

# A Thankful Mother and Son



When I found out I was pregnant, I was alone and scared. I didn't know what to do. I knew I had a responsibility to this unborn child to give it the best life I could. If you were to ask me, "Where do you see yourself in the future," I would have answered, "I don't know."

When I first came to Our Lady's Inn, I was scared, ashamed, alone and felt broken because I still didn't know how I was going to raise my child on my own. It was very hard for me to adapt in the beginning, but with the warm hearts and guidance of the staff, I soon adjusted very well.

I remember the first few days I was there, the Program Director was always there with a tissue to dry my tears while telling me, "It will be ok." I so appreciated her guiding me and giving me a second chance.

OLI's nurses helped me prepare for my new baby and guide me through every step of pregnancy and to prepare me for the days to come. I had a special bond and relationship with both of them, along with many other mothers. They were always there if you needed them. They truly do love what they do. I thank them both for giving me the extra confidence I needed to become a good mom for my son.

My journey at Our Lady's Inn was hard at times, but lifechanging. They guided me through many of life's obstacles. Many of the staff had faith in me when I didn't and helped me realize I am a strong woman and I could do things on my own.

After I left Our Lady's Inn, the love and support continued with the Aftercare program. Words can't express how thankful I am still to this day for my Aftercare Coordinator and Our Lady's Inn for what they offered me through the program; because of the Aftercare program I was able to have my own apartment.

Having my own apartment gave me a sense of accomplishment that I thought I would never have. Throughout the year, Our Lady's Inn helped me get a job, learn financial responsibility by putting me on a budget to pay my own bills, buy a car and save enough money to open the next chapter in my life.

I want to end my story with all the thanks I can give to everyone at Our Lady's Inn. They are truly a blessing to my son and me. I am so grateful that you all believed in me when I couldn't. Because of you and your kind hearts and many years of support, I am a proud mother of a healthy, very energetic little boy and a loving wife to my husband.

# Updates from our CEO

This summer has seen much activity at the Inn. Since early in the year, we have housed record numbers of children who are arriving at the Inn with their mothers. We have been blessed by the presence of several very special kiddos—one whose mobility depended upon a motorized wheelchair, two others who've been diagnosed on the Spectrum and another with speech delay. Our Child Advocates work closely with the families to secure appropriate resource supports and referrals for services which had not yet been accessed. All of the children with us have reaped the benefits of a variety of recreational opportunities: day camps, swimming at the YMCA, a night at Circus Flora, and attending a Cardinals game. Tickets and access to these activities were donated for the benefit of our families.

Substantial wind and hail damage was sustained at our Defiance home on May 16th; much time and effort has been spent on getting all the repairs completed. I must credit our Facilities Operations Manager, who coordinated with a multitude of vendors, securing and analyzing bids. Repairs are underway!

In recent weeks, we have launched our Comprehensive Campaign—*Preparing for the Future*—to support the construction of our new maternity home in St. Louis County while also sustaining annual and planned-giving, thus ensuring Our Lady's Inn's legacy of housing pregnant women and children in crisis. The Campaign allows for one-time and multi-year gift commitments as well as naming opportunities. Gifts to the Campaign may be eligible for the Missouri Maternity Home Tax Credit. Please visit the Campaign page on our website to learn more.

Now in our 44th year of sheltering and supporting pregnant women in crisis, we continue the mission with your faithful support. Know that we pray for you each day and are filled with gratitude for all you do for mothers in crisis.

Preggy Forest Chief Executive Officer

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# Preparing for the FUTURE

COMPREHENSIVE CAMPAIGN UPDATES NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE



Find out details about the campaign online at ourladysinn.org/ campaign





# What's Happening at OLI...

These precious babies were born at Our Lady's Inn between January 2025 and June 2025.

A'Kai Jahmir Akasha James Avery Kashlyn Da'Leijah Lola Luka Prescious Shiloh Zamari





# **Highlights from April 27th**

# Angel Gala 3

This year's Gala was a wonderful gathering of supporters. We are humbled by the generosity and encouragement of all the sponsors, attendees, and donors. Thank you!

Here are just a few of the moments that made the evening memorable. We honored BeBe Kennedy with the Angel of Life Award. John O'Leary inspired us to be "On Fire for Life!" Thank you to Mark Guyol for leading us through the evening.

We look forward to seeing everyone next year! Thank you again for the support!





# Thank You Sponsors

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# ••• Important Change to the Missouri Maternity Home Tax Credit •••

Effective August 29th, 2025, the cap on the Missouri Maternity Home Tax Credit will **increase** from \$50,000 **to \$100,000**. Donors may now claim up to a \$100,000 tax credit per tax year; the credit may not exceed a taxpayer's state tax liability for that year. The tax credit may be carried over to the next year if it cannot be claimed in the tax year the contribution was made.

To learn about eligibility for a tax credit or to request an application, please call Sandy Rustige at 314-736-1544.

Donate Online



ourladysinn.org/ donate



Donation Amount	\$100,000	\$10,000	\$5,000
Missouri Maternity Home Tax Credit	70%	70%	70%
Tax Credit Benefit For Filing Your 2025 Missouri Income Tax Return	\$70,000	\$7,000	\$3,500
Net Cash Out-of-Pocket	\$30,000	\$3,000	\$1,500

All the Aborted Babies since 1973

from: Tom and Nancy Davis Christine Ricciardi

**Joey Ahillen** 

from: Steve and Laura Ahillen

**Ron Aylward** 

from: Peggy Forrest

**Darlene Baroli** 

from: Don and Linda Bene

**Raymond Bladdick** from: Myra Van Pelt

Maureen Burkhardt

from: Christine Brust

Jan Gutting Lauren Walls

Ted and Mary Warner

**Katie Campanella** 

from: Greg Willis

**Jane Crowe** 

from: Bonnie Goodwin

Reverend John C. Deken

from: John and Paula Flick

**Monica Marie Deken** from: John and Paula Flick

The Deceased Members of The

**George B. Desloge Family** from: Mary Rose Desloge

**Carol Doelling** 

from: Mr. and Mrs. Rauh Corinne Salera

George T. Dooling, Sr. from: Mary Kay Drexler

**Linda Evans** 

from: Gina Harkness

**Darlene K. Fuchs** 

from: Jane Birkenmeier

Tom and Nancy Genetti Joseph Hannigan

Noeleen Hannigan Patrick Hannigan

Grayce Podwojski

Sister Corine Walsh

**Jim Gardner** 

from: Peggy Forrest

Thomas J. Gilliam, Sr.

from: Sam and Gloria Lee

Joydell "Joy" Hedger

from: Peggy Forrest

**Cindy Hughes** 

from: Tom Hughes

**Jean Hurley** 

from: Alison Hillen

**Carolyn Iovanna** 

from: Jim and Joan Arbuszewski

Kathleen Bannister Sarah Buettner Richard Dore

Gene and Kathie Hanneke

Deacon Joe Iovanna

Joseph Iovanna John and Kay Komotos Sam and Gloria Lee

Mary Siebert

David and Janice Tarantola David and Lucille Tobben

Charlene Virgen

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**Doris E. Jansen** 

from: Gary and Diane Arthur Kenny and Kristen Chilton and

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**Eileen Kenney** 

from: Garry and Gail Waggoner

**Laura Ann Klages** 

from: Frank and Lisa Sanfilippo

**Janet Klingler** 

from: Bob and Laura Voigt

**Our Parents of the Kuehler and** 

**Farace Families** 

from: Ken and Carol Kuehler

JoAnn LaFaver

from: Ed LaFaver

JoAnne M. LaLonde

from: Richard LaLonde

**Mary Rita Langston** 

from: Catherine Castner

**Ann Marie Lavite** 

from: Randy and Patricia Adolph

Joseph G. Lipic, Sr.

from: Peggy Forrest

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from: Joy Meisel

**Cleda Moore** 

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Teresa (Terry) O'Toole

from: Jerome Shen and Bridget Brennan

Louis C. Oldani, Sr.

from: Louis Oldani

Ina Mae Perkins

from: Helene LaBerta

**Michael Raskob** 

from: Elizabeth Raskob

Kathleen "Susie" Ratchford from: Theresa Fachini

William Ross III

from: Peggy Forrest

**Dave and Pat Sinclair** 

from: Dan and Mary Sinclair

**Charles Stevens** 

from: Michael Dougherty

**Mary Jule Suntrup** 

from: 1-2-3 Club

Tim and Margaret Barrett

Debra Bax

Stephanie Bolego

Larry and Lynn Bozzay Terry and Margarita Broughton

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Thomas and Reenie Thornton

Lucy and Liz Tucker Tom and Mary Ann Williams

**Riley Tinsley** from: Kristine Ryan

**Lu Ann Trupiano** 

from: Tony and Gayle Trupiano

The Victims of the Uvalde

**School Tragedy** from: Travis Coleman

**Neal Wessler** 

from: Snooks Wessler

**Ken and Mary Wolf** 

from: Tom and Judy Wolf

Birthday Remembrance

Lucille Jockenhoefer's Sister from: Dave Jockenhoefer

Julianne Pieknik

from: Chris and Olivia Pieknik

Father's Day Remembrance

Walter A. Pieknik

from: Chris and Olivia Pieknik

**Robert Schisla** 

from: Barb Montanye

Mother's Day Remembrance

**Julianne Pieknik** from: Chris and Olivia Pieknik

Alma Schisla

from: Barb Montanye

My world is composed of people like me.

I help make it what it is.

It will be friendly, if I am.

It will be holy, if I am. It will do great work,

if I work.

It will be prayerful, if I pray. It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a

generous giver.

It will be a world of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, of compassion, charity, and mercy, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these same things.

Therefore, with the help of God, I now dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want my world to be.

The Board, Staff, Volunteers and Families of Our Lady's Inn Offer Our Sincere Condolences to the Families of...

Leonard and Dolores Busken from: Terry Busken

Ginger Cox and Her Students for Life Group

from: Jay and Karen Savan

**Pat Ding** 

*from:* Spencer and Kate Sauerburger

Edward, Margaret, Patricia and Walter

from: Paul and Marie Florek

Ten Grandchildren and Nine Great Grandchildren from: Ms. Hoesli

Bebe Kennedy

from: Carl and Carolyn Landwehr

Mary Joan Woods

Mother Mary

from: Randy and Patricia Adolph

Anoop Mayor from: Ellen Mayor

*from:* Ellen Mayo **Anita Mikus** 

*from:* Robert and Susan Schoonover

Margaret Sommer from: Cheryl Sommer

Jackie Stoll

*from:* Lavern Vlasak Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Vlasak

**Anniversaries** 

Archbishop Joseph Naumann's 20th Anniversary of Installation as Archbishop of Kansas City from: Peggy Forrest

**Our Lady's Inn 43rd Anniversary** 

*from:* Ann Moloney Doug and Marge Munsell Greg and Suzanne Smith

Christopher and Olivia Pieknik's 36th Wedding Anniversary from: Christopher and Olivia

Vince and Marybeth Strauss' 20th Wedding Anniversary

from: David and Colleen Shekleton

Monsignor Ted Wojcicki's 50th Ordination Anniversary from: Peggy Forrest

Happy Birthday
Patricia Nesbitt

from: Mr. and Mrs. Nesbitt

Christine Ricciardi from: Mr. and Mrs. Fricano

**Suzy Villa** 

from: Tom and Tina Doherty
Jack and Carolyn Fogarty
Sandra Ghormley
Mary Godefroid
Jerry and Judy Herberholt
Helmut and Mary Rose Kramer
Philip and Joan Martin
Pam Beach Reber
Suzanne Rutledge
Jack and Suzy Villa

Friendship

My Long Friendship with Mary Ann Shoptaugh from: Judith Witzel

 ${\it Gratitude \, For \,}$ 

**My Family** 

from: Mark and Jean Flanagan

A Favor Received

from: Dave and Diane Snively

Healing

**Good Health for Joan Suntrup** *from:* Lisa Geraghty

Marriage

Michael and Barbara Dolan from: Anajanette Gondzur

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Duda from: Tom and Mary Dyer Mr. and Mrs. Nesbitt Jay Todd Jeanette Wansing

Mother's Day

Elena Switzer

from: Joe and Elena Switzer

Recovery

**Bryan Rosemann** 

from: Mary Angela Tumulty

Retirement

George and Ellen Smith from: Ray and Cathy Gardiner

# Saturday, November 15, 2025 St. Monica School Parish Gym Silent Auction Contest Prizes Raffles Prize for the best movie character costume! Prize for the best movie theme decorated table!



Thursday, September 25, 2025

Defiance Ridge Vineyards at 11:30 a.m.

Register: ourladysinn.org/luncheon-for-life

Individual Tickets: \$75 Tables of Eight: \$600 Sponsorships are still available.

Join us for an afternoon of food, friends and fun!



MATERNITY HOMES 8790 Manchester Road Suite 202 St. Louis, MO 63144 Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage Paid Permit #3361 St. Louis, MO



# To those of you who responded to our Tornado Relief Appeal—we are truly grateful for your gift!

On May 16th, tornadoes caused substantial damage in Defiance at Our Lady's Inn: twenty-seven windows needed repair, as does the fencing surrounding the property, and all four of our vehicles sustained damage. After the insurance payment, our out-of-pocket costs to complete the necessary repairs are nearly \$60,000. We are happy to report that repairs are underway.

At the St. Louis City Inn, OLI is serving as a partner in the relief effort by taking in pregnant mothers and their children displaced by the tornado. We are also helping women in our Aftercare Program to navigate alternate housing and have provided needed supplies.

We are continuing to accept donations online for this specific need. Please go to ourladysinn.org/donate. Thank you!































