

State Council Program Awards

Entry Form

THIS REPORTING FORM MUST BE COMPLETED BY EACH COUNCIL AND FORWARDED TO THE STATE COUNCIL.
(A separate reporting form should be completed for each program category.)

CATEGORY (MARK ONE): Faith Family Community Life



COUNCIL INFORMATION:

1 Council Number: 7011 Total Council Members: 168
 Grand Knight: Joseph White E-Mail: gk7011@mikofc.org

PROGRAM INFORMATION (complete all sections):

2 Program Title: Gianna House Project Program Date: 1/01-12/31/2020

Participation: $\frac{24}{\text{Members}} + \frac{35}{\text{Non Members}} = \frac{59}{\text{Total Participants}}$ $\frac{59}{\text{Total Participants}} \times \frac{4.13}{\text{Hours}} = \frac{244}{\text{Total Volunteer Hours}}$

Program Planning: $\frac{\$500}{\text{Costs}}$ & $\frac{84\text{hrs.}}{\text{Time}}$ Members Recruited: 24 Donations: $\frac{\$6,800}{\text{Local Currency}}$

3 Describe program in detail. Use additional paper if necessary. Supplementary material may be submitted along with the nomination. Accompanying materials can include letters, testimonials, news clippings, photographs, pamphlets, etc. Do not submit tapes, videocassettes, DVD's, display materials, films, etc., as they will not be considered in judging the nomination.

3a) In the space provided below, briefly describe the purpose and goals of this program. This section must be completed.

Our purpose and goal was to raise much needed operating funds for Gianna House who are in a growth mode and can use whatever funds can be raised.

DO NOT SUBMIT THIS REPORT FORM TO SUPREME COUNCIL

**ENTRY MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE STATE COUNCIL
TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE COMPETITION**

MAIL ORIGINAL TO: State Deputy or State Program Director

COPY TO: Council File

Available in electronic format at www.kofc.org



(continued on reverse)

3b) Whom does this program benefit?

Gianna House, a resource center for pregnant mothers, located in Eastpointe, Michigan, who is in need of operating funds.

See attached documents showing How Gianna House is UNIQUE and Who We Are for more information on Gianna House

3c) What problem or need did this program resolve?

This project helped raise much needed operating funds for Gianna House as they continue to grow in their service to pregnant mothers ranging from 13-25 years old.

3d) Why did the council select this program?

Our Council #7011, located in Sterling Heights, Michigan, was already familiar with Gianna House having raised \$8,556 for them in 2019 and recognizing that they were still in need of funds in 2020. They were originally recommended to us in 2019 by our parish, Ss Cyril and Methodius Church.

3e) Describe the success of the program:

Despite operating in the pandemic in 2020 with the suspension of Masses early in the year and reduced attendance at the Masses later in the year we, with the wonderful support of our parishioners and visitors, raised \$6,800 for Gianna House operating expenses. We thought that was quite an achievement.

Attest:

Walter K. Wible, Jr.

State Deputy

Signed:

Crowfoot

Grand Knight

3/10/2021

Date



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ST. NICHOLAS COUNCIL 7011
STERLING HEIGHTS, MI**



**GIANNA HOUSE PROJECT
PROJECT DIRECTOR – KENNETH A. PULLIS
GRAND KNIGHT – JOSEPH WHITE**

GIANNA HOUSE PROJECT-2020

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TAB A

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS- ST. NICHOLAS COUNCIL-7011

GIANNA HOUSE PROJECT-2020

- INTRODUCTION LETTER

WHAT A GREAT TIME TO BE CATHOLIC! WHAT A GREAT TIME TO BE PRO-LIFE!

As you know The Knights of Columbus have been Pro-Life from their inception. Our Council St. Nicholas-7011 has been very active in Pro-Life the last several years. In 2018 we raised through a baby bottle ultrasound fundraising project over \$10,000, which added to a grant received of \$5,000, brought our total funds raised to over \$15,000. A matching amount from the Supreme Council enabled us to help Lennon Pregnancy Center in Dearborn Heights to purchase a \$30,000 ultrasound machine.

We also raised through another baby bottle fundraising project \$8,556 in 2019 to help provide Gianna House with needed operating funds.

In addition, we have held over the last four years a Pro-Life Essay or Poster contest for the youth of our area.

So for our Pro-Life project for 2020, completed in November, 2020, we selected (See SELECTION for our process in determining the recipient of our project) another baby bottle fundraiser for Gianna House since we were already very familiar with Gianna House, having helped them in 2019. (See **TABLE OF CONTENTS/INDEX** for details surrounding our project.)

Joseph White, Grand Knight

Kenneth A. Pullis, Project Director

TAB B

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS- ST. NICHOLAS COUNCIL-7011

GIANNA HOUSE PROJECT-2020

DETAILED PROJECT OVERVIEW

Background- Our Council (7011} was already very familiar with Gianna House, having helped them in 2019 (see Financial section for details re funds raised on their behalf in 2019 and Selection Tab for additional background info).

In summary, Gianna House has been in the planning, development, fund raising, obtaining various permits and local government approvals, and implementation of their plans for the last eight to nine years. They are a resource center for pregnant mothers, located in Eastpointe. They had been recommended to us by a representative of Ss' Cyril and Methodius Church in Sterling Heights and have had a good impact in their community and in the Pro-Life movement.

Gianna House offers two separate programs. One program is its Community Outreach Program which since 2015 has focused on community building and skills enhancement, serving those who are pregnant, new Moms, and Moms with multiple children. These Outreach mothers are in their 20's and 30's and come from 21 different cities. In 2019 this program had 1,136 mother visits; mothers attended 978 classes and received over 4,000 baby items.

On May 3, 2019 Gianna House, in a ribbon cutting ceremony, celebrated the licensing of their facility with the State of Michigan, the first certified nonprofit, long-term residence for pregnant teens in the State. This represents their second Program, their Residency Program.

Teenage girls age 13-17 may stay for up to one year after the birth of their child and receive free room and board, prenatal care, counseling, as well as other classes in caring for their baby. Gianna House is in the process of a restoration of their facilities to open a second wing to accommodate additional residents, including mothers up and including age 25, in response to many inquiries they have received from pregnant 18-25 year olds. (See MEDIA section for Gianna House newsletters, history, and for more background and current information.)

Through December 11, 2020 Gianna House has served from this latest program 19 teenage mothers.

Project Plan- Our Council's plan for this 2020 project was as follows:

Work with Ss Cyril & Methodius Church on the timing and certain details of our baby bottle program for 2020 to raise funds for Gianna House.

Purchase bottles and other supplies, as needed, for the distribution to parishioners at various Masses.

Recruit volunteers to help prepare, distribute, and collect bottles at the various weekend Masses.

Recruit volunteers to empty filled bottles in the bank bags and deposit in our special bank account.

Summarize results and deliver check to Gianna House.

Execution of Plan- In late February/early March of 2020 we distributed, at the weekend Masses, almost 600 baby bottles in connection with this Project. The collection of these bottles was delayed due to the COVID pandemic. We eventually completed the collection of these

bottles and on November 11, 2020 we met with some of the staff of Gianna house and presented them with a check for \$6,800 (see attached photos). This total amount was a great accomplishment given the unusual circumstances in 2020 and is a result of the great generosity of our parishioners and visitors to our parish. Every contribution, large or small is greatly appreciated and will be well used by Gianna House.

In 2019 we had a similar baby bottle project and raised \$8,556 on their behalf. For the two years ended December 31, 2020 we have raised for Gianna House a total of \$15,356, with total of 42 Knights and 61 other volunteers working 428 hours.

TAB c

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS- ST. NICHOLAS COUNCIL-7011

GIANNA HOUSE PROJECT-2020

SELECTION

In early January of 2020 our Council 7011 received permission from our parish, Ss Cyril and Methodius, to conduct our annual 2020 Baby Bottle Project. Then we were to decide what agency or organization we would select for this project. After discussions with our Council members, our Parish personnel, and after a review of our previous Baby Bottle Programs we selected the Gianna House as our 2020 Service Project since our Council and our parish were very familiar with Gianna House and were impressed with them, (see Financial section for the details re funds raised on their behalf in 2019).

Gianna House is a resource center for pregnant mothers and is located in Eastpointe. They had previously been recommended to us by a representative of Ss Cyril and Methodius Church and they have had a good impact in their community and in the Pro-Life movement.

Gianna House offers two separate programs. One program is its Community Outreach Program which since 2015 has focused on community building and skills enhancement, serving those who are pregnant, new Moms, and Moms with multiple children. These Outreach mothers are in their 20's and 30's and come from 21 different cities. In 2019 this program had 1,136 mother visits; mothers attended 978 classes and received over 4,000 baby items.

In May, 2019 Gianna House received a license from the State of Michigan for a long-term residence for pregnant teens in the State. This represents their second Program, their Residency Program.

Gianna House is in the process of a restoration of their facilities to open a second wing to accommodate additional residents, including mothers up and including age 25, in response to many inquiries they have received from pregnant 18-25 year olds.

After our selection of Gianna House for our 2020 program we were informed by Ss Cyril & Methodius that they wanted to include this project as one of their 2020 Lenten projects. We set up our team of Knights, together with Squires, to work on this project. In addition we requested other volunteers from the parish, as well as family members of our Knights to assist in this project.

We then developed our detail plan (see Chronology section), similar to our 2019 plan. Unless you have been through this type of project you do not know how many volunteers are needed to prepare the baby bottles- cutting ribbons of various colors, attaching these ribbons to the bottles, twirling the ribbons, preparing labels with our Council's name and other information regarding this fundraiser, including the collection dates for these bottles, and then attaching these labels to the bottles.

Then we established with the Parish our dates for the distribution, collection, sorting cash/checks/coins received into the applicable bank bags, and completion of this project. Again, many volunteers were needed for each of the above steps. Our Council approved \$500 for the purchase of these baby bottles- we got a good price from our local Walmart store for these bottles – and other related supplies and expenses.

In late February/early March of 2020 we distributed, at the weekend Masses, almost 600 baby bottles in connection with this Project. The collection of these bottles however was delayed due to the COVID

pandemic. We eventually completed the collection of these bottles and on November 11, 2020 we met with some of the staff of Gianna House and presented them with a check for \$6,800 (see attached photos). This total amount was a great accomplishment given the unusual (Pandemic) circumstances, including reduced Mass attendance, in 2020 and is a result of the great generosity of our parishioners and visitors to our parish. Every contribution, large or small, was greatly appreciated and will be well used by Gianna House.(They are in great need now for additional funds to accomplish their aforementioned restoration plan.)

President's Message

CELEBRATION!

Our Fall edition of the Gianna House newsletter is dedicated to Sister Diane Masson and her inspirational vision and the sacrifices that she and many others made to open the Gianna House pregnancy and parenting residence for young pregnant teens this year. This is truly a celebratory time as we transitioned in September from a temporary to a permanent license and we are grateful to all of those who have helped to make Gianna House a reality. We are excited about the positive changes that State licensing has enabled and how the focus is now on our facility's operating effectiveness and support of the State of Michigan's first licensed residence for young teens. Our hearts and our hands are doing God's work.

Gianna House has fully transitioned from a residence-in-waiting to an active and fully functioning and caring home for pregnant teens and their infants. Already, the inquiries, referrals from other similar programs, and media outreach efforts are filling our residential beds and enabling Gianna House to become a referral asset within the tri-county region.

We are happy to report that we have retained our 501(c)3 status as a tax exempt organization. Without the tax-deductible generosity of our caring donors and benefactors, this could never have been possible. Virtually all the revenues Gianna House relies on to fund operations and programs come from our many generous donors, other non-profit organizations, church groups, and grants. In addition, Gianna House continues to receive in-kind donations of baby and similar supplies and services from businesses and individuals. Such donations, in amounts both big and small, arrive at Gianna House continuously. The tireless support of our community volunteers helps to complete the work necessary to keep the programs and building running smoothly.

There are a number of exciting and positive changes occurring as we restructure the Board to be focused on ways in which we can transparently manage how donor funds are being used and to illustrate the enduring impact that Gianna House is making in the lives of its residents as they become contributing members of our communities. I would like to share several with you:



Mary Alice Simpson, President

Continued on page 2



Board of Directors

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Vice President

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Treasurer

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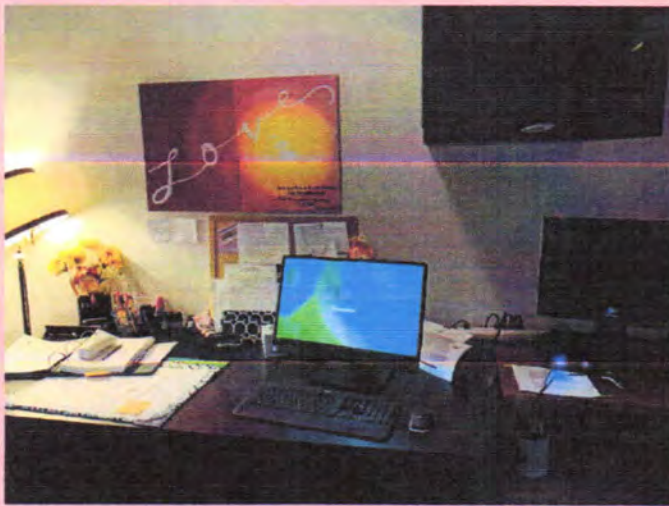
Executive Director

Presidents Message Continued

- ◆ We sincerely appreciate the dedicated efforts of those Board members who have served in the essential roles from 2011 through 2019 that helped Gianna House to realize the dream of state licensure and to be able to open its doors as a pregnancy and parenting residence. I want to especially acknowledge past President, Nancy Hauff, PhD., RN, who stepped down from the Board to return to her academic pursuits and other health and wellness efforts to help the underserved. Her efforts and those of its many past board members stayed laser focused to realize Sr. Diane's vision. The Honorable Dan O'Brien has relinquished his board seat to assist the board as an Advisor after seven dedicated years as a member and officer. Diane Trombley, RN left the board once she reached her goal of helping to achieve state licensure status.
- ◆ I am honored and humbled to have been elected to replace Nancy Hauff as Board President and promise to fulfill my responsibilities with dedication, honesty, and with God's watchful oversight of our board's planning and completion of tasks at hand in His name. Aiding in Board Officer roles are: Cynthia Greening, Vice President; Tom Masson, Treasurer; and Eric Backman, Secretary.
- ◆ We have a wonderful board of enthusiastic, team oriented and talented-beyond-measure professionals and community leaders. Regulatory documents and roles and responsibilities are being updated to reflect our growing organization. As the organization's needs change, we seek new board members who have expertise in areas of Accounting, Marketing, and Fund Raising. Our two newest Board members are Denise Brooks-Williams, Henry Ford Health System, Sr. VP and CEO of the North Market and resident of Detroit, and Mary Ann Ceravolo, Esq., and resident of Grosse Pointe.
- ◆ The Board of Directors has transitioned its focus from the licensing and construction requirement successes to one of operational support of the amazing staff under the direction of Jennifer Brubaker, its Executive Director who leads both the Residential and Community Outreach programs. Along with her professional staff and diversified community volunteers, Gianna House is at last putting all the programs and state-approved policies and procedures to the test on a 24-hour basis, 7 days a week. As teens are approved to enter the residential program, they are entering into a safe and nurturing home environment, many of them for the first time feeling secure and loved. The staff are adjusting to efficiently and effectively manage teen residents and an ever-expanding Community Outreach program which has served greater than 8,000 mothers and children in our tri-county communities.



- ◆ We are developing a digital strategy that will create a more efficient and secure information management environment. While we work on our digital strategy that includes our website and brochure enhancements and new secure donor application, we will continue to depend on the comprehensive mailing list of donors' and friends of Gianna House to mail out a final newsletter. Thanks to Deborah Pulis, Events & Contributions Coordinator, who has dedicated her talents and organizational efforts to administer the newsletter development and publishing efforts for the past 4 years, we are able to reach a wider reaching audience each year. We are requesting ***preferred and current email addresses*** so that our growth news and upcoming events reach out as broadly as possible. The goal is to establish awareness of the communication changes that will come and to actively gather current email addresses. Please visit www.giannahouse.org and click on **UPDATED CONTACT INFORMATION** on the homepage so we can begin gathering this information but will also continue to provide to those who do not use email or the internet the option of a mailing address to which donors can still send checks if they wish.
- ◆ Based on security information provided by Cybersecurity professionals and our Gianna House banking partner, PNC, our new donor system will save time and provide a sense of confidence in GH's ability to protect our donor's identity and bank accounts. Over time, we will be transitioning donors to use our website donor application, ***Payeezy***, which will be more secure for the generosity of one-time and recurring donors than sending checks in the mail or credit card information in the US postal system. This application provides an encrypted channel between your bank and the GH account with PNC. No one ever sees a donor's bank account information or Gianna House's. We will transition to this service over the year, but we will also continue to provide to those who do not use email or the internet the option of a mailing address to which donors can still send checks if they wish. The ***Payeezy*** application is housed on the Gianna House website at www.giannahouse.org. Check it out!
- ◆ Our staff and residents have a new wired and wireless network, enhanced network capacity, and new computers to help them step into the contemporary world of computing. We are most grateful to the kind donation of the network infrastructure and funds to purchase new computers.



Monitor's Office

Resident Study Area



If You Could Be There...Would You?

Sister Diane Masson once shared this poignant request that I repeat now in her memory:

IF YOU COULD BE THERE.....WOULD YOU?

If you could be there to open the door of residency in a loving and caring environment to a nervous, pregnant adolescent, under the age of 18 years, and invite her into a personal relationship with Jesus and the experience of a sound spiritual life, **would you?**

If you could be there to form a personal relationship with her, to share her joys and sorrows, to applaud her decision to choose life for her baby, and to encourage her to seek a better life for herself and her child, **would you?**

If you could be there to educate and encourage her regarding her pregnancy, birthing, childcare, parenting, nutrition and life skills; to provide for her physical, psychological, emotional, medical, educational, social and recreational needs and to celebrate the birth of her baby, **would you?**

If you could be there to journey with her through exit planning, resume writing, job training, Gianna House graduation, aftercare services and referrals, **would you?**

NOW YOU CAN BE THERE...BUT WILL YOU? BY JOINING THE GIANNA HOUSE FAMILY OF DONORS YOU CAN AND WILL BE THERE AS WE PROVIDE ALL OF THESE SERVICES TO OUR RESIDENTS!

Over this past summer, the Board calculated the fixed expenses to support the Gianna House operations and programs are significant, estimated at approximately \$400,000- \$450,000 per year.

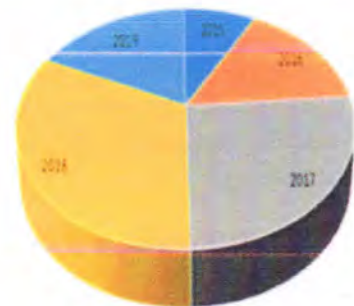
Through our fund raising events, appeals and campaigns, you have most generously and charitably opened your hearts to support its every need. Thank you and may God continue to bless you and those you hold most dear.

This Fall newsletter is full of the encouraging details and news of the growth of our programs and our people. Step inside these pages that illustrate how your help matters.

The best is yet to come!
Mary Alice Simpson, MS, RN
Board President

	\$ Contributions	Donors
2015	\$100,420	1429
2016	\$192,723	836
2017	\$314,051	1142
2018	\$396,474	1163
2019	\$215,465	610
	\$1,219,133	5180

**Total Contributions and Gifts
2015- 2019 YTD**



2015 2016 2017 2018 2019

Alive & Well

Gianna House's Outreach Program continues to grow and to provide wonderful learning experiences for mothers. During the first 9 months of 2019, 107 different mothers were served by Gianna House and class attendance totaled 786. Let's take a peek at some of the classes offerings.

In "*Mommy and Me: Sing and Play*", we find a circle of moms sitting on the floor with their little ones tucked close to them. They sing, do rhymes, finger plays and have fun enjoying music and rhythm together.

In "*Prenatal and Infant Care*" insight on the stages of pregnancy and fetal development is offered by a hospital birthing-center nurse, while a NICU nurse discusses newborn care.

Child development and expectations; child bonding; normal range of sleep, rest, activity and crying patterns; as well as communication skills and discipline are discussed during an 8-week series on "Parenting" presented by an Ascension–St. John Providence Hospital instructor.



Mommy and Me Class

"*Oral Care*" class gives expectant mothers information on conditions that may affect their oral cavity during pregnancy, and on how to care for the newborn's mouth and prevent early decay. This is taught by senior dental hygiene students from Baker College.

An engaging discussion takes place in the "*Exploring Breastfeeding*" class in which questions on all aspects of breastfeeding are answered by health department specialists, and mothers learn of federal law requiring employers to allow time and a private space for breastfeeding or pumping breast milk.

"*Toilet training*" is the topic of a class where a behavioral therapist shares great tips on how to know when a little one is ready to begin training and how to make this a fun experience for the child.

"*Alternatives to Anger*" and "*Mindfulness*" classes offered by a MSU Extension Behavioral Health Speaker give important insights on emotional well-being.

"*Safe Sleep*", "*Car Seat Safety*" and "*Lead Poisoning*" classes presented by Macomb County Health Department give mothers important information needed to keep their little ones safe.

"*Spiritual Journey*" class explores the heart of scripture themes and growth in relationship with God.

In a series "*The Self Reflection/Creative Writing*" class encourages poetry written based on personal life experiences and invites clients to reflect on their life experiences and to express their thoughts in writing.

Alive & Well Continued

Sessions by a Lakeshore Legal Aid lawyer impart important insights on issues which many Gianna House mothers face such as: custody, domestic violence, and landlord-tenant problems. After each *"Legal Aid"* session, free 30-minute private consultations are offered.

"Enrichment classes", *"Crocheting"*, *"Scrapbooking"*, *"Yoga"* and *"Sewing"* offer refreshing options. *"Money Management"* classes discuss how to create and stick to a basic budget, ways to decrease expenses and increase income, banking basics, debt reduction, and improving credit and savings.

In response to requests for information on *"Starting a Business"*, classes on this topic are presented by the Small Business Association and by SCORE.

While learning, mothers who come to class are earning *"Baby Bucks"* to purchase needed baby items such as diapers, wipes, infant clothing, and mom and baby toiletries.

Classes, however, offer much more than knowledge and baby bucks. Time and time again, mothers say they look forward to attending Gianna House classes because this affords an opportunity to meet and share with other mothers; a place to give voice to what they are experiencing; and a time for themselves – a break in their busy schedule.

This fall Gianna House is creating a special place for classes to be held - a quiet area, away from the noise and bustle of first floor where classes are currently held. Partners have painted the walls and ceiling of the large room on the lower level and have created a photo display of our moms and their little ones. The rest room on that level has new plumbing and fresh paint. New comfortable chairs and a portable wall were purchased through donations of alums of Dominican High's class of 1979.

How blessed we are by the many class facilitators who freely share their time and knowledge, by the dedicated Partners who come weekly to offer childcare for mothers needing someone to tend their little ones during class, and by the numerous individuals, groups, and parishes who donate countless baby items for the baby store.

*Gianna House's Outreach Program
ALIVE and WELL indeed!*



Gianna House: on the rise!

Upon receiving our license and holding our grand opening on May 3, 2019, Gianna House strategized on a recruitment plan to get our mom and baby suites occupied. The feat appeared to be challenging at first as we watched our doors function as a revolving door. No doubt, this brought frustration as we worked on getting the tweaks out and revamping. The days were long, the halls seemed lifeless and the sound of silence was great but over the next few months we obtained not one, not two but three residents. Suddenly, there were not enough hours in the day to get everything done. The staff worked tirelessly scheduling and transporting residents to appointments, providing nutritious meals, enrolling residents in school but most of all building relationships that we hope will last a lifetime.



At the end of summer one of our residents gave birth to Gianna House's first infant resident. He simultaneously made his entrance and history as the first male to sleep in Gianna House overnight. He and mom are healthy and doing great as they learn each other's sleep schedule. As for us? ***We are great! We have expanded our family.***

Another resident was named "Resident of the Month" for being an excellent student, resident and going above and beyond Gianna House expectations despite being 8 months pregnant. She has defied the odds by completing daily chores, staying up late to study, waking up early for school and earning all A's and B's since she's been enrolled. We are proud to witness the positive energy she brings to Gianna House.

In addition to Gianna House filling its rooms with teenagers and the cries of a newborn baby we decided to add a flare by engaging them in a Halloween door decoration contest. Each resident decorated their door. The finished product was put on our Facebook page for our followers to vote. The winner was announced October 5, 2019.

And last but certainly not least, we are happy to announce Gianna House's collaboration between its Community Outreach and Residential program by hosting our first Mommy & Me sleepover. This invite only event was presented to community outreach moms and their pre-teen daughters between the ages of 9-13 years of age. Our residents will also participate and serve as mentors as we strive to help strengthen the bond between moms and daughters, assist the daughters with coping with hormonal changes, transitioning from middle to high school, identity crisis, bullying and much more.



Winner- Door Decorating Contest



21357 Redmond Avenue
Eastpointe, MI 48021

Phone: 586-445-0440
Email: info@giannahouse.org
www.giannahouse.org

Non Profit Org
U.S Postage Paid
Troy, MI
Permit NO. 155

A commitment to Our Donors

MISSION

The goal of Gianna House is to provide a safe residence for pregnant teens and their newborn infants while providing spiritual, educational, and parenting support and resources to underserved women in our programs.

Gianna House is a 501(c)(3) Michigan non-profit organization. We welcome any donation of time talent and/or treasure.



Gianna House takes seriously its responsibilities to donors and the ethical use of donor dollars. Our fundraising budgets are carefully considered each year through our budgeting process and are used in a thoughtful way and practical manner in order to have the most impact on our programs. We consider our donors to be our partners and work to maintain long-standing relationships with each. Our goal is to match your wishes for impacting mothers, children and our communities with appropriate services and programs. We are all about families at Gianna House. We welcome all donors and partners as part of that family.

*Unsubscribe– If you wish to remove your name from our mailing list,
please email*

info@giannahouse.org



President's Message

We've all read some version of the Starfish story about the young boy who was observed throwing as many beached starfish back into the ocean as he could and being told that saving those few could hardly make a difference – but it sure made a difference to those he saved.



Like that boy, we at Gianna House are striving to save lives “two at a time”, mother and child, and you have made that possible through your backing. It is said that when someone cries out to God, ours are the hands and feet God uses to answer those prayers. What an honor and privilege!

This letter to you, our friends, is brimming with all we are achieving this year through some creative new concepts despite the challenges the pandemic has presented. It's important to us that you know we are being good stewards of your giving and what we are able to accomplish as a result. Inside, you will read about our mission expansion to serve young mothers up to age 25, our extension to online learning for mothers registered in our Outreach Program, our very successful golf fundraiser, and new program development to give vision and possibilities to those whose life experiences to date have been woefully limited.

As grant monies are diverted, rightly, to life-saving causes resulting from COVID-19, we have also looked at creative ways to continue to fund Gianna House for future moms and babies. We share them here for your reflection on what ideas might work for you and your family:

Family Christmas Gift: Many people struggle with Christmas gift ideas. We are so very blessed and our needs are few. I witnessed one family gathering where people just walked around just handing out gift cards. Instead, ask your family members to pool the money they were going to spend on gifts and make a Family Christmas Gift to Gianna House.

In Memoriam: Use your gift to Gianna House in memory of a lost loved one. We would love to share your gift and their name in our next newsletter and on our website.

In Gratitude: Have you and your family been blessed this year – with good health, a salary raise, answers to prayer, a new addition? Consider a gratitude gift.

Legacy Giving: Prayerfully consider making arrangements to continue to support Gianna House in your estate planning or legacy giving arrangements. Wills, trusts, and insurance are a few of the methods people use.

Get a new deduction. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act allows taxpayers taking the standard deduction to claim up to \$300 in charitable deductions.

Use your IRA. If you are 70½ or older, you're-eligible for a great tax break. You can give directly from a traditional IRA to a 501(c)(3) charity without having to declare that amount as taxable income, as you would a regular IRA withdrawal.

It's never easy or comfortable talking about money, but it is a necessary task as we continue to carry out our mission to support those who choose life for their unborn children.

President, Gianna House Board of Directors



Board of Directors

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Elizabeth Williamson

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Thomas Masson

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Cherish Fields, MSW

Rev. Stanley Pachla

Maria Van Dyke

Advisors

Eric Backman

Denise Brooks-Williams

Hon. Dan O'Brien

Staff

Jennifer Brubaker

Executive Director

Sr. Theresa Mayrand, OP

Community Outreach Director

Fall 2020

COVID 19 Pandemic

When COVID-19 hit, struggles with job loss and worry about obtaining vital necessities were real and far-reaching. Gianna House had to find creative ways to continue to provide for underserved women during this unprecedented time.

Although we could not accept new residents during the first, uncertain months of the pandemic, we celebrated the August birth of our resident's beautiful, healthy son. But how could we continue our class-based Outreach Program?

In looking for ways to continue to help while our center was quarantining, Outreach Program Director Sr. Theresa Mayrand developed online learning opportunities for community mothers to be able to continue to attend our classes. In our learning environment, mothers who take classes receive "baby bucks" they can use to purchase items from our closets filled with diapers, wipes, clothing, etc. – all donated to Gianna House throughout the year.



Sr. Theresa Mayrand – Community Outreach Director

Starting in May, modified classes were led virtually by our volunteer facilitators. As each class is completed, mothers email what they need for their babies and then pick up their items each Monday from the Gianna House porch. Thus, no COVID testing or social distancing is required and the much needed Outreach Program continues.

Carmen, a Macomb County mom, shares: "I found GH very soon after COVID hit my community. I was newly pregnant and very nervous for resources. I had recently lost my stable job and money has been very tight with the conditions of the world shutdown. I was home, which made it very easy to conduct classes online and to earn diapers and other baby supplies for my son. I'm very happy GH is here to help women and families like me. They are a true blessing."

A Wayne County mom, shares: "My name is Myleka and I am a single mom to five beautiful children ages two to 12. Gianna House has been a real blessing to moms like myself during COVID-19 by offering classes to help further educate us about parenting. Not only did Gianna House bless us mentally but they have also helped by blessing us with the necessities that we need for our little ones. I have been blessed with diapers, wipes, pull ups, clothing and toiletries from Gianna House during this pandemic and it has helped me tremendously. Being able to reach out for help at a time like this and receive it was a real blessing. I would like to thank Gianna House and all of their sponsors for helping me and my family. Thank you for thinking about moms and families like mine during this pandemic!"

Finding teachers with the capability to conduct online classes was a bit challenging, but networking with established groups such as CARE of Southeast Michigan, Ascension Health System's Southeast Michigan Community Health, and Community Housing Network, Inc., has been a great help. And it works both ways – they provide great classes and we refer moms to their programs.

Neefesha Marion, LLMSW, of Ascension Infant Mortality Program's Jubilee Parenting Support group, states: "As a part of our national mission at Ascension, our goal is to serve the most vulnerable populations. We have partnered with community organizations such as Gianna House. It has been a great experience working with Gianna House providing women and families parenting education."

CARE's Early Learning & Parent Education Director, Tonia Pauli, comments: "At CARE, we appreciate working together for the greater good. We recognize and thank Gianna House for their unwavering support of the moms in our community. Through our state's COVID-19 closures, Gianna House has collaborated with us to continue to provide workshops and education."

Making Room for More Moms

Soon, when you drive by Gianna House, you may see contractor trucks and hear saws and hammers while we work on two important projects that will make major improvements for our residents while increasing the number of mothers and babies to whom we can provide a safe home.

The first project will be to add a new heating and air conditioning system for the entire second floor, which is mainly comprised of baby/mother rooms and staff offices, and will also provide desperately needed relief to our aging boiler heat system. The new system will ensure our facility is warm during the cold winter months and cool in the summer. The new, much more efficient system will also significantly improve ventilation in the building, ensuring that indoor air quality is at its best.

A concurrent project will convert the aging bathroom in the North Wing into two bathrooms, each with showers and raised baby baths to allow mothers to stand and safely bathe their babies. This renovation will bring Gianna House into compliance under State of Michigan requirements for the Americans with Disabilities Act while creating a much more dynamic use of the space.

These two projects are absolutely necessary to be compliant and to increase the number of pregnant youth we can serve but, unfortunately, they won't be cheap. Initial estimates are in the range of \$100,000 for both and we will be conducting a Capital Fundraising Campaign to finance these sorely needed upgrades. We already received one generous donation.

If you feel that this campaign is somewhere you can make your mark and give a gift that will be forever meaningful, we would be pleased to answer your questions and discuss your ideas. If God has financially blessed you and you would like to fund the project in its entirety, we would be honored to name the wing after you or a loved one you wish to honor. Please contact Board President, Cynthia Greening at 586-549-5879 or cynthiagreening1@yahoo.com and she will be happy to answer your questions. You may also use our new TEXT TO GIVE feature by simply texting capital to 586-400-2446.

TEXT TO GIVE

Our new online platform allows supporters to text a donation right from their phone or tablet - anytime, anywhere. Register your payment method just once. Once your payment method is set up you may set your donation frequency to once, weekly or monthly.

Simply Text Gianna to 586-400-2446. Saving this number in your phone will allow you to donate easily again as desired.



21357 Redmond Avenue
Eastpointe, MI 48021

Phone: 586-445-0440
Email: info@giannahouse.org
www.giannahouse.org

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MISSION

The goal of Gianna House is to provide a safe residence for pregnant teens and their newborn infants while providing spiritual, educational, and parenting support and resources to underserved women in our programs.

Gianna House is a 501(c)(3) Michigan non-profit organization. We welcome any donation of time, talent and/or treasure.



A commitment to Our Donors

Gianna House takes seriously its responsibilities to donors and the ethical use of donor dollars. Our fundraising budgets are carefully considered each year through our budgeting process and are used in a thoughtful way and practical manner in order to have the most impact on our programs. We consider our donors to be our partners and work to maintain long-standing relationships with each. Our goal is to match your wishes for impacting mothers, children and our communities with appropriate services and programs. We are all about families at Gianna House. We welcome all donors and partners as part of that family.

Unsubscribe– If you wish to remove your name from our mailing list, please email

info@giannahouse.org



Pregnancy & Parenting Residence
www.giannahouse.org



We save lives, two at a time.

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Sr. Theresa Mayrand, OP
Director, Community Outreach

21357 Redmond Avenue
Eastpointe, MI 48021-2966
586-445-0440

Dearest Friend,

As the Christmas season is approaching, we are asking you to include Gianna House in your holiday gifting. Reflecting on the eve of the First Christmas, Mary and Joseph sought safety for the birth of the Christ Child. With the aid of one willing heart, they found a place to lay their heads. We are asking you to be that one willing heart to help us provide a safe home and a helping hand toward independence for young moms who have chosen life for their babies. By giving a hand up, not a hand out, to these young moms, we are saving both mom and baby – two lives at a time.

The pandemic has affected us all, and I know we all look forward to never again hearing the word unprecedented. But the truth is, we need your generosity now more than ever. Grants are being diverted to COVID-related services, and that's the right thing to do. But we at Gianna House still have moms who find themselves homeless through no fault of their own and babies who will, without help, be raised in the grimmest of circumstances.

There are many ways you can make a phenomenal difference in the lives of God's most vulnerable children: a holiday donation from your whole family in lieu of Christmas gifts; an honorarium in the name of a new grandchild, a friend, or a lost loved one; or a gratitude gift for all you have been blessed with.

- Send your check today made payable to Gianna House Foundation to the address on this letter.
- Go online and give safely via debit or credit card.
- Give directly from a traditional IRA to a 501(c)(3) charity without having to declare the amount as taxable income.
- Text-to-Give from your phone or tablet by texting Gianna to 586-400-2446.

If you have been a long-time friend and supporter, you should be receiving our newsletter so you can keep up-to-date about expansions in our facility and programs. If you are not receiving our communications, please go to our website and provide us with your contact information, especially an email address (which really helps keep down our mailing costs).

If you have not yet become a supporter, now is the time. We need **you** to help those who need **us**.

Gratefully,

President, Board of Directors

Executive Director

Testimonials:

"I love that Gianna House feels like family." "Gianna House is a sanctuary."
"My spirit was broken...Gianna House was a healthy step in the right direction."



Gianna House

We save lives—Two at a time



In the Beginning ...

God laid it on our hearts to care for His most vulnerable children and it is this mission that was in the heart of our Founder, Sister Diane Masson, who launched plans to open a home for pregnant youth who are choosing life but lack the resources and support needed to bring their child to birth. Gianna House is a haven for mother and child, providing a safe home, medical care, educational opportunities and spiritual guidance.

Action, not Advocacy

Efforts to end abortion mainly consist of legislative efforts in passing laws, conscience protection for health care workers, pregnancy health centers, student and campus outreach for pregnant and parenting students, educational opportunities for adults and youth, and activities on parish levels. These efforts have the desired positive effect of helping to sway the thoughts of many regarding the problem of teen pregnancy and the need to protect all human life, from conception.

Gianna House believes that advocacy, though absolutely necessary, must be supported by tangible alternatives to abortion. Without judgment we take in these young girls and strive to be a reflection of God's infinite love for them. More than a roof over their heads or a hot meal to keep them nourished, Gianna House is a place where care of all types - physical, emotional, and spiritual. We save lives two at a time - mother and child. While debate continues over the 'right to choose', we do more than preach our belief in preserving life and presenting moral convictions and take on the much larger task of providing for the multifaceted needs of an adolescent mother and child in the complex and challenging situation of youth pregnancy. Gianna House is a tangible solution, an opportunity to make a life-long difference.

We Provide Options

Our mission and primary focus is to offer practical and immediate assistance to at-risk youth facing unplanned pregnancy as an alternative to abortion, homelessness, or remaining in unsafe home situations. We will provide a temporary shelter if that is what is needed. But we will also provide for the teen and her infant for a year or longer as needed until she can finish her high school education and become self-supporting. Once a resident leaves our one-year program, we will continue to offer support for up to a year through our post-residence program. If our resident wishes to investigate the possibility of placing her child up for adoption, we will help her with that as well.

A Brief History

Following an exhaustive search, Gianna House leased the former convent at St. Veronica Catholic Church in Eastpointe in 2015. Working with architects and contractors, and securing necessary funding, massive renovations began to prepare for mother/child occupancy for the target group of teens age 13-17. Living quarters were developed for the House Supervisor and a second staff person as well, requiring moderate to substantial renovations. While renovations continued and State of Michigan licensure was in process, Gianna House officially opened its doors with an Outreach Program in June 2015 available to underserved mothers of any age. This program has steadily grown in the number of women and children served, classes offered, development of online classes, and provisions gifted to underprivileged mothers.

Along the way a Board of Directors was named, required regulatory permits and approvals attained, and relationships secured with other community service entities that would assist us in providing food, medical assistance, education, and resident referrals. Another core challenge was the identification of the requisite talent - employees and volunteers who would be a right fit with our vision and mission. In February 2019, following a long and arduous licensing process, through which we and the State licensing team learned so much, Gianna House received State of Michigan Licensure - the first pregnancy home in Michigan to do so.

The Ribbon Cutting: In May 2019 a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held to officially open the Pregnancy and Parenting Residence. While the Outreach Program continued to thrive and grow, we now began publicizing that we were open for residents. Our Executive Director and House Supervisor began hiring staff, and we were able to provide housing for up to six teen mothers, each with her own bedroom and an adjoining bedroom for her baby.

Gianna House also has a beautiful chapel, a big kitchen where mothers learn how to prepare nutritious meals, a spacious dining room where residents can eat together, and a large community room with a well-stocked collection of books for mothers and babies. Outside is a lovely fenced-in backyard, offering privacy and security, with large flower and vegetable gardens. The dream of offering a safe, loving, spiritual atmosphere that fosters a sense of pride and self-worth and changes the lives of these adolescents who have chosen life for their babies is now a reality. Residents receive the following:

- A suite with a bedroom for the mother and adjoining room for baby.
- Baby clothing provided through donations received.
- Availability of online education to complete their high school degree.
- Necessary social services.
- Adoption counseling by local agencies upon request.
- Childbirth and parenting education.
- Transportation to local community resources, medical appointments, field trips, and religious services at a local church of choice.
- Religious services and experiences in the Gianna House chapel or a local church of choice.
- Life skills education necessary to transition to independence.
- Mentoring for up to one year upon transition into independent living.

Who is St. Gianna?

Gianna Baretta Molla was a physician, loving wife and working mother. During the pregnancy of her fourth child in 1961, doctors discovered a large fibroma on her uterus and recommended a hysterectomy. Knowing that a hysterectomy would result in the death of her unborn child, Gianna chose to just have the growth removed instead, preserving her child's life.

Complications followed and, knowing the delivery would be difficult, Gianna pleaded with her family and doctors, "If you must decide between me and the child, do not hesitate, choose the child." The baby, Gianna Emanuela, was successfully delivered and Gianna died seven days later.

When her family is asked about their mother's choice, her daughter, Laura Molla answers, "My mother did not choose death", but "at that moment she chose life for her child." Gianna was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1994 and canonized a Saint on May 16, 2004.

Who We Are

We support the most vulnerable through a two-pronged approach:

- ▶ **Residential Program - serving ages 13 to 25**
 - ▶ Housing for pregnant youth and their infants
 - ▶ Medical care, counseling, and spiritual support
 - ▶ Self-improvement and enrichment classes
 - ▶ Educational opportunities and life-skills training
 - ▶ Parenting instruction and resources
- ▶ **Community Outreach Program - serving at-risk moms of any age**
 - ▶ Clients throughout the tri-county area have received over 3000 provisions/services to date
 - ▶ Moms earn *baby bucks* by taking classes on prenatal care, parenting, sewing, crochet, exercise, empowerment, money management and much more. Using the baby bucks they can shop in our closets for their babies' needs [diapers, clothing, blankets, formula, wipes, etc.] all of which have been donated to Gianna House for redistribution.



Time
to think about
SUCCESS

We Need You!

- We require about \$40,000 per month to run Gianna House, including 24-hour staffing
- We are upgrading our facilities to expand residential services to more at-risk pregnant youth
- Our Outreach Program is dynamic and we are striving to expand our offerings in terms of education, services, moral support and tangible resources
- Pray for us: often young women reach our door with many scars from physical, emotional and mental trauma: neglected, unloved, unsupported. In addition to your financial resources, please also send your prayers.

We save lives — Two at a time

12



TAB D

Knights of Columbus Baby Bottle Project 2020

Collection of Baby Bottles –Volunteers- 7/11-12/2020- One half Hour BEFORE St.

Cyril Masses- Storage Rm. TBD

Mass 7/11-12/2020- Times	Names	Phone#/Email Address
Saturday 7/11/20 5:30PM Outdoors (need 4-6)	Mike Gray Newells-2 Abbotts-2	
Sunday 7/12/2020 7:30AM in Church (2-4)	Moses-2 Abate-2	
Sunday 7/12/2020 9		

<p>:30AM Outdoors (4-6)</p>	<p>Krauses-5</p>	
<p>Sunday 7/12/2020 11 :30AM In Church- Slovak Mass (2)</p>		
<p>Sunday 7/12/2020 6:00PM In Church Tridentine Mass (2)</p>	<p>Mike Gray Ken Pullis</p>	
<p>Sunday 7/12/2020 8:30PM Outdoors (4-6)</p>	<p>Joseph White Joe Honce</p>	

	Mike Gray	
	Gino Vitale	

TAB E

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS-ST. NICHOLAS COUNCIL-7011

GIANNA HOUSE PROJECT-2020

ROSTER*

JOSEPH WHITE- GRAND KNIGHT-KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

ST. NICHOLAS COUNCIL-7011

KENNETH A. PULLIS- TREASURER/PROJECT DIRECTOR-

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

ST. NICHOLAS COUNCIL-7011

JENNIFER BRUBAKER- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR- GIANNA HOUSE

SISTER THERESA MAYRAND- OP-COMMUNITY OUTREACH DIRECTOR-

GIANNA HOUSE

- EXCLUDING INNUMERABLE AMOUNT OF VOLUNTEERS

(SEE PHOTOS AND MEDIA SECTIONS FOR PICTURES FOR ABOVE INDIVIDUALS)

TAB F

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS- ST. NICHOLAS COUNCIL-7011

GIANNA HOUSE PROJECT-2020

PHOTOS

SEE ATTACHED PHOTO OF CHECK PRESENTATION CEREMONY

2020-PARTICIPANTS- SR. THERESA MAYRAND, OP, COMMUNITY
OUTREACH DIRECTOR AND EUGENIA HILL, GIANNA HOUSE, HOUSE
MOTHER, GIANNA HOUSE, KENNETH A. PULLIS, PROJECT DIRECTOR,
AND JOSEPH WHITE, GRAND KNIGHT

NOTE- DUE TO COVID ENVIRONMENT IN 2020 WE WERE UNABLE TO
TAKE ADDITIONAL PHOTOS.



GIANNA HOUSE CHECK PRESENTATION SR. THERESA MAYRAND, OP, COMMUNITY OUTREACH DIRECTOR AND EUGENIA HILL, GIANNA HOUSE, HOUSE MOTHER., KEN PULLIS AND JOE WHITE GRAND KNIGHT

TAB G

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS-ST. NICHOLAS COUNCIL-7011

GIANNA HOUSE PROJECT-2020

MEDIA

1. Columbia Magazine articles-

-1/1/2021- Gianna House 2020 Baby Bottle Drive results.

2. MI Columbian Magazine articles-

- 1/19/2021- Gianna House 2020 Baby Bottle Drive results.

- 10/9/2019- Gianna House 2019 Baby Bottle Drive results.

3. Archdiocese of Detroit articles- Detroit Catholic Magazine

- 12/11/2020-Gianna House plans for Mothers up to age 25.

- 1/24/2016- Gianna House planned house for teens in crisis.

4. Ss Cyril and Methodius Church bulletin articles-

-11/22/2020- Gianna House 2020 Baby Bottle Drive results.

- 6/28/2020- Announcement of collection dates for bottles.

- 2/23/2020- KOC 2020 project announced for Gianna House.

- 6/30/2019- Gianna house Project results announced.

- 3/3/2019-Gianna House project- a Lenten Project

- 2/24/2019- KOC 2019 project announced for Gianna House.



KNIGHTS IN ACTION

DECEMBER 2020

LIFE (7)

2 Next >

LIFE

BABY BOTTLE DRIVE

St. Nicholas Council 7011 in **Sterling Heights, Mich.**, held a baby bottle fund drive at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church to benefit Gianna House, a local pregnancy resource center and residence for expectant and new mothers and their children. The Knights collected an estimated 200 bottles filled by parishioners with approximately \$6,800.

5K FOR STUDENTS IN NEED

St. Therese Council 7406 in **Mooreville, N.C.**, held a “virtual” 5K race, inviting Knights, family members and other parishioners of St. Therese Catholic Church to run or walk the distance at a location of their choice. More than 70 people participated, raising nearly \$2,000 for



4 Steps to Engaging Members

How can we engage and retain members? It starts with you. When a new member comes in, you and your council can inspire that man to step up and serve his parish and community. Here's how.

1. Create a plan, then act on it.

Your plan should guide new Knights through their first 12 months. Use these Shining Armor Award requirements to get started:

- Get involved in at least three council service programs.
- Attend at least three council business meetings.
- Complete the Second and Third degrees.
- Meet with their council's insurance representative.
- Recruit at least one new member.

2. Use your Retention Committee.

Your council's Retention Committee is responsible for creating and updating your plan. They should regularly ask if the plan make sense for the newest members. Remember, membership is personal. Ask if your members really like and care about your activities. Use that feedback to shape your future activities

3. Put his faith in action.

There is one thing that all Knights have in common: the Catholic faith. Knights want to bring this faith to life through good works.

But this is different for each man. Is your newest member a dad looking to organize family activities? A young man seeking community? A retired husband interested in running pro-life events?

Learn the ways in which each of your new brother Knights want to volunteer. Help him live out this mission through your programs. Guide him to activities that reflect his particular interests and let him thrive as a Knight and as a Catholic.

4. Mentorship is key.

An active council member should act as a mentor to the new Knight. This ensures that the new member feels welcome starting his First Degree. The mentor can tell the new member about each upcoming service project, faith event, meeting and degree. This outreach shows him that the council cares about him and his interests.

47th Annual March for Life Washington, D. C.



This year marks the 47th Annual March for Life scheduled for Friday, January 24, 2020. Due to many of our Parishes, youth groups, and many other Pro Life organizations that reserve buses for this event, the decision has been made by Michigan State Council Knights of Columbus to forgo sponsoring a bus. However, we will be attending and hope that many of you will as well.

For anyone interested in attending, we have negotiated the cost of \$109 per night for accommodations at the Hampton Inn, Old Towne Alexandria, VA, beginning Friday, January 24, 2020 thru Sunday, January 26, 2020.

Reservations: Call Hampton Inn directly at 1-703-329-1400 Rooms Reserved under Michigan State Knights of Columbus – March for Life & place your Hotel reservation on your credit card. Please note: Call the number above directly, DO NOT RESERVE ONLINE!

We sincerely hope that many of you will be able to find transportation with your respective groups and we look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us.

Thanks & God bless, Tim & Cindy

Phone Inquiries: 517-214-5120 or 763-5621

Email: t.donovan@mikofc.org

Deadline for room Reservations: December 25, 2019

RESIDENCE FOR PREGNANT TEENS

St. Nicholas Council 7011-Sterling Heights, Michigan presented a check) for over \$8,500 to provide operating and other expenses for Gianna House's new facility- a long-term residence for pregnant teens in Michigan.

Teenage girls age 13-17 may stay for up to one year after the birth of their child and receive free room and board, prenatal care, counseling, as well as other classes in caring for their baby.

Gianna House has since 2015 conducted a Community Outreach Program focused on community building and skills enhancement, serving those who are pregnant, new Moms, and Moms with multiple children, providing last year 800 items, including diapers, formula, car seats, and other essentials.



WHAT A GREAT TIME TO BE CATHOLIC! WHAT A GREAT TIME TO BE PRO-LIFE! WHAT A GREAT TIME TO BE A KNIGHT!

Outstanding College Council Award



A year and a half ago on March 8th 2019, Council #17237 at Michigan Technological University received our charter and joined the Knights of Columbus as a new College Council. In fact,

that charter is currently mounted on the wall behind me as I write. When looking at the names listed there, they are not some long forgotten brother Knights from years gone by, but rather men that I have had the immense privilege to walk with and grow closer to Christ with. All the men listed plus countless others have helped define what are council was this past year, who we are now, and are continuously laying the brick work for the future. On the night of September 11th, we had the opportunity as a council to gather, albeit with masks, to watch the first ever Virtual College Council Conference hosted by supreme.

The night turned out to be quit the night for us as awards for the previous fraternal year (2019-2020) were awarded. We were honored to receive recognition for having achieve 11 Stars for exceeding our membership quota for the Star Council Award. We were also grateful to be recognized for having the highest recruitment percentage of any college council with 92% or 22 new members that were recruited this past fraternal year adding on to our existing total of 24 brother Knights.

However, the largest honor came when we were awarded the Outstanding College Council Award. For those who may not know the Outstanding College Council Award is given to the college council that best exemplifies the mission and ideals of the Order and has, in a unique way, gone above and beyond to make a difference on campus and in the surrounding community. The fact that our council, in our first full fraternal year, brought home the most prestigious honor that can be bestowed to a college council is a true testament to the culture of our council and the culture of the community at St. Albert the Great Catholic University at Michigan Tech with whom we are affiliated. This award means a great deal to the entirety of our council who strove to live by the pillars of the order, charity, unity, and fraternity this past year. We were proud to donate the \$500 award to our local life outreach center. Michigan Tech is by far the smallest public university, with around 5,000 undergrad students, and the first in Michigan to ever win this award and we could not have done it without the support our local Knights of Columbus Councils in our district who helped us get started and gave us their full support since the beginning. While this award is something to celebrate, I believe I speak for the whole council when I say that all glory goes to God. We are not in it for the awards but rather the opportunity to grow in fraternity with each other, strengthen our faith and serve our community and campus in the image of Christ. Moving forward we will not be resting on our laurels; we hope to seize the momentum that this award has presented us and continue to grow our council and live out the fraternal mission of the Knights of Columbus. We here at Council #17237 at Michigan Technological University hope that our

continued on page 20

GIANNA HOUSE BABY BOTTLE PROJECT



WHAT A GREAT TIME TO BE CATHOLIC! WHAT A GREAT TIME TO BE PRO-LIFE!

As you know The Knights of Columbus have been Pro-Life from their inception.

St. Nicholas Council 7011 is pleased to announce the completion of its Baby Bottle Project for 2020. This Project was selected by St. Cyril and Methodius Church as one of its 2020 Lenten Projects.

St. Nicholas Council 7011 was involved in raising funds to provide operating and other expenses for Gianna House, a resource center for pregnant mothers, located in Eastpointe. Gianna House offers two separate programs. One program is its Community Outreach Program which since 2015 has focused on community building and skills enhancement, serving those who are pregnant, new Moms, and Moms with multiple children. These Outreach mothers are in their 20's and 30's and come from 21 different cities. In 2019 this program had 1,136 mother visits; mothers attended 978 classes and received over 4,000 baby items. On May 3, 2019 Gianna House, in a ribbon cutting ceremony, celebrated the licensing of their facility with the State of Michigan, the first certified nonprofit, long-term residence for pregnant teens in the State. This represents their second Program, their Residency Program. Teenage girls age 13-17 may stay for up to one year after the birth of their child and receive free room and board, prenatal care, counseling, as well as other classes in caring for their baby. Gianna House is in the process of a restoration of their facilities to open a second wing to accommodate additional residents and to respond to the needs of many inquiries received from pregnant 18- year olds.

Gianna house last year through this new program helped many mothers, providing many items, such as diapers, formula, car seats, and other essentials.

In late February/early March of 2020 Knights from St. Nicholas Council 7011 distributed, at the weekend Masses, almost 600 baby bottles in connection with this Project. The collection of these bottles was delayed due to the COVID pandemic. The Council's Knights eventually completed the collection of these bottles. On November 11, 2020 the Council's Grand Knight, Joseph White PGK and Ken Pullis, Right to Life Chairman, met with some of the staff of Gianna house and presented them with a check for \$6,800 (see attached photos). This total amount was a great accomplishment given the unusual circumstances in 2020 and is a result of the great generosity of our parishioners and visitors to Ss Cyril's and Methodius Church. Every contribution, large or small is greatly appreciated and will be well used by Gianna House.

We leave you with three thoughts- THANK YOU, THANK YOU, and THANK YOU.

Programs = New Members

Gianna House, a home for pregnant teens, sees increased need, plans for expansion



DANIEL MELOY

DEC 11, 2020 LOCAL



One of the mothers who lives at Gianna House, a residential facility for pregnant teenagers and new mothers, plays with her baby at the Eastpointe residence, which is housed in the former convent of St. Veronica Parish in Eastpointe. After opening in May 2019, Gianna House hopes to soon expand to serve mothers up to age 25. (Photo courtesy of Gianna House)

After being open for 18 months, residential facility in former St. Veronica convent plans to serve additional mothers up to age 25

EASTPOINTE — For 18 months, Gianna House in Eastpointe has been a place to go for young expecting mothers with nowhere else to turn.

The home for pregnant teenagers, ages 13-17, in the former convent of St. Veronica Parish in Eastpointe is a safe space for young women to live, learn and adjust to motherhood both during and after their pregnancy.

When it opened in May 2019, Gianna House was the first residential home for pregnant teens in the state. Now, however, the Catholic-run ministry is expanding that mission to serve mothers up to the age of 25, said Jennifer Brubaker, Gianna House's executive director.

“A majority of our calls have been women ages 17-25 who are either pregnant or recently have given birth,” Brubaker told *Detroit Catholic*. “Our mission is to provide a safe residency to young women, young mothers, while providing spiritual or educational parenting support and resources to those who are underserved. We are really dedicated to wanting to help young mothers who have chosen life for their children.”

While living at Gianna House, young women are encouraged and helped to plan their lives and career goals, learning the essentials of motherhood and the important life skills they’ll need to succeed.



A mother reads to her young daughter at Gianna House. To date, the program has served 19 teenagers, but staff has seen a greater need in the community to expand to older mothers, too. (Photo courtesy of Gianna House)

To date, 19 teenagers have been served by the program, but there are more young mothers out there who need help, Brubaker said, and Gianna House has the capacity to expand to older mothers who are ready to accept the program.

“There are a lot of girls out there, ages 13-17, who are pregnant and need our support,” Brubaker said. “We are seeing, unfortunately, sometimes legal guardians who don’t want to sign off and allow their child to be part of this really important program.”

The reasons can range from mental health issues on the part of the parent to embarrassment, Brubaker said.

“Sometimes, they feel like maybe they have failed their child, and they don’t want them put up in a place like Giana House,” she said.

Brubaker said the Gianna House program can be a bit of a “wake up call,” literally, for girls in the program who might not be used to a regimented life — Gianna House has specific wakeup and bed times — along with assigned chores around the house and an expectation to be present for “family dinner” at the house.

Just as with the younger moms, mothers in the 18-25 age group will be expected to follow the same rules — although they’ll live in a separate wing of the house.



Jennifer Brubaker, executive director of Gianna House, stands in one of the residential rooms. Brubaker said mothers in the program are given support, community, parenting and career help. (Valaurian Waller | Detroit Catholic)

“Our rules and expectations are not any different than those living in a family-style setting,” Brubaker said. “We expect them to be up at the same time, clean their rooms, make their beds, have breakfast at a certain time and come down to participate in community activities such as parenting classes. We make sure they are attending their schooling online, helping out with community dinner and finishing chores.”

Brubaker expects older girls who have experience in a workplace setting might have an easier time adjusting. Older mothers who have not completed high school will be expected to take online classes to obtain their GED, and may be encouraged to go to trade schools or career preparation classes while living at Gianna House.

In order to house the older mothers — Brubaker said the goal is to house four to five mothers who are 18-25 — Gianna House is launching a \$100,000 capital campaign to establish a separate wing.

Besides new rooms for the additional mothers, the first project will be improving the heating and cooling systems in the former convent, which is more than 80 years old.

“The second floor is all (residential) rooms and staff offices, so we need to provide a huge relief to the boiler system, which is extremely old,” Brubaker said. “We need a new system to ensure we are warm during the winter months, but also that we stay cool in the

summer months. We have no air-conditioning right now, so being pregnant in the heat is very hard for our moms.”



Gianna House staff and residents spend time reading in a common area. The former convent, which is more than 80 years old, needs significant renovations, including upgrades to its heating and cooling systems. (Courtesy of Gianna House)

The campaign also will fund much-needed updates to the entire Gianna House facility, making sure it meets Michigan residency regulations and is compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

In the 18 months since Gianna House opened its doors, the staff have learned more about the needs and challenges both young mothers and their babies face. To meet those needs, Brubaker said, Gianna House has cultivated an army of donors and supporters in the local Catholic community.

“We do a lot of grant writing to support Gianna House; however, during the COVID-19 pandemic, grant writing has become very difficult,” Brubaker said. “Organizations and businesses are looking to support causes, but they want to do more than just help four residents at a time. Realistically, it costs \$15,000 to care for a child and her baby year-round, so we look to every source of revenue, from fundraising and appeal letters throughout the year.”

With the planned expansion, the need for funds is even greater. Brubaker said Gianna House plans to launch its capital campaign at the start of 2021, with a goal of beginning expansion work by the summer.

“Gianna House exists because we have a great, dedicated following of pro-life Catholics in the community,” Brubaker said. “We have amazing support from Catholic churches and businesses and individuals who are consistent supporters who believe in us and believe in our cause.”

Gianna House ‘Live Nativity’

On Sunday, Dec. 13, Gianna House will host a live Nativity scene from 4 to 7 p.m. at its location, 21357 Redmond Ave, Eastpointe. For \$25 per car, people can experience a live Nativity scene, complete with music, animals and carolers. If they feel comfortable, guests are invited to go outside with their masks on to greet the Gianna House staff who make the program possible.

Gianna House to offer shelter for teens in crisis pregnancies

BY [GUEST WRITER](#) | [JAN. 28, 2016](#) | [LOCAL](#)

New ministry aims to fill vital need for young mothers with nowhere to turn

A new mother holds up a onesie for her baby during Gianna House's Christmas baby shower Dec. 17. Gianna House, a new ministry housed in the former convent of St. Veronica Parish in Eastpointe, is hoping to become a residential home for teen mother's with nowhere else to go.

Photos by Tom Masson | Special to The Michigan Catholic

Kelly Luttinen | Special to The Michigan Catholic

Eastpointe — The staff at Gianna House, a new facility to help young girls dealing with unplanned pregnancies, is “just like family,” according to 23-year-old Delon.

The young mother learned about Gianna House through a referral from another center, Pregnancy Aid, and after taking Lamaze birthing classes at Gianna House in October, she delivered a healthy baby boy Nov. 30. Both mother and son are doing well, and Delon is grateful for the help she received.

“This was my first pregnancy,” said Delon, whose last name is being withheld by The Michigan Catholic to protect her privacy. “Had I not gone to those classes at Gianna House, I would have been clueless as to my delivery.

“They were so loving and caring, so warm and welcoming there. They offer a lot of resources and a lot of great information.

”After six years of planning and hard work, the dedicated group of pro-life religious and laity responsible for creating Gianna House brought their project to fruition in June 2015.

The facility, located on the property of St. Veronica Parish in Eastpointe in the former convent building that housed the Sisters of St. Joseph of Nazareth for nearly 80 years, currently operates as a pregnancy resource center open to all pregnant women, but its long-term goals are more specific.

The eventual aim of Gianna House is to provide a residence specifically for teenage mothers-to-be, especially those under the age of 18.

Sr. Theresa Mayrand, OP, comforts Angela, who was moved to tears by the gifts she received for her baby during Gianna House's Christmas baby shower Dec. 17.

Inspiration from a saint

Gianna House is named for St. Gianna Beretta Molla, who sacrificed her own life to save her unborn daughter. A physician, Gianna knew the implications of not having surgery for her uterine tumor, but told the medical staff and her family that if it came to choosing between her life and the life of her child, she chose her baby. St. Gianna died seven days after giving birth to a healthy baby girl.

The idea to start Gianna House came about in 2009 when the Livonia-based Felician Sisters were looking for a way to better serve the poor and needy. According to Sr. Mary Diane Masson, CSSF, executive director of Gianna House, the sisters “participate in many cooperative initiatives for the poor, but at that time, we were a looking for a sponsorship that would be all our own.

”After researching underserved needs in the Metro Detroit area, “I found very few programs offering housing for pregnant teens,” Sr. Masson said. Though organizations such as Alternatives for Girls, Covenant House and the Salvation Army COTS offered some help, there didn’t seem to be a ministry specifically for pregnant teenagers with nowhere else to go.

“Existing programs like Mary’s Mantle and Abigail Ministries only take in girls 18 and older,” Sr. Masson said. “Our program will help teens before and after they have their babies. We will not just help with their pregnancy, but with their parenting.

”In addition to childbirth preparation classes and classes in parenting, breastfeeding, nutrition and personal growth, Gianna House offers pregnancy testing, counseling, baby items for those in need and referrals for additional services.

“These are adolescents, no more than babies themselves, who are thrown into the role of mothers,” said Adrian Dominican Sr. Theresa Mayrand, associate director of Gianna House. “We want to help these young girls become good mothers through continuing education in parenting. We approach it one mother and one baby at a time.

”One way to do that is through the help of trained medical professionals such as Dr. Nancy Hauff, RN, who works for Wayne State University and the Detroit Medical Center’s Hutzel Hospital and teaches Lamaze classes at Gianna House.

Dr. Hauff worked with Delon, the 23-year-old new mother, before and after her delivery.

“I had a great birth experience because of her,” Delon said. “She also taught me about breastfeeding. She covered as much as she could, and she checked to see how everything was going after my delivery.

It was a blessing to have her in my life.

”Dr. Hauff said Gianna House should be a great help to teen mothers especially, who are at a higher risk for preterm birth, low birth weight babies and serious conditions such as preeclampsia. She also believes an important goal for the ministry will be to help reduce the infant mortality and morbidity rates.

A work in progress

Currently under renovation, the future Gianna House residence will be in the former convent of St. Veronica Parish in Eastpointe.

In order to achieve its goal of eventually housing underage mothers, Gianna House is in the midst of renovations designed to meet state regulations. An environmental survey was recently conducted and abatement corrections completed. Prior to accepting residents, Gianna House will have to be licensed by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' Division of Child Welfare as a childcare institution.

Sr. Masson said Gianna House does not have a fixed date for opening its residence, but hopes it is only "months" away. When fully operational, the facility will be able to accommodate up to seven residents and their infants, 15 in total.

Gianna House draws much support from the local Catholic community, including parishioners and staff at St. Veronica Parish and its pastor, Fr. Stanley Pachla, but more financial support is needed to turn its long-term vision into a reality.

Diane Trombley, BSN, RN, a member of Right to Life-Lifespan and a Gianna House board member, wrote in a recent newsletter for the ministry that without resources such as Gianna House, pregnant teenagers are prone to falling prey to a culture that relies on abortion as a solution.

"Without Gianna House to offer a safe, secure and loving environment to them, they will turn to those who will offer the quick fix of abortion and leave them with a lifetime of regret," Trombley wrote. "This is why we are so anxious to have Gianna House become a reality. Each delay ... means one little girl who might have been helped has nowhere to go.

"Gianna House

Gianna House, located in the former convent at St. Veronica Parish, 21357 Redmond in Eastpointe, is open as a pregnancy resource center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

To donate to help with renovations to the planned adolescent residence or to volunteer at Gianna House, call (586) 445-0440 or email smdiane@feliciansisters.org.

mayrand@hotmail.com.

For more information, visit www.giannahouse.org.

[giannahouse.org](http://www.giannahouse.org).

[giannahouse.org](http://www.giannahouse.org).

St. Cyril's ... Spirit and Determination ... Our History (Cont'd.)

The Congregation of the Dominican Sisters continued to increase, and since there was no room to expand their current facilities, in January, 1948, they acquired 800 acres in Oxford, Michigan, which then served as the Dominican Sisters Motherhouse for over 70 years.

The 1950's was a decade of continued growth and jubilation. On June 3, 1951, Father Zalibera celebrated his 45th anniversary of priesthood. A procession comprised of school children, altar boys, parish societies and clergy led Father to the church where a High Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated followed by a banquet organized by the parishioners. Another significant project was the installation of the automatically-operated Schulmetronic Basilican church bells. After much planning and careful consideration, Father Zalibera choose these Basilican bells to complete the church towers which added to the beauty of the church building. The culmination of this work rang out on Christmas Eve in 1955.

On May 27, 1956, the parishioners gathered again to celebrate Fr. Zalibera's Golden Anniversary with a High Mass celebrated by His Eminence, Edward Cardinal Mooney. The day included a banquet where clergy, civil authorities, students and parishioners paid tribute to their beloved pastor. In honor of this occasion, the church was redecorated through the generosity of the parishioners.

The Dominican Sisters had been using the third floor of the school as their convent since the school was first built. This was not an ideal situation, and the continuing need for more classroom space brought about the plan to build a convent on parish grounds. Fundraising began and the groundbreaking ceremony was held on November 6, 1957. Work continued for two years and on September 27, 1959, Rev. Bishop Henry Donnelly blessed the new convent.

During the peak of the parish in the 1950s and 1960s, there were 1,800 parish families, a yearly enrollment of 800 students in the elementary and high schools and an on-site staff of 18 sisters. The completed building unified the church and school as one massive structure. The Byzantine style sanctuary occupied the center of the building while the three-story school wrapped around it and the gymnasium/auditorium was located below the sanctuary. When the entire parish complex, which included the church, school, rectory, convent and furnishings, was completed, the cost was estimated at nearly \$1 million dollars (equal to \$8,793,243 in 2020). This was a substantial sum of money at that time since most parishioners were mainly in the lower income bracket. It was very difficult at first, but the parishioners took pride in the sacrifices they made to build the church, school and auditorium that served them for many years. At that time, architects considered the structure as one of the three best-built church buildings in Detroit.

**SS. CYRIL & METHODIUS
CHURCH & SCHOOL**
9071 SAINT CYRIL AVENUE
DETROIT 13, MICHIGAN



Knights of Columbus -Gianna House Baby Botte Project

WHAT A GREAT TIME TO BE CATHOLIC! WHAT A GREAT TIME TO BE PRO-LIFE!

As you know, The Knights of Columbus have been Pro-Life from their inception. St. Nicholas Council 7011 is pleased to announce the completion of its Baby Bottle Project for 2020. This Project was selected by Ss. Cyril & Methodius Church as one of its 2020 Lenten Projects.

St. Nicholas Council 7011 was involved in raising funds to provide operating and other expenses for Gianna House, a resource center for pregnant mothers, located in Eastpointe. Gianna House offers two separate programs. One program is its Community Outreach Program which since 2015 has focused on community building and skills enhancement, serving those who are pregnant, new moms, and moms with multiple children. These Outreach mothers are in their 20's and 30's and come from 21 different cities. In 2019, this program had 1,136 mother visits; mothers attended 978 classes and received over 4,000 baby items. On May 3, 2019 Gianna House, in a ribbon cutting ceremony, celebrated the licensing of their facility with the State of Michigan, the first certified nonprofit, long-term residence for pregnant teens in the State. This represents their second Program, their Residency Program.

Teenage girls, age 13-17, may stay for up to one year after the birth of their child and receive free room and board, prenatal care, counseling, as well as other classes in caring for their baby. Gianna House is in the process of a restoration of their facilities to open a second wing to accommodate additional residents and to respond to the needs of many inquiries received from pregnant 18- year olds. Last year through this program, Gianna House helped many mothers, providing many items, such as diapers, formula, car seats, and other essentials.



In late February/early March of 2020, the Knights from St. Nicholas Council 7011 distributed almost 600 baby bottles to parishioners at the weekend Masses to fill with donations for Gianna House. The collection of these bottles was delayed due to the COVID pandemic. The Council's Knights eventually completed the collection of these bottles. On November 11, 2020, the Council's Grand Knight, Joseph White PGK and Ken Pullis, Right to Life Chairman, met with some of the staff of Gianna House and presented them with a check for \$6,800 (photo). This total amount was a great accomplishment given the unusual circumstances in 2020 and is a result of the great generosity of our parishioners and visitors to Ss. Cyril & Methodius Church. Every contribution, large or small is greatly appreciated and will be well used by Gianna House.

We leave you with three thoughts- THANK YOU, THANK YOU, and THANK YOU.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BABY BOTTLE
PROJECT- SAVE THE DATES JULY 11 & 12, 2020**

We are planning on collecting your filled baby bottles at the weekend Masses of July 11-12, 2020.

The outdoor Masses are Saturday 7/11/2020 at 5:30PM and Sunday at 9:30AM and 8:30PM. We will be collecting the bottles at both the Ryan and 18 Mile entrances to our complex. It is recommended the parishioner directly place the bottle in our container that we hold.

The indoor Masses are on Sunday at 7:30, 11:30- Slovak-, and 6:00PM - Tridentine. We will collect the bottles at the Church entrance. Again the parishioners will place the bottles directly into our container.

We would appreciate it if you could wipe the bottles down before bringing them to Mass.

If you did not receive a bottle or if you want to include in the bottle a check please make your check out to St. Nicholas Council 7011.

If you are not attending any of these Masses that weekend please drop your bottle or check off to the parish office during their business hours.

Please consider contributing to this vital project to raise funds for Gianna House- a pregnancy house for teenage mothers.

Please email me at kpullis@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Adoration Update † Adorers Needed

Hello Parish Family: Our Adoration ministry has been a very vibrant and positive ministry since 2015. We have been blessed in so many ways in its growth as well as positive impact we are having with our parish, each other and in the world. With that being said, we are running into a heartbreaking possibility that we may need to shorten the Adoration hours as we continue to struggle with finding committed adorers. This is something that we truly do not want to happen.

Please continue to pray for our ministry that slots will be filled soon. And, please pray for our committed adorers to give them the heart and strength to continue with their commitments. Prayerfully consider taking on one of the hours below as we need to have at least TWO adorers for each hour. Understand this is a TRUE COMMITMENT. A commitment that will bestow many graces to all around us.

Please come to show your love for our Eucharistic Lord, even if you cannot commit to a whole hour. God cannot be outdone in generosity. Thanks so much and God Bless you! *Jenn Dopke*

REGULAR ADORATION HOURS: Sunday, 10:00PM - Saturday, 9:00AM

ADORERS DESPERATELY NEEDED:

Monday: 1AM-2AM, 3AM-4AM, 4AM-5AM, 11PM-12AM • **Tuesday & Thursdays:** 1AM-2AM, 8AM-9AM, 9AM-10AM, 10AM-11AM
Wednesdays: 2AM-3AM, 3AM-4AM, 5AM-5AM • **Fridays:** 10PM-11PM • **Saturdays:** 1AM-2AM, 2AM-3AM, 3AM-4AM, 4AM-5AM

If you can commit to one hour or have questions, please contact: *Jenn Dopke, (586) 530-3674, jdopke13@gmail.com*

**Knights of Columbus Baby Bottle Project**

Again this year our local council will be involved in raising funds to provide operating and other expenses for Gianna House, a Pregnancy Center in Eastpointe. Gianna House houses pregnant teens 17 and under and their infants, plus serves as a Pregnancy Center for adult women. This

Project has been selected by Ss. Cyril and Methodius Church as one of its 2020 Lenten Projects.

Next Saturday and Sunday, February 29 and March 1, we will be distributing 600 baby bottles at the weekend Masses in connection with this Project. Last year we distribute 350 bottles but, due to the favorable response from parishioners, we ran out of bottles after the 1:30PM Holy Mass. We apologize for that and hope to have a sufficient numbers of bottles this year.. We provided over \$8,500 to the Gianna House last year and hope and pray that we can exceed that this year.

Our experience is that approximately 60% of the bottles are returned each year. We hope to improve on that percentage this year. Please keep these bottles in a convenient place at home so you do not lose them or forget about them. Each bottle returned provides between \$15-\$23, depending on whether they have currency or checks included. Some bottles return more than that due to our generous parishioners.

If you are a parishioner who is unable to get a bottle and still want to support this important project you can provide a check-payable to *St. Nicholas Council 7011*- and drop it off in the Parish Office or give it to us on one of the dates indicated below.

On April 4-5, 2020 –Palm Sunday weekend -we will be collecting the bottle returns at the weekend Masses.

We thank you in advance for your support of this vital project.

???: *Ken Pullis, (586) 939-8525 or kpullis@gmail.com*

Please Remember to Pray for Our
Sick Parishioners, Family Members & Friends
and Those who are Serving in the Military

Church in Center and Eastern Europe • Next Weekend

Next weekend, a special collection will be taken to help support the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. The fall of communism occurred over 25 years ago, but the Church still struggles to rebuild after years of oppressive rule. Many churches in this region were confiscated or destroyed, leaving the faithful without a place to worship or find pastoral support. Your support of this collection helps rebuild churches, supports seminary programs, promotes ministries and education for children and families, and renews community life around the region. Prayerfully consider how you can support this collection. Envelopes are available in the vestibule.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner • March 15

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus - St. Nicholas Council is hosting a St. Patrick's Day Dinner. The delicious dinner includes traditional Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner Served Family Style.

The event is open to everyone and takes place on Sunday, March 15. Doors open at 6:00PM and dinner is served at 6:30PM. Tickets are \$20 per person. Refreshments are included.

Tickets may be purchased in the Parish Office or contact:

Ken Pullis, (586) 939-8525 or Joe Honce, (248) 224-1132

Catholic Charities Award to Ss. Cyril & Methodius

Ss. Cyril and Methodius has been selected for one of Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan Time, Talent, and Treasure Awards! This award symbolizes Ss. Cyril and Methodius' dedication to the corporal works of mercy in the community of Sterling Heights and through the Archdiocese of Detroit.

We would like to formally invite all parishioners of Ss. Cyril & Methodius to attend the event! Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan's 2020 Annual Celebration event will be on Friday, April 3, at Petruzzello's Banquet and Conference Center in Troy. This black-tie (optional) event will feature dinner, music and dancing, silent and live auction, and Archbishop Vigneron will be in attendance.

Join us in supporting Catholic Charities and honoring Ss. Cyril & Methodius! Tickets are \$150 for guests of SSCM or \$1500 for a table of ten. Please join us for this beautiful night out!

Please check out our event page at <https://ccsem.cbo.io> or for more details, email: *Adam Pery* at perrya@ccsem.org.



Knights of Columbus Gianna House Baby Bottle Project

WHAT A GREAT TIME TO BE CATHOLIC! WHAT A GREAT TIME TO BE PRO-LIFE! As you know The Knights of Columbus have been Pro-Life from their inception.

In addition to the previously completed ProLife Poster contest, our Council is pleased to announce the completion of its Baby Bottle Project for 2019. This Project was selected by Ss. Cyril & Methodius Church as one of its 2019 Lenten Projects.

Our local council was involved in raising funds to provide operating and other expenses for Gianna House, a resource center for pregnant mothers, located in Eastpointe.

Gianna House offers two separate programs. One program is its Community Outreach Program which since 2015 has focused on community building and skills enhancement, serving those who are pregnant, new Moms, and Moms with multiple children.

Gianna house last year through this program helped 181 mothers, providing 800 items, such as diapers, formula, car seats, and other essentials.

On May 3, 2019 Gianna House, in a ribbon cutting ceremony, celebrated the licensing of their facility with the State of Michigan, the first certified nonprofit, long-term residence for pregnant teens in the State. This represents their second Program, their Residency Program.

Teenage girls age 13-17 may stay for up to one year after the birth of their child and receive free room and board, prenatal care, counseling, as well as other classes in caring for their baby.

On March 2-3, we distributed, at the weekend Masses, a total of 350 baby bottles in connection with this Project. On April 13-14, we received over 200 bottles, some filled with coins and others with cash or checks.

On June 13, we met with some of the officers, board members and staff and presented them with a check for \$8,556 (photo above). This total amount exceeded our highest projections and is a result of the great generosity of our parishioners and visitors to our parish. Every contribution, large or small (36% of the above total was received in the way of coins), is greatly appreciated and will be well used by Gianna House.

If you still have some bottles at home, please drop them off at the Parish Office. I am sure that Gianna House can use whatever additional funds we raise.

We leave you with three thoughts- THANK YOU, THANK YOU, and THANK YOU.

Peter's Pence Collection • This Weekend

By supporting the Peter's Pence Collection, you assist the charitable works of Pope Francis. Your generosity witnesses to charity and helps the Holy See reach out compassionately to those who are marginalized.

Thank you for your generosity to the Peter's Pence Collection. If you were unable to donate this weekend, please place your donation in the collection basket next weekend.

Basilian Fathers Missions Appeal • July 13 & 14

At the invitation of the Archbishop, Most Rev. Allen Vigneron, and the Archdiocese of Detroit Mission Office, the Basilian Fathers Missions are grateful to Father Libor Marek and the parishioners of SS. Cyril & Methodius Slovak Catholic Church for hosting Father James O'Neill CSB on Saturday, July 13 and Sunday July 14.

Father O'Neill will discuss the Basilian Fathers' work in Mexico and Colombia at all Holy Masses that weekend. Funds support over 700 student tuitions at INSA in Cali, Colombia - a Basilian institution ranked among the top 40 schools in the country. Along with your help, the Basilian Fathers Missions also work to feed, cloth, teach, and evangelize in Mexico, improving the lives of thousands living in San Lorenzo and Mexico City.

Envelopes will be available next weekend for the collection that will be taken on July 13 & 14 for the Basilian Fathers Missions.

Church & Chapel to be Painted • July 15-26

Beginning Monday, July 15, we will be beautifying our Church and Chapel with fresh coats of paint!

For the safety of everyone and in order to provide complete access to the Church and Chapel for the painters and their equipment, all *weekday Masses* will be celebrated in the Parish Hall from Mondays to Fridays, July 15 - 19 and July 22 - 26. The weekend Holy Masses will be celebrated in the Church.

The painting will also affect our Adoration Schedule. We will, unfortunately, have to close Adoration from Saturday, July 13, 9:00AM, until Monday, July 29, after the 9:00AM Holy Mass.

Thank you for your cooperation as we make our worship space beautiful for Our Lord.

Catholic Services Appeal

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the CSA. Please allow six weeks for processing your payment by the Archdiocese. Please remember that any shortfall will come from our parish funds. Don't forget you can choose either nine monthly or quarterly payments if you prefer.

CSA GOAL: \$ 192,212

PLEDGED-TO-DATE: \$ 98,020

SHORTFALL: \$ 94,192

NUMBER OF PLEDGES RECEIVED: 273

If you have not contributed, please consider doing so as soon as possible. Even if you are only able to contribute a small amount, every bit helps.

Thank you! Questions, please contact:
Rob Avery, ravery@saintcyrils.org, (586) 726-6911

GOAL
\$ 192,212

PLEDGED TO-DATE
\$ 98,020

SHORTFALL
\$ 94,192



ADORERS NEEDED

Monday
3-4AM, 5-6AM
Wednesday
1-2AM, 2-3AM

Tuesday
1-2AM, 4-5PM
Thursday
12-1AM, 4-5AM

Questions, please contact: **Jenn Dopke**
586-530-3674, jdopke13@gmail.com

2019 Parish Lenten Projects

"Give alms from your possessions. Do not turn your face away from any of the poor, and God's face will not be turned away from you.

Give in proportion to what you own. If you have great wealth, give alms out of your abundance; if you have but little, do not be afraid to give alms of that little." Tobit 4:7-8

This ancient advice from a father to a son is repeated to us today by the church, particularly during the season of Lent. Please consider joining your fellow parishioners in giving alms to one or more of the following projects this Lent.

Dentures for the Homeless or Low-Income/ St. Leo's Free Dental Clinic: What if you had no dental insurance, no money to buy a toothbrush and toothpaste, no money to pay for dentures if you lost your teeth because of lack of care? Your nutrition, health and self-esteem would all suffer. Many homeless and low-income men and women face this situation. To meet their needs, The Knights of Malta offer free care at the dental clinic they operate at St. Leo's in Detroit. Many of the patients have not received dental care for a long time; many have lost all or most of their teeth. The clinic's dentists and hygienists donate their time, but money is needed to purchase dentures for these patients. Help someone smile again with a monetary gift, a check made out to *Malta Medical Dental Clinic* OR a check made out to *Ss. Cyril & Methodius* in a **BLUE** Lenten Offering envelope, and place your envelope in the Sunday collection basket by April 21.

Slovak Catholic Media Productions/ LUX New York: An active ministry at St. John Nepomucene Church in New York City, LUX produces original programming for Slovak people in the US and Canada to help them deepen their faith and to connect with each other. Its primary service is live-streaming the Slovak language Holy Mass from St. John Nepomucene. Your monetary donation to LUX will help meet operating costs and purchase production equipment for their evangelizing ministry. Place your check made out to *St. John Neopmucene/LUX New York* OR a check made out to *Ss. Cyril & Methodius* in a **BLUE** Lenten Offering envelope, and place your envelope in the Sunday collection basket by April 21.

"Housing with Care"/Vincentinum Family Center in Kosice-Saca, Slovakia: The children of families stressed by severe financial, medical or social situations run a high risk of being removed from their homes. To help struggling families remain together and overcome their difficulties, Foundation DeDo (NADACIA DeDo) operates centers which provide social and professional services along with affordable rental housing. Families receive ongoing help from social workers, counselors, and health professionals and spiritual guidance until they are more stable, usually about 3 years. In Kosice-Saca, the Vincentinum Family Center is currently undergoing an addition which will provide homes and support for five families. Your monetary donation will help with the final construction costs for this comprehensive family-saving center. Place your check, made out to *Ss. Cyril & Methodius*, in a **WHITE** Lenten Offering envelope and put it in a Sunday collection basket by April 21.

Right-to Life/Lifespan Baby Shower: Celebrate life at a "mini-baby shower" for Gianna House, a local home for pregnant teens that will open this spring. Gianna House currently offers free classes on pregnancy, nutrition and baby care for women in need from the community. Upon completion of the classes, the women may "shop" in the home's Closet for needed baby care items. Come to the Fr. Mikus hall after the 9:30AM Holy Mass on Sunday, March 17, and enjoy live music, a slide show about Gianna House, and refreshments. Donations of diapers (size newborn or 4, 5 and 6 only), baby care items and toiletries, or gift cards, or monetary gifts can be brought to the hall at that time. (Checks should be made out to *Gianna House* and placed in the appropriate box at the shower.) A complete Wish List of needed items is posted by the Lenten Giving Projects poster. If you are unable to come to the shower, volunteers will be collecting donated items after all Holy Masses Saturday, March 16 and Sunday March 17.

Knights of Columbus Baby Bottle Collection: This Lent, the Knights of Columbus St. Nicholas Council will be collecting change to donate to Gianna House. Gianna House will soon be providing a home and loving care for local pregnant teenagers and their babies up to 1 year after the birth of the baby. If you received a baby bottle, fill it with change during the weeks of Lent, and return it on Palm Sunday weekend. Donations in the form of a check made out to: St. Nicholas Council 7011 will also be accepted. Together, each of our small donations will go a long way toward helping Gianna House provide for these vulnerable women and babies.

Clothing for the Homeless at St. Leo's: All year-round, St. Cyril's parishioners generously donate clothing for the homeless and those who live in the neighborhood around St. Leo's. The Missionaries of Charity, who operate the clothing closet at St. Leo's, are extremely grateful for all the clothing we provide. At this time of year, there is always a need for new and gently used warm clothing. In addition to that, there is a particular need for new socks and underwear for men and women. Please place your donations in the box marked Clothing Collection located in the coatroom.

Sacred Heart Food Pantry: Once again we will be supporting our less fortunate brothers and sisters in northern Macomb County with donations of non-perishable food items to the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry at Sacred Heart parish in Imlay City. Donations of canned fruit, tuna and chicken are particularly needed at this time. Please help feed the hungry by placing your donations in the box marked Food Collection located in the vestibule coatroom by April 16.

If you have questions about any of the 2018 Lent Projects, please contact:
Erin Rybicki, Christian Service Coordinator, (586) 530-0547 or Sandi Brady in the Parish Office at (586) 726-6911

St. Cyril & Methodius - 2-24-19

Life Teen High School Youth Group * Monday, February 25

PARISH Event - Whatever It Takes"

Featuring Guest Speaker, JUSTIN FATICA

7:00PM - 9:00PM · Fr. Mikus Hall

See Page 3 for Additional Details!

We will be off next week for a Cor meeting, but join us the following week on March 11 for a Night on *Faith and Mental Health*.

EDGE Middle School Ministry * Thursday, February 28

Commercial vs. Kingdom: Night on Spiritual vs. Material Worldviews

7:00PM - 8:45PM · Fr. Mikus Hall

We will be off next week for a Cor meeting, but join us in two weeks on Thursday, March 14, for a Night on *Fighting Temptations*.

New teens who would like to attend can register online through the link <https://tinyurl.com/cyriparent> or at the Edge Nights.

Questions: *Alexandria Lewis*, Youth Minister

(586) 641-7672 or edgescyrl678@gmail.com

Young Catholic Professionals • Sunday, February 27

The Young Catholic Professionals Executive Speaker Series continues at 7:00PM on Sunday, February 27, at St. Peter Claver Parish, 13305 Grove Street in Detroit.

The speaker is Clark Durant who has over 40 years experience in law, education and politics. He has served as Vice President of Hillsdale College and President of the State Board of Education. Durant co-founded Cornerstone Schools in 1991 and was CEO for 18 years. He has been President of the New Common School Foundation since 2001.

Our Lady's Rosary Makers • Friday, March 1

The Rosary Makers will meet this Friday, March 1, from 1:00PM—3:00PM in Room #113. We welcome newcomers and meet on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month.

For more information, call:

Jo Ann, (586) 979-1078 or *Helen*, (586) 469-3181

Rosary Society Meeting • Saturday March 2

The Ss. Cyril & Methodius Rosary Society will meet on Saturday, March 2, after the 9:00AM Holy Mass and Rosary. All are welcome if you are 18 years old or older. Please join us for snacks, good friendship and planning of exciting projects.

Northland Family Prayer News • Saturday, March 2

Although we hear much in the media about compassion, choice and human rights, in some cases we see that life is becoming more and more vulnerable. We as Catholic Christians are called to action, but we may be unsure what action to take. One suggestion is to offer our sacrifices and prayers for the protection of life from conception to natural death and for those who do not share our views.

Please join us for a Pro-life prayer and witness event taking place on Saturday, March 2, outside the Northland Family Planning Clinic from 11:30AM to 12:30PM. The clinic is located at 3810 17 Mile (just west of Ryan Road). We also invite you to the Pro-life rosary at church each Saturday. The Joyful, Luminous and Sorrowful Mysteries are recited before the 9:00AM Holy Mass, starting at 7:50AM. The Glorious Mysteries are recited immediately following the 9:00AM Holy Mass.

Questions, please contact: *Anne Marie*, (586) 873-2004

Reverse Raffle Sponsored by the K of C • March 2

We had so much fun, we're doing it again! The St. Nicholas Knights of Columbus #7011 are sponsoring their 2nd Ever Reverse Raffle Drawing on Saturday, March 2, at Ss Cyril & Methodius Parish in the Fr. Mikus Hall. Everyone is invited. The Grand Prize is \$6,000. Doors open at 4:00PM, dinner is served at 5:00PM, and the drawing starts at 6:00PM. Ticket sales and side-game sales end at 5:45 PM.

A Reverse Raffle is a raffle where the LAST ticket drawn wins the Grand Prize, not the first ticket drawn. Grand Prize winner need not be in attendance to win, however, you'll miss out on the fun if you're not there. We will also play side games and there will be second-chance options available for purchase at the event. There will also be random attendance drawings throughout the evening.

Tickets are \$25 each, which includes raffle ticket and dinner the night of the drawing. One ticket admits one for dinner, which has been upgraded from the last time! Guaranteed good eats!

Tickets are available in the Ss. Cyril & Methodius Parish Office, in the Gallery after Holy Masses next weekend, or from any member of St. Nicholas Knights of Columbus. Sales will continue up to the day of the event. Only 500 tickets to be sold.

If you have questions or need to purchase tickets, email raffle chairman, *Carl Bontomasi*, at FS7011@mikofc.org. In the event that 500 tickets are not sold, the grand prize reverts to 50/50 of all tickets sold. All proceeds of the raffle go towards St. Nick' charities (seminarian support, feeding the needy, pro-life programs, etc.).

Knights of Columbus Pro-Life Baby Bottles • March 2 & 3

The Knights of Columbus pro-life baby bottle/loose change collection starts next week! A few coins in a pocket or the bottom of a purse, or collecting dust on the counter may not be worth much. But when gathered up with coins from family and friends, and pooled together with coins from the rest of the parish, they can become a significant charitable gift.

This Lent, the Knights of Columbus St. Nicholas Council, will be collecting change to donate to Gianna House. Gianna House provides a home and loving care for local teenagers and for these mothers and babies up to 1 year after the birth of the baby. Next weekend members of the council and the squires will be handing out baby bottles after all Holy Masses. Please take one home, fill it with change during the weeks of lent, and return it on Palm Sunday weekend. Donations in the form of a check made out to: *St. Nicholas Council 7011* will also be accepted. Together, each of our small donations will go a long way toward helping Gianna House provide for these vulnerable women and children.

Šišky - Paczky - Krispy Kreme Donuts! Sunday, March 3

Get your ultra-fresh dozen for Mardi Gras/ Fat Tuesday!

Fundraiser benefitting Junior Sarisan Slovak Folk Ensemble

PRE-ORDER your dozen by:

emailing: jrsarisan@hotmail.com or texting: 586 457 8913

(Pre-order forms are also available by the statue of St. Michael)

Available fillings:

Plum butter/povidle Apricot Custard Cherry

Apple Strawberry Raspberry Blueberry Lemon

Chocolate Custard Buttercream or MIXED VARIETY!

Pre-order pick up and Sale on

Sunday, March 3, after ALL the Holy Masses

TAB H

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS- ST. NICHOLAS COUNCIL-7011
GIANNA HOUSE -2020 financials

YEAR ENDED	AMOUNT RAISED	COST*
12/31/2020	\$6,800	\$500 (1)
12/31/2019	\$8,556	(2)
* Does not include hundreds of volunteer hours in preparing baby bottles for distribution to parishioners, distributing and collecting bottles, sorting coins and currency, and many trips to the Credit Union to deposit proceeds.		
(1) Principally purchase of baby bottles, plus misc. supplies		
(2) Minimal cost- reused baby bottles from previous year returns		

TAB I

GIANNA HOUSE PROJECT

CORRESPONDENCE



Carl Bontomasi <bluewaterpfc@gmail.com>

Fwd: Collection of Baby Bottles

1 message

Kenneth Pullis <kpullis@gmail.com>

To: Joseph White <josephwhite76@icloud.com>, Carl Bontomasi <bluewaterpfc@gmail.com>, JAMES WISNIEWSKI <JIMBARB@wowway.com>, Jim Pawlik <Japawik@yahoo.com>, Jim J <jimmyjazz@comcast.net>, Eric Suchland <ericsuchland@yahoo.com>, Sonia Honce <luz@honce.com>

Tue, Jun 2, 2020 at 4:55 PM

FYI- Still need to work out details + lots of volunteers.

Ken

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kenneth Pullis** <kpullis@gmail.com>

Date: Tue, Jun 2, 2020 at 4:52 PM

Subject: Re: Collection of Baby Bottles

To: Sandi Brady <sbrady@saintcyrils.church>

Sounds great, thank you!

God bless and stay safe,

Ken

On Tue, Jun 2, 2020 at 3:54 PM Sandi Brady <sbrady@saintcyrils.church> wrote:

Hello Mr. Pullis,

I hope that you are doing well! Thank you for following up on the baby bottle collection. I have several locked in my drawer at church so you can get those when you collect the bottles or if I see you in advance. I also have an envelope that was mailed to your name so I will give that to you as well.

July 11-12 is a good weekend to collect the bottles. We can work out the logistics as the date gets a bit closer. We should be able to secure a room for you to store them for the day as well but we will have to talk about where/how to dump them at a later date since we do not have guidelines yet on opening up the church for church activities. (The office still isn't open ... but thank You Lord that we have the Sacraments available to us now!)

RE: collection at the outdoor Masses - the Masses take place in the back parking lot (behind the church building). There are two entryways ... one from the front parking lot and one from the Activity Center parking lot. I think you would need to have people collecting from both directions. We can talk more about it later.

I will plan to promote the collection in the bulletin and I will also post it on our website.

Thank you again and we'll be in touch soon.

**God bless you,
Sandi Brady**
sbrady@saintcyrils.church
Ss. Cyril & Methodius Parish
41233 Ryan Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48314
P: 586-726-6911
F: 586-685-1070

NOTE: As of September 3, 2019, please update your records to reflect my new email address **FROM** sbrady@saintcyrils.org **TO MY NEW EMAIL**
ADDRESS: sbrady@saintcyrils.church
Thank you!

On Mon, Jun 1, 2020 at 11:09 AM Kenneth Pullis <kpullis@gmail.com> wrote:
Sandi,

Hope all is well with you and your family. The Knights have decided to collect the baby bottles the weekend of 7/11-12 ,2020, if the Parish approves. This will allow parishioners more time to fill bottles, for us to organize ourselves better with the different Mass sites, as well as hoping that Mass attendance will pick up by then.

It was suggested that for outdoor Masses to have some containers for these bottles near the garage. Since I have not been to the outdoor Masses I do not know specifics as to the location of the parishioners at Mass so I do not know if this is best idea. What do you think?

We need a room on that weekend to temporarily store the bottles- we will monitor/guard that room until the last Mass. Then we will take them to a place to store them before putting them in bank bags at a later date. We would like a large room on 7/14/20 to dump the coins into these bank bags.

Please let me know your and Father's thoughts on these matters. I have drafted attached bulletin article and will draft another article with more details for parishioners as we get closer to 7/11-12 weekend.

Thanks, God bless and stay safe,

Ken



Carl Bontomasi <bluewaterpfc@gmail.com>

Re: Collection of Baby Bottles 7/11-12/2020

1 message

Kenneth Pullis <kpullis@gmail.com>

Tue, Jun 16, 2020 at 10:29 PM
 To: abate <nbabate@att.net>, Janice McCown <Jm_Lam29@hotmail.com>, Deacon Phil McCown <wadephil@yahoo.com>, john schnellbacher <sterlingheightsknights@gmail.com>, John Brady <jwbrady123@comcast.net>, Dubon <cadubon62@gmail.com>, Tacdercas <aandw_tacderas@att.net>, squires <fshell8@gmail.com>, Jim J <jimmyjazz@comcast.net>, JAMES WISNIEWSKI <JIMBARB@wowway.com>, Jim Pawlik <Japawlik@yahoo.com>, mike gray <michaelfgray@sbcglobal.net>, Joseph Honce III <joe3@honce.com>, Joseph White <josephwhite76@icloud.com>, Tom Starynchak <tstarynchak@gmail.com>, Carol Bentley <carolforlife51@yahoo.com>, Carl Bontomasi <bluewaterpfc@gmail.com>, Gerard Eichbauer <gike@comcast.net>, Paul Moses <twoforlife@wowway.com>, "MOORE, MARK D" <mm6456@att.com>, Theresa Moore <mtmoore6@att.net>, Denise Pepin <denisepepin70@gmail.com>, Sonia Honce <luz@honce.com>, Eric Suchland <ericsuchland@yahoo.com>, gino vitale <ginovitale333@yahoo.com>, Johanne Newell <lady_adora@hotmail.com>, Melissa <krausehouse9@yahoo.com>, Eric & Anna Augustin <annalisa.agustin@gmail.com>, Emily Chudy <emilytchudy@gmail.com>, Beth Collison <bethcollison@comcast.net>, Beth Ledford <ledfordfamily@msn.com>, John Curell <jdcurell@gmail.com>, Larry Babich <babich385@gmail.com>, Larry Giroux <lgirouxlmf@gmail.com>, Brent/Amy Hastings <hastingsmj@att.net>, greg johnson <mariehollerud@yahoo.com>, Alex Lewis <lifeteencyril912@gmail.com>, meteer <meteers5@yahoo.com>, Paul Propson <paulprops@sbcglobal.net>, vickie home <vickie.home@thuemmel.com>, Denise Pepin <denisepepin7@gmail.com>, Jeffrey Gura <gurasforlife@gmail.com>

Second request-

All- Thanks to those of you that volunteered. We still need many more to be successful. See attached and respond as to whether you can help.

Thanks and God bless,

Ken

On Tue, Jun 9, 2020 at 12:05 PM Kenneth Pullis <kpullis@gmail.com> wrote:

All- Our new dates for collection of baby bottles in connection with our delayed fundraiser for Gianna house are the weekend Masses at St, Cyril's on Saturday 7/11/2020 and Sunday 7/12/2020.

The outdoor Masses are Saturday 7/11/2020 at 5:30PM and Sunday at 9:30AM and 8:30PM. We will be collecting the bottles at both the Ryan and 18 Mile entrances to our complex. It is recommended that we let the parishioner directly place the bottle in our container that we hold. We need 4-6 volunteers for each of these Masses.

The indoor Masses are on Sunday at 7:30, 11:30- Slovak-, and 6:00PM - Tridentine. We will collect the bottles at each of the 2 Church entrances. We need 2-4 volunteers for each Mass. Again the parishioners will place the bottles directly into our container.

All volunteers are requested to be present 30 minutes prior to Mass time to collect these bottles.

If i am not available at any of these Masses another Knight will be responsible for overseeing this process.

Please consider helping out for this vital project to raise funds for Gianna House- a pregnancy house for teenage mothers.

Please email me as soon as possible at kpullis@gmail.com if you can assist at 1 or more of these Masses or if you have any questions.

2/13/2021

Gmail - Re: Collection of Baby Bottles 7/11-12/2020

God bless and thank you for being pro-life,

Ken Pullis, Right to Life Chairman, Knights of Columbus, Council 7011

 **baby bottle 2020 collection volunteers.docx**

19K



Carl Bontomasi <bluewaterpfc@gmail.com>

Containers for Baby bottles

1 message

Kenneth Pullis <kpullis@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 17, 2020 at 11:17 AM
To: Joseph White <josephwhite76@icloud.com>, Carl Bontomasi <bluewaterpfc@gmail.com>, Jim J <jimmyjazz@comcast.net>, JAMES WISNIEWSKI <JIMBARB@wowway.com>, Eric Suchland <ericsochland@yahoo.com>, Jim Pawlik <Japawlik@yahoo.com>, Sonia Honce <luz@honce.com>, mike gray <michaelgray@sbcglobal.net>

All- As you know we are collecting bottles on 7/11-12. In the past I borrowed approx. 30 milk crates from St. Lawrence SVdP to collect/store these bottles until we met to dump them into bank bags. These crates are still under lockdown until further notice. so I am looking at other options.

Each bottle filled with coins weighs about 3-5 pounds so milk crates are good containers in that they are sturdy - can hold 10 bottles or so-and can be held at both sides. Normal laundry baskets, boxes, etc. are not sturdy enough. Please let me know if you are aware of other options- other sources for crates, other sturdy containers, etc.

Thanks and God bless,

Ken



Kenneth Pullis <kpullis@gmail.com>

Draft Article for our Church Bulletin

4 messages

Kenneth Pullis <kpullis@gmail.com>

Thu, Nov 12, 2020 at 1:16 PM

To: Jennifer Brubaker <jbrubaker@giannahouse.org>


Jennifer,

Sorry we missed you yesterday but we had a good meeting with Sister Theresa and Gina.

I drafted the attached article for our St. Cyril's bulletin and would appreciate it if you could review it to see if it is correct from your perspective. Please feel free to add to it if appropriate.

Thanks and God bless,

Ken

 **Gianna house presentation 2020 bulletin art..doc**
32K

Jennifer Brubaker <jbrubaker@giannahouse.org>

Thu, Nov 12, 2020 at 1:30 PM

To: Kenneth Pullis <kpullis@gmail.com>

Cc: Theresa Mayrand <tmayrand@giannahouse.org>

Ken,

I'm so glad that you enjoyed yourself with Sr. Therea and our House Supervisor Gina. We are blessed to have them. I apologize that I couldn't be there yesterday. I will look at this letter and get it back to today. We are so grateful for the wonderful donation.

God Bless.

From: Kenneth Pullis <kpullis@gmail.com>**Sent:** Thursday, November 12, 2020 1:16 PM**To:** Jennifer Brubaker <jbrubaker@giannahouse.org>**Subject:** Draft Article for our Church Bulletin

[Quoted text hidden]

Jennifer Brubaker <jbrubaker@giannahouse.org>

Thu, Nov 12, 2020 at 1:38 PM

To: Kenneth Pullis <kpullis@gmail.com>

Your letter looks great.

Thank you again and God Bless.

Jennifer

From: Kenneth Pullis <kpullis@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 1:16 PM
To: Jennifer Brubaker <jbrubaker@giannahouse.org>
Subject: Draft Article for our Church Bulletin

[Quoted text hidden]

Kenneth Pullis <kpullis@gmail.com>
To: Jennifer Brubaker <jbrubaker@giannahouse.org>

Thu, Nov 12, 2020 at 1:44 PM

Thanks. God bless you and your people for all you do,

Ken

[Quoted text hidden]

PULLIS PRO-LIFE PONDERINGS-14

WHAT A GREAT TIME TO BE CATHOLIC! WHAT A GREAT TIME TO BE PRO-LIFE!

As you know The Knights of Columbus have been Pro-Life from their inception.

In addition to the previously completed Prolife Poster contest our Council is pleased to announce the completion of its Baby Bottle Project for 2019. This Project was selected by St. Cyril and Methodius Church as one of its 2019 Lenten Projects.



Our local council was involved in raising funds to provide operating and other expenses for Gianna House, a resource center for pregnant mothers, located in Eastpointe.

Gianna House offers two separate programs. One program is its Community Outreach Program which since 2015 has focused on community building and skills enhancement, serving those who are pregnant, new Moms, and Moms with multiple children.

Gianna house last year through this program helped 181 mothers, providing 800 items, such as diapers, formula, car seats, and other essentials.

On May 3, 2019 Gianna House, in a ribbon cutting ceremony, celebrated the licensing of their facility with the State of Michigan, the first certified nonprofit, long-term residence for pregnant teens in the State. This represents their second Program, their Residency Program.

Teenage girls age 13-17 may stay for up to one year after the birth of their child and receive free room and board, prenatal care, counseling, as well as other classes in caring for their baby.

On March 2-3, 2019 we distributed, at the weekend Masses, a total of 350 baby bottles in connection with this Project. On April 13-14, 2019 we received over 200 bottles, some filled with coins and others with cash or checks.

On June 13, 2019 we met with some of the officers, board members and staff and presented them with a check for \$8,556 (see attached photos). This total amount exceeded our highest projections and is a result of the great generosity of our parishioners and visitors to our parish. Every contribution, large or small (36% of the above total was received in the way of coins), is greatly appreciated and will be well used by Gianna House.

If you still have some bottles at home please drop them off at the Parish Office. I am sure that Gianna House can use whatever additional funds we raise.

We leave you with three thoughts- THANK YOU, THANK YOU, and THANK YOU.



Kenneth Pullis <kpullis@gmail.com>

Final Agenda

3 messages

Kenneth Pullis <kpullis@gmail.com>
To: Nancy Hauff <nhauffrn@gmail.com>

Mon, Jun 10, 2019 at 12:22 AM

Nancy,

See attached for what I think is our final agenda for your review. We would like one of your speakers to give brief background/mission of Gianna House.

God bless,

Ken

 **StNicholasKofCWorking Agenda (2).doc**
30K

NANCY HAUFF <nhauffrn@gmail.com>
To: Kenneth Pullis <kpullis@gmail.com>
Cc: Jennifer Brubaker <jbrubaker@giannahouse.org>, Mary Alice Annecharico <amaryalice10@gmail.com>, "St Veronica, Eastpointe" <stveronicaeast@comcast.net>

Mon, Jun 10, 2019 at 6:21 PM

Dear Ken,

Again on behalf of the Gianna House Board of Directors and staff, we cannot thank you and the St. Nicholas K of C membership enough for your generous donation to support general operations of our program. We look forward to meeting you this Thursday June 13th at 10:00am.

The agenda that your group has proposed is fine. I have copied Ms. Brubaker, Ms. Simpson, and Fr. Stan so that they may be available. The Gianna House staff will be happy to provide your members with a tour of the facility. Please contact us if there are any changes. We look forward to seeing you this Thursday.

Nancy

[Quoted text hidden]

Kenneth Pullis <kpullis@gmail.com>
To: NANCY HAUFF <nhauffrn@gmail.com>

Mon, Jun 10, 2019 at 6:43 PM

Thanks and God bless,

Ken

[Quoted text hidden]

TAB J

GIANNA HOUSE PROJECT

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to acknowledge the following people and organizations without whom we would not have had a very successful 2020 Gianna House Project:

- Volunteers and donors from the parishioners and visitors of Ss Cyril and Methodius Church, plus Council 7011 members and their families, Squires, Walmart Corporation, Office Max, Knights of Columbia Magazine, Michigan Columbian Magazine.
- Personnel and staff of Gianna House, including Jennifer Brubaker, Executive Director, Sister Theresa Mayrand, OP, Community Outreach Director, House Mother, and Fr. Stanley Pachla, Advisor, Pastor, St Veronica Church.

We are sure that there are many others we have forgotten to acknowledge since this project was a great collaborative event involving many people and organizations.

Note-Please see MEDIA section for thank you's to parishioners and visitors included in Church bulletins of 6/30/19 and 11/22/20.