

Joseph C. Williams
president
Patricia A. Taylor
clerk
Thomas G. Hardy
treasurer
Jane Clay
John Howland, M.D.
Juliann O'Connor
Rev. Richard Reidy
Kelly Sullivan, M.S.W.

December 2006
Vol. 2, Issue 2



Visitation House, Inc.

Jaydn, Anthony, and Romeo, “Welcome to Life!”

It has been many months since we've sent out a newsletter to update all of you, our faithful supporters, about the many goings-on of Visitation House—not the least of which are the births, which is why they always take front-page precedence.

Three healthy little bundles of boy have been given birth since April: Jaydn Alexander on September 21st, Anthony Xavier on October 4th, and Romeo Lucasz on December 3rd. Anthony and Romeo weighed in at 8lb, 20.5in and 7lb 15oz, 21in.

Please keep them and their mothers, Nicole (who

with Jaydn has since moved out), Amy, and Stephanie, in your prayers as they each adjust to new motherhood and all of the sacrifice and responsibility that it demands.



Far left, one-day-old Jaydn snuggles with his mother; left two-month-old Anthony smiles for the camera; above 10-day-old Romeo flexes in his sleep.

Your continued support

Please peruse the following list; if anything on it is laying around your house, please give us a call:

Under the sink: mop heads for industrial-sized mops, refill jugs of antibacterial liquid hand soap

In the bedroom: twin mattresses (**new** or almost new only please)

In the basement: Dreft and regular laundry detergents (the bigger, the better); 60-W light bulbs

In the play/rec room: aerobic exercise equipment; wicker (or other) indoor porch furniture

In the office: manila folders; hanging folders, white copy paper

Around the house: Our roof is

in moderate condition, but the two flat sections are leaky and in need of repair once spring arrives. If you have roofing experience and would like to support our ministry, your talents would be your biggest donation. Secondly, the outside of the house is in need of a **power bath**; if you've got the hose and the power washer, we'd love for you to make our house a Saturday project this spring; we'll supply the water.

Many thanks to

-Monsignor Neary Council (St.

Joseph's, Auburn) of the Knights of Columbus, who donated ~\$2500 worth of gifts to the house and to our moms and babies; they kindly asked for a list of our needs and delivered all of the items that they collected right to our door.

-Keeton Law Offices for their donation of a Xerox machine; after a little tuning up it's working quite well for us.

-and to all of you for keeping all our needs in mind and at heart.

With every prayer for an Advent and a Christmas that are filled with real awareness of Christ's coming into our world.



On Halloween our former guests joined us and our current guests for games and playtime, a spaghetti dinner, and group trick-or-treating. It was a loud and enjoyable few hours. We just couldn't pass up the obvious photo-opp. 1-r House mother Jessica and Peter, Alycia and Skylar and Cearah, Shareé and Amarya, Melissa and Jenaya, Patricia and Aaliyah, and Jen and Julien.

Raising the funds



Our primary request to all who ask is for financial support. No, it's not as glamorous as throwing a baby shower or volunteering, but it is truly at the heart of our need right now. Please consider making another gift by year's end.

If we are financially secure, then we can see even better to the needs of the moms we serve. We are currently searching for an Executive Director who can take on our fundraising, administration, and publicity, so that our house parents can more fully address the many needs of our guests and better create the home of hospitality and family life that we are striving for.

And then there is the demand. We receive up to 3 calls per week

from doctors' offices, social workers, crisis pregnancy centers, and others, requesting housing for pregnant women in need. With enough support from the generous people in our community, we can increase our staffing and, with proper programming and structures in place, welcome more women into our home.

Additionally, keep in mind the two up-coming fundraising events:

Benefit dinner this spring

On 23 March of this year many volunteers and a generous crowd made our Benefit Supper a smashing success. We're beginning planning another such dinner for the spring of 2007. Look for a postcard with fur-

ther details in your mailbox soon.

The model for the Supper—each table is hosted by someone who makes dinner for the table and also invites guests to that table—sets a pleasant atmosphere for a family-like gathering. A free-will collection is taken up at the end of the dinner; there is no ticket price. If you would like to host a table this spring, please give JJ a call!

We promise that the coffee will be ready on time this year!

Mothers' and Fathers' Day cards

Keep an eye out for our Mothers' and Fathers' Day novena Mass cards on sale in Worcester Diocese parishes on the two or three weekends prior to Mothers' Day. N.B.: Mothers' and Fathers' Day cards will be sold *together* prior to Mothers' Day this year, instead of separately as in past years.

If you would like to find out whether your parish is offering them, or if you would like to sell them in your parish, talk to your pastor and call JJ at 508 798 0762. This is yet another important event in our fundraising for the year as we seek to improve our services *and* a way that you can take a meaningful role in our ministry of life.



This summer we took advantage of Mass Audubon Society's free canoeing at Green Hill Park program. Amy and Stephanie had a blast for their first time in a canoe; so did Peter riding with his parents.