

St. Michael the Archangel Pregnancy Help Center Newsletter Summer 2024

FIRST ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

The Joy of the Lord is your strength. (Neh. 8:10) Defending life brings joy to the heart and strength to the soul. And this joy and strength were there for all to see at our fundraising dinner on April 11, 2024, at the Waterfront Restaurant in Forked River. It was a great blessing to have not only parishioners from local parishes attend, but also priests and deacons in attendance as well.

Guest Speakers included Deacon Bob Cunningham, SMTAPC Chair, Rachel Hendricks, Respect Life Coordinator for the Diocese of Trenton, and Msgr. Ken Tuzeneu, Pastor at St. Mary's Parish in Barnegat.



WHO WE ARE:

We are parishioners of St. Francis in LBI, St. Mary's in Barnegat, and St. Theresa's Parish in Little Egg Harbor, who have joined together to launch this effort. Our mission is to help moms to keep, to care for, and to love their babies by providing resources to moms in need.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!



(Above: Msgr. Ken Tuzeneu, Pastor of St. Mary's Barnegat)

Thanks to all who were able to attend our very successful fundraising dinner. Between the dinner and additional private donations, about \$10,000 was brought in.

These funds will be directed towards helping moms and their babies.

We are so very thankful to everyone who was able to attend this beautiful evening in celebration of life, and to contribute in any way—both big and small. Each and every contribution means so much!

And a special thank you to our beloved clergy, who are so supportive of this effort. We thank the priests and deacons who attended!

Most of all thanks be to God who is helping us on this journey to reach out to moms and babies in need, and will not abandon us along the way.

May all come to defend the dignity of all human life from conception to natural death.

LOCAL PARISHES COLLECT BABY ITEMS FOR CARE PACKAGES



The churches of St. Francis (LBI) and St. Mary's (Barnegat and Manahawkin), have been working with the Pregnancy Center, and collecting baby items and donations to go towards care packages for expectant and new moms who are homeless or in challenging situations. This is a group effort of multiple individuals, churches and organizations working together to help new moms and their babies!

St. Michael the Archangel Pregnancy Help Center has worked in collaboration with Family Promise, Southern Ocean Medical Center, social workers and local hospitals to identify those mothers who are most in need of a care package. The Center has facilitated meeting the needs of these mothers.



*Deacon Cunningham (Left)
Chairman of the Board of Direc-
tors, Rachel Hendricks, (Above
right) from Diocese of Trenton
and Bill Roberts (below right)
MC for the evening and a mem-
ber of the Board.*

(Cont. from page 1) Deacon Bob Cunningham, Chairman of the SMTAPHC Board, explained to those attending how, although this effort was initiated by parishioners from local parishes, it was uniting Catholics from many towns including Forked River, Tom's River, Whiting and Freehold.

Deacon Bob encouraged attendees to come together to help moms and their babies. To accomplish the mission of the Center he is estimating that the united efforts of approximately 100 people will be needed. Rachel Hendricks, Diocesan of Trenton Respect Life coordinator explained that mothers most often abort their babies, not because they are making a "choice," but because they feel they have no other choice. She asked: "What kind of choice is it really if mothers are aborting their babies because they feel that they have no choice?" Monsignor Ken, who provides spiritual direction to the Center's Board of Directors, explained how the situation with pregnant moms has become an "either or" situation in the world today. It is as if we had to make a choice whether we would help the mother or the baby, as if there was no other choice. Msgr. encouraged those on this mission to seek to help both the mother and the baby. He exhorted those present: "We want to help them both!"

ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PREG- NANCY HELP Cen- TER:

STOREFRONT NEEDED!

Thank you to everyone who has donated to our hopefully soon-to-be pregnancy help center! Thanks to your generous support, we are ready to take the next step.

St. Michael's Help Center is currently preparing to rent a storefront-type location (about 1,000 square feet or more) It is hoped that this location will provide clothing, baby items, pregnancy testing, access to ultrasound scans, spiritual direction, education for parents, and eventually much more. The long-term goal is to provide a home for expectant and new moms.

If you know of a reasonably-priced location in the Manahawkin-Barnegat area, please contact Jean at 609-709-4422.



YOUR PRAYERS ARE VITAL!

More than anything, we need your prayers!! We need prayer warriors and intercessors before the throne of God.

This effort to help moms and babies will only be successful by God's grace, and His providential hand. We are asking you to pray daily for the Pregnancy Help Center.

Recognizing Divine Providence as the source of all good that comes our way, we ask you, to the extent that you can, to please especially petition the Lord to provide housing for these moms. May Christ, Who is rich in mercy, hear and answer our prayers for moms and their babies, as we place all our trust in Him.

You can help us by praying for the Pregnancy Help Center:

- The Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- A Hail Mary
- The Rosary
- A Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration
- The Chaplet of St. Michael
- St. Michael's Prayer



Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray, and do thou O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, caste into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.

*Be sure to visit our website at:
Stmichaelhelp.org*

Donations can be made online.