



CAROLYN'S VOICE

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Advent is from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning coming. In the Christian church calendar, it's the period of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Here at Carolyn's Place, we encounter young women in unplanned pregnancies on a daily basis. It is through God's graces that we assist these women to make a decision for life. These graces are obtained through prayer and sacrifice. This Advent, in preparation for the celebration of our Savior's birth we ask that you join us in prayer and sacrifice so that together we may help with the birth of other lives. Just as Mary said "Yes" to God and chose life for Jesus Christ, we need your help in our mission to assist other young women to say "Yes" and choose life for their baby.

Please pray the prayer below, written by our founder, Fr. Robert Rousseau. Prayer is powerful and if every person in our 2,800 database, would pray together, we can move mountains...and more importantly save a baby.

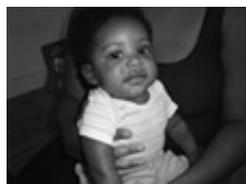
"Mary, mother of Jesus and our mother, we thank you for your faithfulness to God and your openness to life. Your willingness to trust that God would lead you through whatever circumstance you found yourself in is a wonderful example for us.

We ask you to intercede for all who are involved in serving women and children and men through Carolyn's Place Pregnancy Care Center. We want to discover what God is asking of us in our daily activities so that we may cooperate in bringing about His will 'on earth as it is in heaven'.

You said 'yes' to life and Jesus was conceived and born and accomplished salvation for all who would believe. Pray for us so that we may continue to say 'yes' to God's will, and that we may be able to help all whom we serve to also say 'yes' to life and in so doing accomplish Your will.

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ our merciful Lord and Savior.

Amen



Mission Statement

**"Love one another"
(John 13:34)**

Carolyn's Place Pregnancy Care Center is a ministry committed to empowering individuals, through education, comfort, and assistance, to make life choices related to their sexuality and child-bearing consistent with the sanctity of human life.

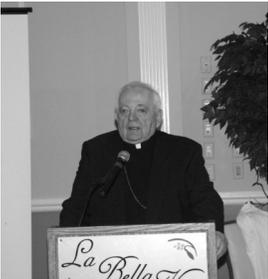
CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF PROTECTING GOD'S TINIEST BLESSINGS

On November 4, more than 300 loyal supporters and volunteers gathered at La Bella Vista at Waterbury's Pontelandolfo Club in celebration of the 20th Anniversary of Carolyn's Place.



The event, which was emceed by WATR radio host Ed Flynn, raised nearly \$20,000 to help our non-profit ministry continue its work of "empowering individuals through education, comfort, and assistance to make life choices related to their sexuality and child-bearing that are consistent with the sanctity of human life."

The celebration recognized several individuals for their exceptional advocacy for life. Jim Vicevich, WTIC AM1080 radio host, who was unable to attend the event due to illness, received the Maureen A. Donohoe Life Award in recognition of his active and vocal promotion of life-affirming values on his radio programs.



The Most Reverend Daniel A. Cronin, S.T.D. Archbishop of Hartford from 1992 to 2003, was presented with the Carolyn's Place Ministry Award which recognizes individuals with a religious vocation who exemplify extraordinary commitment to protection of the sanctity of human life. In his keynote remarks, Archbishop Cronin likened the miracles of baby Carolyn Marie and the subsequent establishment and success of Carolyn's Place, to the miracles performed by the recently canonized St. Kateri Tekakwitha.

The Walter J. Williams Service Award, which is given annually to those who have provided outstanding volunteer service to the Carolyn's Place ministry, was bestowed upon the original founding members of Carolyn's Place: Fr. Robert Rousseau, Peter and Mary Arduino, Ellen Cavallo, Raymond Donohoe, Marge Fisher, Barbara Fydenkevez, Maria Mancini, Mary Moynihan, and Clare Townsend Keating. All ten founders were together to celebrate the memorable event.

Additionally, the evening featured a very successful silent auction with fabulous items such as a 31" flat screen TV donated from the Watertown Knights of Columbus. There was one special item as a live auction. This entailed "Priestly Pasta" or "Manna from Heaven," which is a private dinner for six guests, personally served by Fr. Robert Rousseau, Fr. Joseph Looney, and Fr. Brian Jeffries. Dr. and Mrs. Franco Galasso are the lucky winners of this special meal.



La Bella Vista served a delicious meal with appetizers uniquely sculpted to make a beautiful presentation. Dinner included salad, homemade cavatelli marinara with meatballs, and an entrée of roast beef or pan roasted salmon. During the meal the guests were entertained by the beautiful soft jazz music of Gomez & Sadlon. (www.myspace.com/smoothjazzexpressions)



In addition to being joined by Archbishop Cronin, we were also blessed with the presence of Mother General Shaun and several members of the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist. The Watertown Knights of Columbus St. Pius X Council #3594 purchased a table and along with a member from the Thomaston Knights, provided an honor guard for our honorees. We also received an auction donation and representation from the Seymour Knights Council #53, and the Naugatuck Knights Ojeda Council #33 respectively. All of our guests participated with song and cake in celebrating the 21st birthday of Carolyn Marie, for whom Carolyn's Place is named.

Many THANKS to the businesses and organizations who sponsored our Annual Dinner Celebration: Diamond level: TD Bank; Gold level: Sullivan Brothers Remodeling; Silver level: Prospect Veterinary Hospital, Watertown Knights of Columbus St. Pius X Council #3594, Maureen E. Williams in memory of Walter J. Williams, and Thomaston Comfort Control; Bronze level: Waterbury Swiss Automatics, Prospect Boarding and Grooming, United Auto Sales and Services, Main Street Financial Group, LLC, Dr. Michael Rokosky, and Naugatuck Knights of Columbus Ojeda Council #33.

We are truly grateful to the committee members who spent countless hours, day and night, organizing this outstanding event, and to all of our sponsors, all who advertised in our program booklet, those individuals who donated but could not attend the event, those who generously donated items for our silent auction, those who bid at our auction and especially our guests who joined us in thanks and celebration of life!



From Ellen's Desk

The beautiful season of Advent is a very busy one at Carolyn's Place. The doorbell and the phone kick into over-drive! Many people are looking for items for their babies.

It's an awe inspiring thing to watch God's people at work. We receive "sleigh"-fulls of gifts for our Moms, Dads and babies. Church's Giving Trees, various men's and women's groups, and individuals donate lovely, thoughtful gifts. On occasion someone "adopts" one of our families and brings gifts and Christmas dinner!

The cynic would say that it's all show or that it's part of our materialistic society. But we know better. When you stand in the living room at Carolyn's Place surrounded by beautifully wrapped gifts and cards that read, "Merry Christmas, we're praying for you and your baby"...we know that these gifts are given in the true spirit of Christmas. To lovingly choose a gift, wrap it beautifully, give it anonymously to someone you'll never meet speaks to the heart of the season!

As we prepare to celebrate the birthday of Christ, our King, let us approach the manger with gratitude and thanksgiving. The gifts He gives...life, faith, family and friends are priceless. May we always recognize and appreciate them.

To each and every one of you, a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year. "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End...I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star." Revelation 22:13,16

J O B O P E N I N G

Director of Pro-Life Education

Carolyn's Place has a full time, paid position with benefits, available. This important position is responsible for education programs fostering respect-for-life and awareness of Carolyn's Place services. The ideal candidate will possess excellent communication skills, strong knowledge of Catholic teachings, have education & program development experience and a BA/BS degree in education, social or medical services is preferred. Experience in respect-life programs is desirable. To be considered, please email your resume to staff@carolynsplace.net or mail your resume and cover letter to: Attention - Board of Directors Carolyn's Place 137 Grandview Ave. Waterbury, CT 06708.

TWEENS TAKE CHARGE

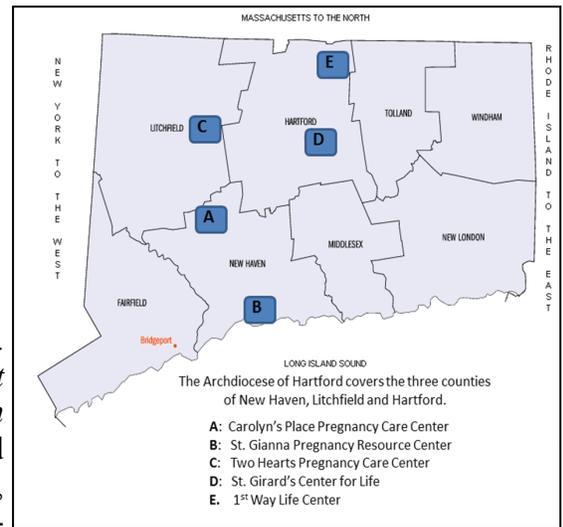
The autumn Tweens Take Charge program was a big success! Led by Mrs. Kathy Torres, the group of middle school aged girls did lots of fun and exciting activities, while learning about ways to make good, responsible decisions about many of the "tough" issues they deal with, or will be facing in the future. The program runs for eight weeks with each session being one hour and fifteen minutes, and is held at our Center. The girls had fun, learned a lot, and enjoyed refreshments and prizes. It was a great experience. If you know a girl in grade 6 or 7 who would be interested in our Tweens program please call us at 203 597-9050 or email us at staff@carolynsplace.net.



EXCITING NEWS...

There is exciting pro-life news in the Hartford Archdiocese! By the end of this year, there will be *five* Pregnancy Care Centers to assist women, and men, with unplanned pregnancies. Each of these Centers is Catholic based, and independently incorporated, but all are located within the Archdiocese of Hartford.

Our ministry, **Carolyn's Place, Inc.** just celebrated our 20th anniversary. We offer a 24/7 Hotline at 203 597-9050 www.carolynsplace.net Founded in 1992, our mission statement is "**Love one another**" (**John 13:34**) Carolyn's Place Pregnancy Care Center is a ministry committed to empowering individuals, through education, comfort, and assistance, to make life choices related to their sexuality and child-bearing consistent with the sanctity of human life. In addition to our services to help moms and their babies, we offer a variety of pro-active educational programs on topics such as abstinence, making responsible choices, sexual health issues, and respecting yourself as a special gift from God.



1st Way Life Center, 237 Hazard Ave., Enfield, CT 06082 Phone: (860) 763-2044 www.1stwaylife.org was formed over twenty years ago. They are "a non-profit group that offers free services to women/girls who need some assistance in dealing with pregnancy." They are an affiliate of The National Life Center, Inc. At 1st Way "we care about you and we care about your baby." "With help from 1st Way Life Center you'll receive all the information you need to make healthy choices for you and your baby."

St. Gerard's Center for Life began in 2004. <http://stgerardcenter.org> "The mission and purpose of the St. Gerard Center for Life is to assist women in making life-affirming decisions through ongoing love, support, and service. ..." St. Gerard's Limited Obstetrical Ultrasound Service Center 22 Maple Ave., 2nd Floor, Hartford CT 06114 Phone: 860-296-2930 St. Gerard's Support Service Center 59 Eaton Street, Hartford, CT 06114 Phone: 860-548-9500

In October of 2012, **Two Hearts Pregnancy Care Center** opened the doors to their ministry. 116 Grove St. 2nd Floor, Torrington, CT 06790 24/7 Hotline: 860 482-0672 www.twoheartscenter.com Two Hearts is "a community based, non-profit organization dedicated to reaching out to women in unplanned pregnancies, and offering education, support and direction, while fostering a culture of responsibility."

This December 12, the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the fifth pregnancy care center will open its doors. **Saint Gianna Pregnancy Resource Center** 100 Whitney Ave. New Haven, CT 06510 24/7 Hotline 203 624-2229 www.giannacenter.org Saint Gianna's focus is "showing God's love and mercy to all mothers and their babies in a gentle and caring manner, from initial encounter to birth and beyond."

An End of the Year Thought

As the end of the year approaches, many consider offering donations to their favorite charities. If you are able, we ask you to please consider placing Carolyn's Place on your list. Your prayers, time and monetary contributions are vital to our efforts to provide the education, comfort and assistance to many young women in need. We are very grateful for your ongoing support and helping us make a difference for life! An envelope is enclosed for your convenience, or go to our website to give a donation online. All donations are fully tax deductible.

Thank

Sharing Some Florida Warmth



Recently, the Dorcas Missionary Fellowship from Lakeside Community Chapel in Clearwater, Florida donated 15 handmade baby quilts. Each quilt is lovingly stitched and has a special pattern for a

baby. These blankets will be presented to our new moms for their newborns. They will be a special gift of warmth and love for Christmas. These beautiful blankets were delivered by three members of the Faith at Newtown Church in Newtown CT: Pastor Tim Kuhn, Annie Sadlon and Elizabeth Mammen. THANK YOU!

Post University

Thank you to the students from **Post University Newman Club in Waterbury**, who took up a collection of clothes for our moms. Thank you to Mr. Dan Matthews from the Campus Ministry Office and student members Pamela Ifill and Kaysha Hinds. We are grateful for your support and look forward to having a supportive relationship between our ministries.

BUSY HANDS

Brivette Marcucio and Marie Savayski have been busy making beautiful afghan blankets for our babies. Each blanket is individually gift bagged with an additional clothing item for the baby. We are grateful for the loving hands that went into these special Christmas gifts.

NVCC INTERN

This fall we have been blessed with an intern from Naugatuck Valley Community College. **Jamee Mynahan** is pursuing an associates degree in Human Services. "in hopes of helping individuals during their time of need." "I feel very fortunate to witness the tremendous spirit of unconditional kindness and love that takes place at Carolyn's Place. This has been a wonderful experience that I will take with me in all future career endeavors." Thank you Jamee and God bless you with your future plans.

God Bless Ellen Olschefski

This summer Carolyn's Place suffered a loss with the sudden passing of Mrs. Ellen Olschefski. Ellen, and her husband, Bob, have been involved with our ministry since our beginning twenty years ago. Ellen assisted with the preparation of our first Center from painting to organizing shelves. Ellen spent years as



a client consultant, phone consultant and fundraiser. We are truly grateful for having been blessed with Ellen as a part of the Carolyn's Place family and continue to pray for her and her family.

A Great Deal

We give our ongoing thanks to **Dan Whitman** for the many donations he brings to Carolyn's Place. Dan goes to many stores and picks up many items to bring to us, from clothes to books and diapers. He even found some items to donate for our silent auction. Thank you Dan, for all you do for so many ministries.

WINTER WISH LIST

If you can help with any of these items, new or used, please contact us at (203) 597-9080 or staff@carolynsplace.net

ITEMS NEEDED: Diapers size 4 and 5, Diaper rash ointment, Baby wash, Car seats (that meet current federal safety regulations), First class/Forever stamps, Home Depot gift card, Staples gift card

WISH LIST THANK YOU: We are sincerely grateful to Jean Luc Fortin for repairing our standing coat rack.

YOYU

Story Time

Many thanks to the members of the **Alpha Delta Kappa Epsilon Chapter in Waterbury** for donating books for us to distribute to our moms. These children's books will be a nice gift for our moms to enjoy reading to their little ones. We are grateful for this thoughtful and necessary donation. THANKS!

A Shrine for Our Yard

After doing a beautiful job refurbishing the outside frame for Our Lady of Guadalupe in the front of our Center, **Ray Crawford** has now begun fixing up the side of our Center with a lovely shrine for a statue of our choosing. Ray prepared the area by cleaning up the weeds and landscaping it with new shrubs and a rock area for the statue to be placed in the spring. We are grateful for all the initiatives Ray takes upon himself to make our Center look attractive on the outside, and provide a peaceful place to pray and enjoy God's gifts in nature.

DOUBLE DUTY FOR IBM

Employees of **IBM in Southbury** have been doubly generous to Carolyn's Place these past few months. Under the leadership of **Maria DePalma**, with help from **Lisa Parillo**, we, once again, are blessed with many handmade blankets for us to give as gifts to our moms for their babies this Christmas. These warm and cozy blankets are a special way of spreading Christmas joy. They also collected baby clothes such as onesies, diapers and outfits. Thanks to all of the hours of volunteer work on the part of Marie, she was able, this year, to complete a grant application which awarded us \$500. We are sincerely grateful to IBM for their generous grant, Maria, Lisa, and all of the employees who give their time and talent to create and donate these items.



Rags to Riches

Mrs. Carol Butler takes scraps of materials and sews them into beautiful quilts. Recently she donated several baby quilts with wonderful designs to distribute to some of our babies. THANKS SO MUCH!

SNUGGLE UP

Thank you to **Rachel Visocchi** for the warm "swaddlers" she made for our newborns so they can stay snuggled up this winter.

AUTUMN BOOMERANGS

This Fall, **St. Mary Magdalen Parish in Oakville** sponsored a Baby Bottle Boomerang for us which, once again, was very successful. They raised \$2,004.60! We are sincerely grateful to the pastor, Fr. James Gregory for hosting the boomerang, for Joan Guglioti for coordinating, and for all of the parishioners who so generously supported the fundraiser. THANKS SO MUCH!

Once again, **St. Thomas Becket Parish in Cheshire**, under the leadership of Noreen Pearsall, held a successful Baby Bottle Boomerang. The generous parishioners raised over \$1,489.08! We are grateful to the parishioners, Noreen, and the pastor, Fr. John Gwozdz for allowing the parish to host this event. Thank you very.

IF YOUR PARISH OR ORGANIZATION WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR A BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG:



- Purchase, or borrow from us, a sufficient number of baby bottles for your parish or organization.
- Distribute a baby bottle to anyone interested in participating.
- Ask them to fill the bottle with spare change.
- Have everyone return the filled bottle at the end of a specified time period. (Usually about 3 to 4 weeks.)
- Total the donations, and send one check to Carolyn's Place, Inc.
- Return borrowed bottles to Carolyn's Place, or save your purchased bottles and reuse for a future boomerang.

Carolyn's Place, Inc
Pregnancy Care Center

137 Grandview Avenue
Waterbury, CT 06708

(203) 597-9050

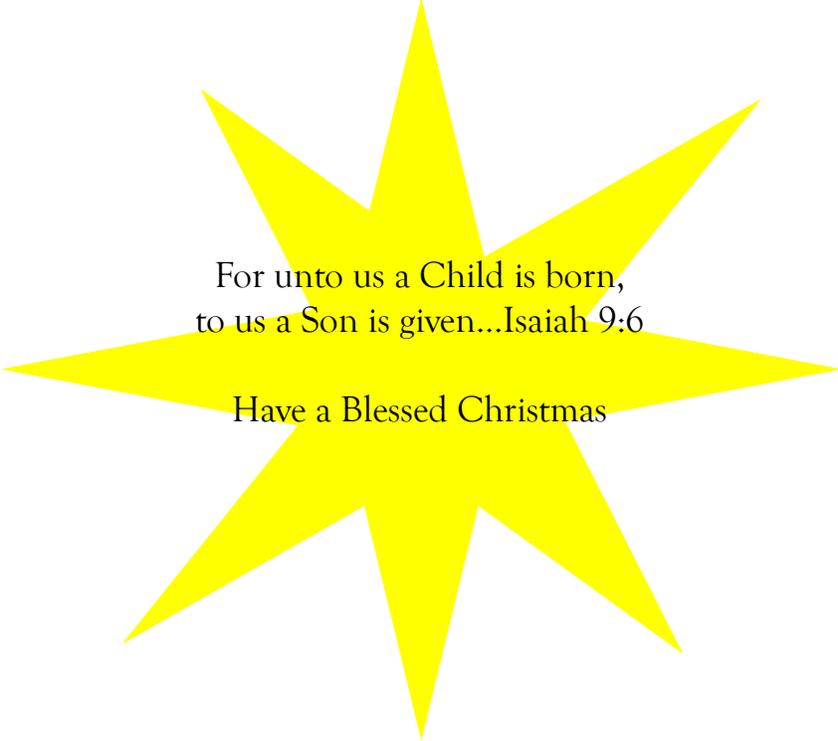
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VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE: www.carolynsplace.net

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Check out our blog

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



For unto us a Child is born,
to us a Son is given...Isaiah 9:6

Have a Blessed Christmas