With deepest gratitude

Eve accepts a check in the amount of $2,000, which was presented by Mrs. O’Neil, Principal, Loretta Carroll and the students representing the 6th, 7th and 8th grades at St. Bernadette School. October 7, 2008, the students did a rosary walk led by Fr. Stephen Gemme and Loretta Carroll. It is truly amazing how one school can make a difference.

On October 5, 2008, we had 37 walkers at the MCFL Respect Life Walk in Boston. We filled a school bus, compliments of Fr. Stephen Gemme, which left from St. Bernadette Parish to go into Boston and returned to St. Bernadette for a light lunch. After the Walk, we were notified that we won the Thomas J. Flatley award for having the most walkers of all the charitable groups walking that day. Next year, we hope to fill two school buses...

4th Annual Potluck Benefit Dinner

Mark your calendar for Thursday, April 16, 2009 to host a table. Each year, this dinner becomes more and more popular. Last year we added a silent auction, which was met with great enthusiasm. This year, we will have even more items to bid on. We are pleased to announce that our keynote speaker will be Rev. Thomas J. Eutenauer, STL, President of Human Life International. His pro-life activity began in the early years of his priesthood in 1999. He was awarded the John Cardinal O’Connor Award for Life from Legatus in 2005 and the “Soldier of the Church Militant” Award from the Brent Society in 2007.

We are into our 4th year of operation this year, and since opening we have helped 54 pregnant women in crisis. This past Spring, we opened our 3rd floor, allowing us to accommodate up to 10 women, serving twice the number of women. In addition to accommodating 10 women, our expenses have increased. With the grace of God, through the intercessions of the Blessed Mother and with your support through the years, we have come this far. From our dedicated staff, to our women who are expecting, to our new moms and their babies, Visitation House is brimming with life in all its stages and with the bountiful blessings that come from our God, who guides our daily life and the mission that we are fulfilling. With Thanksgiving upon us, we have much to be thankful for, especially all of you, our dedicated and generous supporters in this life-saving ministry. Without your thoughtful, caring and prayerful support, we would not be able to continue our work. In light of these difficult financial times, it is with great hope and expectation that you will consider making Visitation House the charity of your choice.

Wishing you and your families many blessings this Advent and Christmas and may you have a Healthy and Happy New Year!

from
the Residents, Staff and Board of Directors of Visitation House
Don’t be alarmed. The scary, old lady is really Janice Stalmok, one of our staff members. She had us all fooled because she is one of the nicest people we know. A good time was had by all at Visitation House.

**Ruth Pakaluk Remembered, 1967-1998**

On September 23, 2008, many family, friends, Visitation House residents and staff gathered in our chapel to celebrate the life of Ruth Pakaluk on the 10th anniversary of her death. We were truly blessed by the presence of the women who benefit from Ruth’s vision and legacy, a true testament to Ruth’s tireless efforts to create a safe haven for women in crisis pregnancies. In these troubled times, as the struggle for “life” continues, Ruth’s spirit among us still serves as a beacon of hope, shining to light the way.

### Basic Household Needs

1. paper towels
2. toilet paper
3. paper napkins
4. antibacterial hand soap
5. scouring sponges
6. dishwashing liquid
7. detergent for dishwasher
8. laundry detergent
9. diapers, sizes N, 1 & 2
10. baby monitors
11. postage stamps
12. gift cards for local supermarkets

We are grateful for your continued support!

### Opportunity for Charitable Giving

The Federal Government’s rescue plan for banks renews a popular opportunity for charitable giving. People over age 70½ again can donate as much as $100,000 from your individual retirement accounts to Visitation House as a charity tax free. If you meet the age requirement, you can make charitable donations in 2008 and 2009 using IRA assets. The distributions are tax free and can count toward the required minimum distribution that IRA holders who are 70½ and older must take from their accounts each year. *Wall Street Journal, October 18-19, 2008*

### Assumption College Basketball Team Brings Thanksgiving Dinner to Visitation House

Courtland Blufard, Marek Kulig (team members) and Serge DeBari, (coach) deliver a Thanksgiving Feast to Susan Arraje, House Manager.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness!