our son. A wait we never expected to endure.

**On February 14th, we sat in a small playroom of his orphanage as we heard little footsteps and gentle voice come down the hall. As our sweet boy came around the corner into the room, his eyes were wide and curious. A whole new life awaited him and until this moment, he had no understanding of what was unfolding.** Meeting, holding and playing with our son for the very first time are moments we will forever cherish. The culmination of many, many prayers and the beginning of a new chapter in our family. We spent three weeks in country to finalize our adoption and arrived home the first week of March.

As we spent our days in Serbia getting to know one another, we had an overwhelming sense of consolation that all the moments of “no” along the journey, intertwined into our marriage and family life, were always for this “yes”. Yes to making changes to our work-family balance. Yes to adoption amidst a pandemic. Yes to humbly asking others to come along side us in prayer and financial support. Yes to opening our home to the lonely. Yes to waiting. **Yes to our son.**

We will forever be grateful to the St. Gianna’s community for their prayers and support. Not only is the St. Gianna’s Maternity Home a champion for the lives of mothers and babies that they serve, they are truly a champion for life.

As we settle into family life of 8 here in Minnesota, our schedules are bustling with sports, school, doctors and therapy. Our days are full but our hearts are overflowing. There are plenty of hard moments but they are the hard and holy moments that build up the Domestic Church in family life. As our dear St. Gianna said herself, **“The secret of happiness is to live moment by moment and to thank God for all that He, in His goodness, sends to us day after day.”** And thankful we are.

With love and gratitude,

Matthew & Sarah Effhauser & family



Matthew & Sarah with Rex in Serbia



Rex



Effhauser Family at Rex's Baptism

# Out of difficulty will come great joy!



*Bianco Family: Drs. Michelle & Robert Bianco with daughters, Anna (left) and Elise (right)*

**“I implore you to hear and answer Pietro’s prayers, ‘coming from a heart that has always loved You and served You in a saintly way’, so that, through his intercession, I may receive this grace which I humbly ask of You . . .”**

*– from the Prayer for Private Devotion for the intercession of Pietro Molla. The portion within single quotation marks was written by Saint Gianna about her husband. The full prayer was written by their daughter, Gianna Emanuela Molla.*

Dr. Michelle Bianco took a sip of tea before quietly sharing more of her story. Seated on a couch on a sunny winter day at Saint Gianna’s Maternity Home in Warsaw, ND, Michelle spoke softly and deliberately about her deep love for her family, her terminal diagnosis, and her Catholic faith that sustains her through the uncertainty.

Soon a voice burst through a cell phone’s FaceTime app and the smile and words of the daughter of a Saint greeted Michelle. **“Be assured of my daily prayers with all my heart,”** Gianna Emanuela Molla told Michelle from thousands of miles away in Italy.

Sadly Gianna Emanuela cannot remember her mother, Saint Gianna Beretta Molla, who sacrificed her health and life for her, dying when Gianna Emanuela was only a few days old. While celebrating God’s goodness in giving her a Saint Mother, Gianna Emanuela is striving to further the cause of canonization for her father, Pietro Molla, who provided a holy example to her and many others.

“This is the place where my dad always would sit down,” Gianna Emanuela showed Michelle through the phone screen, speaking English masterfully through her strong Italian accent. “I lived here all my life with my holy dad,” she continued. “Living with him I could see his example.”

“He lost my mom and he lost my sister,” Gianna Emanuela said of her father. **“He always found his strength in the sacraments and in prayer.”**

“I talk to the Lord like I’m talking to you now,” she told Michelle. “I say, ‘Lord, you hear my mom’s prayers. Please hear also my dad’s prayers’.”

“God himself said you have to ask . . . so we do what God suggests us to do,” Gianna Emanuela said. **“I pray to my holy Dad. We pray for a miracle because nothing is impossible with God.”**



Michelle being blessed with Saint Gianna’s relics by Father Joseph Christensen, FMI

## Interceding for a miracle for Michelle

Fr. Joseph Christianson, FMI, spiritual director of Saint Gianna's Maternity Home, asked Michelle if he, Gianna Emanuela and the others present could pray for her. Michelle immediately agreed and moved to a chair near him.

He took a shawl from the Shrine of Saint Gianna in the maternity home's chapel and placed it upon Michelle's shoulders. Over her head he held a beautiful gold reliquary. In unison, Gianna Emanuela through FaceTime from Italy and the others gathered with Michelle at the maternity home, prayed for the intercession of Pietro Molla for the healing of Michelle.

A young physician, like Saint Gianna was, Michelle had recently been given a diagnosis that neither she, nor anyone else in the medical community, knows how to heal. She will need a miracle to stop the disease's progression. And Pietro needs miracles attributed to his intercession to advance the cause for his sainthood.

### A mother's sacrifice

Saint Gianna, an Italian physician, wife and mother, was diagnosed with a large fibroma (benign, tumor-like growth) when she was newly pregnant with Gianna Emanuela. She was given three options: surgically removing both the fibroma and her uterus which held her unborn baby, or ending the pregnancy through abortion and then removing the fibroma, or removing the fibroma and allowing the pregnancy to continue at great risk to Saint Gianna.

In Giuliana Pelucchi's book *St. Gianna: Her Life of Joy and Heroic Sacrifice*, Pietro tells of his wife's decision: "Gianna chose the last solution, the one that involved the most risk for her. In those days it was indeed foreseeable that childbirth after such an intervention would be extremely dangerous for the mother. And Gianna, as a physician, knew it very well."

A few paragraphs later, he is quoted again: "To understand her decision . . . **we cannot forget Gianna's profound conviction, as a mother and as a physician, that the child she bore within her was a complete child with the same rights as the other children, even though she had been conceived scarcely two months before. The child was a gift from God, deserving sacred respect.**"

The procedure to remove the tumor took place September 6, 1961. Saint Gianna remained hospitalized for a time because of concern of a miscarriage. Eventually she was allowed to go home to her husband and children and resume her work as a physician. On April 20 – Good Friday – 1962, Saint Gianna entered the hospital where she gave birth to Gianna Emanuela the next day. She was able to hold and gaze upon her little daughter, her fourth child, before Saint Gianna's condition began to worsen. When death was very near, Pietro remembered his wife's desire to return to their home before her death, so he "arranged to have her transported by ambulance to lie within the walls that, for too few years, had seen her as a happy wife and mother . . . She was placed on the bed in the room that she shared with her husband. Her children were sleeping in the adjoining room. Pietro did not dare awaken them. He remained beside his dearest Gianna, who breathed her last at eight o'clock in the morning," Giuliana Pelucchi wrote. Saint Gianna died at age 39 on April 28, the first Saturday after Easter.

"On May 16, 2004, Gianna Beretta Molla was proclaimed a saint in the presence of her family: her beloved husband Pietro with her three living children, Pierluigi, Laura and Gianna Emanuela," Giuliana Pelucchi wrote. In 1964, their oldest daughter, Mariolina, died of inflammation of the kidneys, less than two years after Saint Gianna's death. Mariolina, who was six years old,



Saint Gianna and Pietro Molla

died while reciting the Hail Mary prayer.

### **Blessed as mothers chose life**

Michelle Bianco, who lives in Horace, ND, grew up in Moorhead, MN, and attended St. Joseph's Catholic School and parish there. She graduated from Shanley High School, across the river in Fargo, ND, and later graduated from North Dakota State University, Fargo, with a degree in nutrition. Michelle worked in a Boston hospital for a time as a registered dietitian. While working, she studied pre-med through Harvard Extension in the evenings. She eventually graduated from medical school through the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks. After completing a residency in pathology and a fellowship in hematology at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Michelle served as a hematopathologist for MeritCare, which later became Sanford Health, in Fargo, working primarily with the Roger Maris Cancer Center there.



One of the mothers from Saint Gianna's placing her little one in the adoptive mother's arms.

She and her husband, Robert, wanted to begin a family but, for unknown reasons, couldn't conceive. So they began the journey toward adoption. They waited 11 months before they were able to hold their first adopted daughter, Anna, only two hours after she was born. The next adoption took longer. The first birth mother changed her mind and decided to keep her child upon birth. Fortunately a second birth mother chose Michelle and Robert as adoptive parents for her child, and they welcomed their second daughter, Elise, into their family after a three-year wait.

**"We were blessed to adopt because their mothers chose life," Michelle said.**

Both Robert and Michelle were raised with one parent at home and they wanted the same for their children. They decided that Robert, who has a doctorate degree in biochemistry, would be the at-home parent while Michelle continued to work as a physician.

In April 2021, Michelle began noticing that something was not right with her health. Based on her symptoms, Michelle had a good idea what might be happening. "I went to three doctors before I got someone to believe me and send me to neurology," Michelle said. In October 2021, a neurologist in Fargo referred her to Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, for further testing and consultation. It was at Mayo that she was diagnosed with the early stages of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. The disease, for which there is no known cure, results in the progressive loss of voluntary muscle control.

"My type of Lou Gehrig's is Bulbar. It affects my speech and swallowing before it affects my arms and legs," Michelle said. "In my case, they think it is familial, meaning that I inherited it."

"If I had had a biological child, I would have a 50 percent chance of giving the mutation or bad gene" to the child, Michelle explained. After her diagnosis, "it all made sense as to why we couldn't have kids. I think we were blessed twice."

**Michelle expressed how grateful she is to her husband and daughters. She and Robert will have been married 22 years on June 23, 2022. Anna is 17 and Elise will be 12 this summer. "My husband is a very strong person. He's been my rock," Michelle said. "I think that he's pushed his grief aside and he's focused on taking care of me and the girls."**

### **A gift for the future**

Michelle first learned about St. Gianna's Maternity Home from a friend of Anna's. The friend had lived at the maternity home when she was little, while her mother was pregnant with her second child.

"It's odd, but not odd. When I knew something was very wrong [with my health]" Michelle said, "something drew me to look up St. Gianna's and, in the August newsletter, they talked about the house and that they were going to take a loan out [to build it]. And something just struck me." Michelle feels it was the Holy Spirit who brought it to her attention.

The board of directors of Saint Gianna Maternity Home had decided and announced through the newsletter that they would be building a house on the grounds of St. Gianna Maternity Home. The house would provide more room and privacy for current and future staff members and offer additional meeting and office space. The opportunity to live in the new house would be part of the compensation plan for staff members. "We want to best prepare for the future of Saint Gianna's Maternity Home, and **a significant part of sustaining our mission is providing adequate and appropriate living accommodations for our staff,**" the newsletter article stated.

Michelle was working with Jan Nelson of Heartland Trust in Fargo at the time to see how she could financially benefit worthy projects as she dealt with her terminal diagnosis. She told Jan she wanted to check into donating to the maternity home project. Soon a meeting between Michelle, Jan, Mary Pat Jahner, director of the maternity home, and Fr. Joseph Christensen, FMI, spiritual director, was held.

"After I came back from Mayo in November, I, through Jan, wanted to meet them," Michelle said. "As I told them, when I first met them, I said I'm not a saint, **but I felt a connection with Saint Gianna as she was a physician and Italian, which I am, and prolife obviously.**" She also felt connected because Saint Gianna was a mother, a role which is so important to Michelle in her own life.

Michelle chose to make a donation that would cover the expenses of building the home. Much of the construction work thus far has been completed by volunteers, but materials and the paid construction work will be covered by the gift from Michelle and her family. The home will be dedicated to Michelle and Robert's daughters with a plaque that reads: "Welcome to La Vita é Bella. This home is dedicated by Robert and Michelle Bianco to their cherished daughters Anna and Elise. May all who enter here show gratitude to God for life and for this home, bestowed through a gift from the Bianco family and the time and talents of those who made it a reality. **Indeed, Life is Beautiful**". (The Italian phrase "La Vita é Bella" means "life is beautiful").

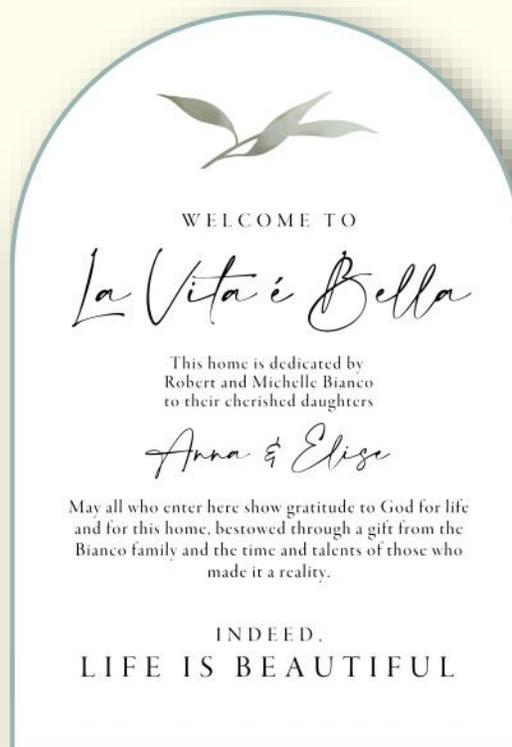
Michelle spoke of her hope for Saint Gianna's Maternity Home, "I want it to continue to grow and be here and I think that having the house is what is important for the mission here to continue. It's not the only thing, of course. There are so many people involved and volunteers – but having the building and space they need is important."

### God provides

Although interest rates were low, making it a good time to take out a loan for the house, Mary Pat struggled with the idea.

At the end of August 2021, they had begun the process to apply for the loan and were ready to sign the papers, but things were unsettled. Mary Pat's father died on September 2, then the coronavirus made its way through those at the maternity home. Finally, the night before Mary Pat was to sign the loan application papers, "I just got a sickened feeling – not because you can't take out a loan or not because a loan is bad. It's just that we never have here. We've always trusted God and God has always provided for us."

She expressed her thoughts to Colleen Samson, president of the board. "I remember calling Colleen and Colleen is such a



woman of faith." Colleen responded "absolutely!" to Mary Pat's idea of waiting for a while. At the next board meeting, they decided to hold off on applying for the loan at least until the end of the year. "It was in November that we got the email from Jan" asking if a building project was going on that was in need of funding, Mary Pat said. I thought, "Could this even be true?"

After more emails and conversations and then the meeting with Michelle, God once again provided for the maternity home.

"God is taking care of this work here through you and through your sacrifice and struggle," Mary Pat told Michelle. "The story gets a lot more beautiful and a lot more hard, too."

### Turning to God is everything!

"I think that we all have gifts and we can use them at different times in our lives," Michelle said. "God gave me the gift of intelligence and, hopefully, I served a good purpose [as a physician]. And now I think he's given me as an example of what you can do when you're faced with what is considered a terminal diagnosis."

**"Everybody has challenges and hardships," she said, "but I think that turning to God instead of away from him is, I mean, is everything!** And you can still have purpose and share yourself and what you have."

What does she feel her purpose is at this time? "I think, first, I can be an example of Christ and also be a witness of God's love."

Michelle reached for a book she brought along to the maternity home. Entitled *Meditations from a Simple Path*, it includes quotes from **Mother Teresa** (now known as Saint Teresa of Calcutta). Michelle pointed out a quote: **"Everything is God's to give and to take away, so share what you've been given, and that includes yourself."**

"I think this is an important message," Michelle said.

Asked if her faith has changed through her experience with Lou Gehrig's disease, Michelle said. "The nice thing is I have more time to pray and I feel a lot of peace when I can pray, and I feel closer to God. I really feel his presence." Her mouth then involuntarily moved, unnoticeably except to her. "I'm having some shaking – that happens," she said with humble acceptance.

Then she continued. "In the beginning, I prayed more for myself, but now I find I pray more for others."

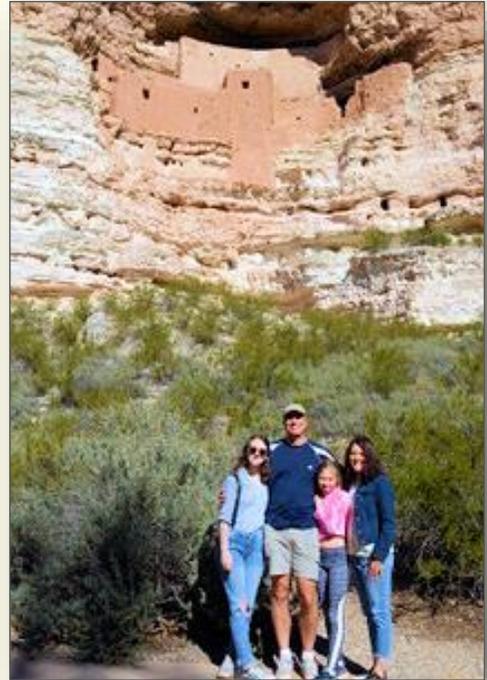
"This morning the prayer I said that just came to me, but I think it's good thing for everyone. I said **'thank you for my life'** and **then I said 'help me live it well today.'** Because what I have learned since all this is gratitude and living in the present," Michelle shared.

Michelle's faith was echoed that day in the powerful and comforting words of Gianna Emanuela, speaking to Michelle from Italy.

**"The greatest gift we can have is our faith,"** Gianna Emanuela said. **"We know that our life is completely in God's holy hands and so it could not be in better hands."**

~Written by Tanya Watterud

*"The greatest gift we can have is our faith."*



Bianco Family

# Aubree Faith Wampler

## Received Her Angel Wings - November 1st, 2021

*This donation is made in the memory of Aubree Faith Wampler. Aubree was diagnosed with anencephaly at my 20 week ultrasound.*

*Accepting her diagnosis was tough...choosing to carry her until God called her home was not difficult.*

*My pregnancy with Aubree was beautiful and we saw God's grace in it all. She was a very active baby and was a fun baby to carry. All she ever knew was love.*

*She chose her birthday at 37 weeks on November 1st, which to us, just again proved God's intervention in it all.*

*I heard about your beautiful community and wanted to be apart of what you do - so I thought it would be fitting to make this donation.*

*God bless all of you.*

*Melinda & Blaine  
Adriana, Jamison, Rosalyn,  
Annistyn & Paisley*

Aubree Faith Wampler was born into this world, and at the same time into heaven, on all Saint's Day, November 1st, 2021. She was baptized by her Daddy as we watched the clouds part and the sun shine into our hospital room, a moment that was noticed by so many present at that moment.

Aubree's little life had God's hand in it from the very start. She was loved so much by her family, especially her siblings. They snuggled with Aubree, through Mommy's belly, where she gave them many strong kicks and big movements...only letting them know who was really in charge.

It was truly a privilege, that God had chosen us to be Aubree's parents. Our hearts may be broken, but in the same breath, our lives are forever blessed. Aubree's short little life, has taught us to embrace and be present in the moments.

Dr. Suess said it best, "Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment, until it becomes a memory." So, we love a little harder, and hug each other tighter, for we never know when God will call our loved ones home. It brings our hearts peace, knowing that Aubree's beautiful little soul, only knows our absolute love for her and Jesus.

We want to thank everyone who has supported and loved us through Aubree's journey. Her little life as forever changed ours, and has proved once again, how loving and amazing our God is.

## Christmas Blessings



*Wishing you the blessings of Christmas.*

*I thought you would be happy to know that the teenage girl who was going to be forced to have an abortion by her mother, the one you all were praying for, did not have it. Baby Marcus is due to be born any day now! God bless you for all you do!*

*Amanda*



*You and your intentions are remembered  
in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass  
offered each First Saturday of the month.*

## *In Memory*

- +RON ABRAHAMSON by Brenda Borowicz  
+CAROL ALFORD by Jerome Alford  
+BABIES LOST TO ABORTION by Ron & Rita Beneda  
+ADRIAN, MARCIA, RICHARD BAILEY by Ann Bailey  
+CHARLOTTE BAENEN by Charles & Barbara Ruzicka  
+BRUCE BEREND, BRUCE LYSNE by Pat & Rita Lauer  
+BARB BERGEE & FRED JAHNER (GODPARENTS) by David & Marie Nasset  
+CAROLINE BERTSCH, DUANE BERTSCH, RICHARD ELSPERGER, MARY WEST by Kasper & Connie Bertsch  
+HELEN BEYER, LORRAINE WIESER by Al & Connie Brandt  
+TIM BISCHOFF by Jaren & Robbyne Sands  
+JAKE BLOTSKY by Ron & Linda Beare  
+EVELYN BONNANO by Cynthia Liendo  
+JUDY BOSH by Kevin & Julie Zikmund  
+FATHER DON BRAUKMANN by Tim & Wende Wehner  
+MARION BROSSZ, MAGGIE & WALLY WALD by Kevin & Tammy Jangula  
+JANET BURNS by Duane & Mary Jane Breitling, Betty Feltman, Steven & Rachel Fisher, Francis & Shirley Kowalski, Maggie Suda, Karla Zerbe  
+WILLIAM & EVELYN CAMPBELL by Daniel Campbell  
+DEBRA CAWLEY by Kevin & Lisa Durkin  
+BOB COLLETTE, BILL KINGSBURY, ROBERT NOVAK by Dolores Burianek  
+JOHN R. CONWAY, CHARLOTTE CHRISTIANSON, CHARLOTTE RODEWALD, JANICE ZIEGLER by Wallace & Colleen Dalman  
+HARRIET CRONQUIST, JANICE SMIDT by Jennifer Gerszewski  
+DAVE DAHLIN, LADDIE KOLNESS by Robert & Adaire Reinpold  
+DELORES DESAUTEL, JUDY RIVARD by James & Nicole Desautel  
+DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE DORSHER & HAJICEK FAMILIES by Doug & Madonna Hajicek  
+JUDY DOSCH by Al Dosch  
+DOREEN DRINKARD by John & Erleen L. McCanna  
+LUDVIG JEROME EGSTAD by Valerie Holtz  
+DOROTHY ENDRES by her Children, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren  
+DON FEIBIGER, RICHARD LAFEVRE, DONALD READEL by Deacon Tom & Mary Geffre  
+MATTHEW GERSZEWSKI by Jody Gerszewski family, Don & Susan Barclay, Tony & Vicky Gudajtes, Glenn & Susan Johnson  
+CHRISTINE GERSZEWSKI by Kenny & Evelyn Kilichowski  
+MIKE GREMBOWSKI by John & Alice Robin  
+ROBERT HALE by Mary Pat Jahner  
+TRICIA HALE by Susan Hale  
+BILL HARMSEN by Larry & Gayle Coles  
+BERNARD HARRINGTON by Brian Beaton, Mary Beth Meyer, Luke Meyer  
+WYATT HATCHER, MICHAEL OVERBY, ERNIE STEINMAN by Wayne & Carol Denault  
+DARYL HEIDECKER, LILLIAN SADOWSKI by Joe & Melinda Fridrich  
+JUDE T. HILS by Jim & M. Gabrielle Thesing  
+ANNA GRACE HOFMANN by Brian & Elly Rau  
+RUTH HOLWEGER by Don Richter  
+FRED JAHNER by Jeffrey & Melissa Bozovsky, Joe & Melinda Fridrich, Terry & Mary Ann McKenna  
+DANIEL JOHNSON by Merlyn & Dolores Grabanski  
+FRANCES KAZMIERCZAK by Mavis Benson, Mary Pat Jahner, Phil & Laurie Kraemer, Jerry & Marilyn Kuznia, Dorothy Plutowski, Alen & Gail Szczepanski  
+JOSEPH KORYNTA by Ray & Kathy Korynta, James & LaVerne Costello, Betty Feltman  
+MAURICE & SOPHIA KORYNTA by Ernest & Roxanne Korynta  
+DONNA FOERSTER KOTASKA by John & Eileen Kotaska  
+LENNAE KOSMAKTA, TERESA MOZINSKI by Ray & Kathy Korynta  
+HUGO & LUCIEL KREITINGER, YVONNE, AMIE, SONDRALILDEBRANDT by Karen Kryzsko  
+MARSHALL KUKOWSKI by Carol Kukowski  
+RICHARD & LOIS KUNZ, JOHN GRISE by Nick & Marla Kunz  
+LOWELL LAUFENBERG by Paul & Barb Loegering  
+DENNIS LYONS by Holly Lyons  
+MARTHA M. MARSH, JOHN DANIEL MAESTAS, TONI MAESTAS, ANDREW PRAUS, MARIE ANN ZAVALA by Angie Marsh  
+VI MCALLISTER by Cory & Carla McKelvey  
+JOSEPH MICHELS, JOE RADAMACHER by Bob & Pat Sanden  
+COLLEEN MICKELSEN by Joe & Colleen Ressler  
+DOROTHY MILLER by Jim & Jocelyn Dahlstrom  
+KAY MOREHEAD by George & Faye Moen  
+FATHER MAURICE MUELLER by David & Patricia Mueller  
+DANIEL NARLOCK by Merlyn & Dolores Grabanski, James & Rita Havis, Eric & Jenice Looney, Janice Mortimer, Jerry & Connie Narlock, Doreen Parkes, George & Georgian Wysocki  
+SYLVESTER & LAVONNE NARLOCK, DONALD NARLOCK, DAVID JUDOVSKY, WILLIAM J. LAU JR. by Jerry & Connie Narlock  
+RAYMOND & CAROLINE WY SOCKI by Mike Wysocki  
+LARRY NELSON, MARY NOAH, LOWELL WIESE by Paul & Pauline Savageau  
+DECEASED FAMILY MEMBERS by Marvin Nicklay  
+PAUL & RANDY NISTLER by Don & Marie Nistler  
+RON OSOWSKI by Family & Friends, Dwaine & Judy Adolphson, Mark & Kim Anderson, Chad & Nicole Anvinson, Gywndale & Marge Bayne, Willie & Kathy Bayne, Michael & Cynthia Beaudry, Kari Bergman, Bremer Bank of Warren, Curtis & Donna Carlson, Bill & Darlene Demars, Markus & Jody Giza, Matthew & Jennifer Giza, Arlan Johnson, Gary & Beverly Johnson, Lorne & Marlene Johnson, Roger & Yvonne Kazmierczak, Darrin Kowalski, Mark Kowalski, Mary Kowalski, Michael & Julie Marek, Deborah McGlynn, Kendra Rodgers McGraw, Ray & Diane Moshier, Carol Olimb, Elizabeth Oswski, DJ & Elena Rieger, Dave & Teri Rodgers, Al & Jan Rivard, Glen & Bev Rivard, Mark & Beverly Robertson, Michael & Mary Stoltman, Timothy & Carol Urbaniak, Don & Gail Yutzenka  
+ROSELLA PIETRUSZEWSKI by Alen & Gail Szczepanski  
+TOM PONTARELLI, ADDIE WARD by Grant & Jackie Shaft  
+LINDA RHEAULT by Joan Rheaault  
+MARGARET RIEDINGER by Ralph Riedinger  
+ANDREW RIEGER by Glen & Tawnia Heilman  
+DECEASED RISKE & WOCKEN FAMILY MEMBERS by Robert & Marilyn Wocken

## In Honor

Our children & grandchildren by Frank & Susanne Argenziano  
Father John Cavanaugh's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday by Frank & Susanne

Argenziano

Ashley & Quin by Gail Confer  
Great Grandson, Leo by Margy Froelich  
David Zach by David Gautieri  
Donna Kovash by Chad & Roni Sue Gilchrist  
Terry & Mary Ann McKenna's 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by Patti Griggs  
Kristin Higgins by William & Julie Grimstad  
Our children's Godparents by Joseph & Bethany Johnson  
Karen Kamrowski by Jared & Erica Kamrowski  
Julie Kaspari's birthday by Ben Kaspari  
Bev Schons by Chris & Julie Kaspari  
Ray & Sandra Klinkhammer by Teresa & Mark Klinkhammer  
Pat & Julie Klocke by John & Jan Klocke  
Deacon George Loegering by Joel & Cori Lyons  
Mary Ferencik by Tony & Katie Maione  
Julie, Justin, Zach & Kate Hirschberger by Fred Manuel  
Amanda & new baby by Curt & Christine Marshall  
Father Andrew Dudzinski by Terry & Mary Ann McKenna  
Babe Belzer's birthday by Terry & Mary Ann McKenna  
Sisterhood of the Traveling Relics Team by Derek & Jennifer Nelson  
Dr. Michelle Bianco by Glen & Jan Nelson  
Living family member by Marvin Nicklay  
Shannon & Dena's anniversary by Betty Lou O'Connor  
Bernard & Angeline Kamrowski family members living and deceased  
by Joe & Carol Pierce

Stephen Laylock by Lance Sabados  
Mother, Rita, by Delray & Diane Sanders  
Tom & Therese Zepeda family by Roger & Mary Saylor  
Marie Saylor, Mary Norberg by Roger & Mary Saylor  
All of our siblings by Brad & Nadine Schanilec  
Our five children by Aaron & Krystal Schmit  
Recovery of Bruce Gjovig by Grant & Jackie Shaft  
Ernestine Ebertowski by Tim & Carrie Shea  
Torri Schramm & Misty Teigen by Vernon & Sharon Solum  
Jim & Barb Volochenko by Natasha Volochenko  
Daughter & son-in-law's upcoming birth of fourth child by Don  
Willey  
Todd Burianek by Jonathan & Stephanie Woods  
Wally Dalman's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of deaconate ordination by Colleen  
Dalman  
Karen Gapp, Randall Lyons, Royce Lyons, Vernon & Viola Lyons,  
Beth Mathis, Coralee Meyer, Tom & Carmen Rentzios by Tom &  
Eileen Hegg  
Bishop Victor Balke, Monsignor Mike Foltz, Father Matt Schmitz,  
Father Joshy Mathew by Michael & Julie Marek  
Deacon Arlie Braunberger & in memory of his wife Patricia  
Braunberger by Monsignor Dennis Skonseng  
Deacon Ed & Deb Didier by Monsignor Dennis Skonseng  
Deacon Ray & Lela Grim by Monsignor Dennis Skonseng  
Deacon Joe & Deb Leitner by Monsignor Dennis Skonseng  
Nancy Orthman and in memory of her husband, Deacon Carl Orthman  
by Monsignor Dennis Skonseng  
Deacon Tom & Sharon Vanorny by Monsignor Dennis Skonseng

- +PATTY ROLLAND by Corey & Wendy Paryzek
- +RITA & ANDY by Judy Vanyo & Russel Hoffman
- +JACQUELINE SANOFSKY by Bob & Karen Landman
- +JOHN SAUER by Galen & Bonnie Scheresky, John & Julie Woodbury
- +JUANITA SCHMITZ by Mark Schmitz
- +ANDY SCHWIETZER by Travis & Trina Schweitzer
- +LOUIS ST. LAURENT by Delray & Diane Sanders
- +RITA STEIDL by Helen Carpenter
- +JOHN SZKLARSKI by Sue Anderson, Audrey Kurowski, Bremer Bank of  
Warren, Frank & Corinne Dostal, Jeffrey Dostal, Matthew & Kristi Feil,  
Gate City Bank of Fargo, Brian & Paige Halfmann, Craig & Marlys  
Halfmann, Arlette Haupt, David & Barb Holtgard, Kenny & Evelyn  
Kilichowski, Denise Korynta, James & Ione Kuznia, Jerry & Marilyn  
Kuznia, Frank Rybaski, Terry & Susan Schostag, Richard & Priscilla  
Steinke, Alen & Gail Szczepanski, Keith & Stacy Szczepanski
- +MARK TIBERT by Jennifer Gerszewski, Charles & Barbara Ruzicka
- +WARREN TROSETH, KENNETH WERNIMONT by Deacon Michael &  
Coralie Fix
- +DECEASED FAMILY MEMBERS by George & Judy Tuma
- +KEVIN VANYO by Kenny & Evelyn Kilichowski
- +JANE VIK, KONRAD VIK by Brett & Cherie McAtee
- +BECKY WALD by Jacob & Molly Rodenbiker
- +AUBREE FAITH by Blaine & Melinda Wampler
- +JEAN WANNER by James Wanner
- +BABY LUCY MARIE by Nicole Welle Nere
- +EILEEN WENDT by Curt & Mary Ellen Kirking
- +HILDA WILHELMI by David & Dorothy McCullough
- +ROBIN YOUNG by Marjorie Young
- +JOSEPH ZIKMUND by Lorraine Zikmund

## Prayers/Special Intention

For LaVerne Costello's healing & wellness by Ray & Kathy Korynta  
Shawn Smith & Monica Maestas-Smith, Vaughn & Katherine  
Ochsner by Angie Marsh

By Brian Beaton

Sick friends and family of the Duppongs by Renae Duppong

For anybody struggling with pregnancy by Cheri Ehliis

For family by Joe & Melinda Fridrich

For peace by Sharon Beauclair

Meg & Darin, Megan & Isaiah by Loreen Hartman

Children & grandchildren by Mike & Karen Hofer

Lenaye Kosmatka by Ray & Kathy Korynta

Healing in our nation by Anonymous

By Neil Oedzes

Monsignor Goering, Father Charles Fischer by Joan Rheault

By Roger & Mary Saylor

For those in purgatory by Jennifer Schmitt

By Terry & Mary Jo Schmitz

By Daniel Tuhy

*These intentions are from  
November 17th -  
March 28th.*



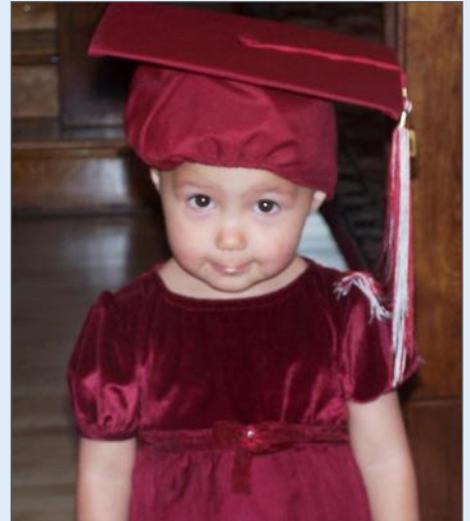
# Good News of Great Joy!

Kassity Kaleigh Hope will graduate from Minto High School on May 19th.

Kassity came here just past her first birthday with her mother who was 3 months pregnant with Geianna who became the first baby born here at Saint Gianna's. She was so tiny and petite with hardly any hair! She was already walking and everyone was impressed that she could because she was so tiny. Kassity was the first child baptized here at Saint Gianna's.

We have been so very blessed to be a part of her life all of these years. We were able to see her grow from this sweet toddler to a 3 year old who could tie her shoes and climb trees (You can see from her senior pictures that she still does!). She loved to ride bike and skate board and was always mechanical. To this day Kassity is the one we call when anything is broken or when things need to be put together. Kassity was diagnosed with mixed dyslexia in middle school and worked hard to overcome these difficulties and will now graduate with honors from Minto High School.

She is a woman with deep moral values and is interested in politics and many social issues. She plans to attend Northland Technical College in the Fall and to pursue Construction Electricity. Kassity has grown into an amazing young woman, now with lots of beautiful curly hair, and we have many wonderful memories of this precious life and are grateful to her mother for choosing life.



## Congratulations Kassity! ❤️ We are so proud of you!

