Mark Your Calendar

5th Annual Potluck Benefit Dinner

Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2010
Location: The Cenacle at the Cathedral of St. Paul
Time: 6:00-9:00pm
Keynote Speaker: His Eminence Cardinal Justin Rigali Archdiocese of Philadelphia & Chairman of the USCCB Committee for Pro-Life Activities

- Sponsor a table
- Take out an ad in our program booklet
- Invite your friends
- Plan a delectable menu
- Break bread with others
- Be inspired by a life-giving message
- Make a free-will offering & bid on a silent auction item
- Be nurtured for another year of pro-life activity

The Other Side of Visitation House

While at Visitation House, residents participate in a host of activities. In addition to life skills programs provided onsite, many of the women are working and/or attending local colleges. K. is enrolled in the medical assisting program at Salter College and made the Dean’s List. M. attends Quinsigamond Community College (QCC) and is enrolled in the medical coding and billing program. T. works part-time while also attending Rob Roy Academy to become a licensed manicurist. K. is enrolled in the medical assisting program at Grafton Job Corps; she is working toward her associate’s degree in human services. She will transfer to Worcester State College in January. G. is working as a substitute teacher in the Worcester Public Schools and in the African Community Education Program. K. recently completed her medical assisting program at Grafton Job Corps; she is awaiting the results of her licensing exam while also working a seasonal part-time job. Our residents’ perseverance and courage to continue working toward their goals while pregnant and as single mothers is a testament to their commitment in providing better lives for their infants. Thank you for supporting us as we support them in their goals.

Baby Bottles Benefit Visitation House

During this past year, many parishes and diocesan schools have blessed us by holding baby bottle drives. The proceeds from baby bottle drives have kept our coffers from going empty. Bottles filled with jingling change, folded bills and checks are crucial for us to meet our monthly utility and grocery needs and so much more. To all who have participated, we send our deepest and warmest thanks. If any parishes or parish groups would be interested in sponsoring a bottle drive, please notify us. These projects are essential to keeping Visitation House’s doors open and to continuing our life-saving ministry.

Respect Life Month 2009

Walk to Aid Mothers and Children

On October 3, 2009, a bus filled with energized walkers supporting Visitation House, departed from St. Bernadette Parish in Northboro for the Annual MCFL Walk to Aid Mothers and Children. The bus was donated by Fr. Stephen Gemme, Pastor. Our hearts are filled with gratitude for the generous support of so many who are dedicated to Visitation House’s mission in the ongoing work.

The heart of the new evangelization is the proclamation of life. Pope Benedict XVI

Reasons for the Season

We are delighted to introduced Lee Crowley from St. Luke’s Parish in Westboro. Lee volunteers her time and wonderful talents for several hours a week assisting Eve Lindquist, our director. Lee’s quiet demeanor and skills have helped us to keep the many details of fundraising organized and running smoothly. We thank you and we are blessed by your presence to all of us at Visitation House.

Thanksgiving...Advent...Christmas are upon us again and, as always, we have much to be thankful for. God has blessed us with another year of assisting women facing crisis pregnancies. Their struggles have been constant reminders to us of why we are here and why we are able to continue. We wait for and we will celebrate the coming of our Messiah, who was also homeless at birth. Many of the women, who find themselves at Visitation House, have seen God’s face through their experience here after fleeing domestic violence or being displaced by foreclosure, a job loss due to a difficult pregnancy, being new immigrants and for other reasons. Despite all of this, our God comes to be with us, to share in all that it means to be human. Thank you, God.
Ways to Give

• in memory of a loved one
• in honor of friends or family
• in celebration of special occasions, i.e. birthdays, anniversaries
• planned gifts, bequests
• a tax-deductible contribution before the end of 2009
• a United Way contribution by designating Visitation House as your charity

Did you know?

• Visitation House, Inc. is a 501(c)3 private non-profit organization.
• We are the only Catholic home for women in crisis pregnancies in Massachusetts.
• We do not accept state funding because of our Catholic, pro-life stance.
• We do not receive funding from Partners in Charity.

Visitation House Wish List

1. scent-free laundry detergent
2. dryer sheets
3. bathroom/kitchen/glass cleaners
4. paper towels
5. toilet paper
6. tissues
7. paper napkins
8. antibacterial hand soap
9. dishwasher/dishwashing liquid
10. scouring powder
11. postage stamps
12. gift cards for local supermarkets and department stores

Thank you for your support!

Visitation House Hosts a Table at the Diocesan Women’s Conference

This in itself is not newsworthy, but what is good news is that so many Visitation House supporters and others attended the “Gather Us In” Conference on November 7th. It was so good to see many of you who stopped by to say hello and chat during registration, breaks and lunch. This, along with listening to the many speakers whose underlying messages pointed to love, forgiveness and upholding life in all its forms, made for an uplifting day. It is wonderful knowing that we are part of something much larger than ourselves. To Women and Life!!!!!

Prayers for Grace

Thank you for your ongoing prayer and support for Baby Grace, her mother Georgia and her brother Max. They are still in need of prayer, though they are no longer with us. We remember them and their intentions as they navigate the challenges that they will face.

Order of Malta Grant Funds

New Computer Lab

Earlier this year, we received a grant from the Order of Malta to create a computer lab for the residents and former residents of Visitation House. With the assistance of Michael Grimes, four computer stations were set up to provide training in Microsoft Office application skills that will better equip our residents in approaching education and career opportunities. Our grant application was presented to the Boston Area Order of Malta, who, in turn, presented our request to the American Association, USA in New York. We are deeply grateful for their generosity.

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO...

• parishes and individuals who tithe
• parishes and schools which have sponsored baby showers
• individuals who give to us on a regular basis
• individuals and groups who give us gift cards for food and supplies
• foundations who give us grants for educational programs
• individuals and groups who give of their time and talent
• God for all your generosity