

# Mary's Mantle

DECEMBER 2025

MARYSMANTLE.NET



*Merry Christmas*

**FROM MARY'S MANTLE**





# BEHIND THE BLUE DOOR: LIFE AT MARY'S MANTLE

Since we strive to protect all human dignity - including the privacy and safety of our residents - most of our supporters don't have access to the beautiful nitty-gritty of life at Mary's Mantle. That's good and important, but it's also a bit of a pity, because the daily details can be pretty amazing. For example, on Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at the house...

Our spiritual coordinator arrived to a just-waking household to meet online with her MM intercessory prayer team. Meanwhile, a support staff member checked on each resident and accompanied them in their early-morning routines.

The staff gathered for their quarterly meeting, enjoying quiche, fruit, and coffee while receiving updates and discussing different ways to engage with the residents. A support staff member mentioned that she's helping them create their own beauty products.

Mom A entered the meeting and asked our executive director to hold her infant for a while, a task she cheerfully managed. The sweet infant made use of her diaper and was eventually passed back to Mom.

After the meeting, our controller stuck around to sort out financial details from the Gala, and our office manager opened an envelope containing a surprisingly large donation from someone we don't even know. She also reported that the dryer repairman who had visited the night before learned about our work and refused to charge us.

Our case manager took Mom B to her ultrasound appointment. All is well - 33 weeks and counting!

Mom B and Mom C used coloring books while working on some spiritual goals at the kitchen table. Mom C mentioned that she

decided to deliberately pray to the God she has long believed in to help her find a better place for her baby to be born than in a car on the side of an off-ramp. The next day, she connected with Mary's Mantle in what she describes as a miracle.

Mom B confirmed plans with our director of client services to take advantage of the sacrament of reconciliation with Father J.J. Mech, who is one of Mary's Mantle's founders. Mom B also shared about some of the profound losses she experienced through a house fire.

Mom D stayed quiet, processing some important legal issues. Her meeting with the spiritual coordinator did coax forward some healthy tears, though.

While the case manager and director of client services attended a training webinar, our after care coordinator met virtually with past residents to discuss goal achievement. Others finished clean-up from the recent Gala. Our executive director managed prize deliveries to the auction winners.

Mom A and her baby enjoyed a session with our in-house photography pro (who is also our office manager!) while Mom C drove herself to a prenatal appointment.

After a lovely dinner, the residents and a support staff member prayed together, watched a movie, and discussed different outings they could plan. The staff member reported, "Overall it was a wonderful night."

Overall, it always is.

## WITH GRATEFUL HEARTS

As 2025 draws to a close, we continue to be thankful for the friendship and hard work of all our board members – past, present, and future! In particular this season, we wish to voice our gratitude to two of them who are retiring from active duty.

Deacon Dominick Pastore joined the board in 2013. He has assisted at many Masses, organized the monthly prayer intention list, attended our weekly intercessory prayer group, made valuable connections in local parishes, and lent his engineering expertise to our campus expansion discussions. Deacon Dom brings a spirit of gentleness, compassion, and peace to every encounter. We pray that he and his wife Theresa thoroughly enjoy their transcontinental retirement!

Toni Conley joined the board in 2016 after volunteering with our Sunday Supper ministry through OLG. Her extensive

finance background got Mary's Mantle to where we needed to be today. Spreadsheets, QB, finance policies: you name it, Toni did it! Toni brings joyful enthusiasm to every task. We are confident that she will love retirement with her husband Bob as they both get to spend even more time with their family.

Deacon Dom and Toni, St. Paul said it best: "Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind..." (1 Cor 1:3-5)

## A NIGHT ROOTED IN LOVE: THANK YOU FOR AN INCREDIBLE GALA

Our 2025 Mary's Mantle Gala was a beautiful reminder of what happens when a community comes together in faith, generosity, and love. Because of you, our guests, sponsors, auction donors, and volunteers, we are thrilled to share that the event raised approximately \$110,000 to support the mothers and babies we are blessed to serve.

To everyone who attended, thank you for filling the room with such joy and enthusiasm. To our sponsors and auction donors, your generosity made the evening's success possible. To our

dedicated volunteers, thank you for the countless hours you gave to make every detail seamless. And to our celebrants who offered Mass before the event, we are deeply grateful for the spiritual foundation you provided.

Your support ensures that Mary's Mantle can continue offering a safe, stable, faith filled home to expectant mothers in need. From all of us, thank you for helping us continue this life changing mission.



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### STAFF MEMBERS



P.O. BOX 365  
SOUTHFIELD, MI 48037  
248-376-5338



### Mission Statement

**Mary's Mantle is a Catholic residential program for homeless expectant women. We witness the love of Christ by promoting the dignity of life. We provide a safe, faith-based, and caring environment that supports the transition into motherhood, including extended aftercare for continued personal growth and integration into the community. We focus on the spiritual, emotional, physical, educational, and vocational well-being of mother and child.**

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### THANK YOU TO OUR \$30K IN 30 DAYS SUPPORTERS!

Because of the incredible generosity of our community, we not only met our September campaign goal—we surpassed it! Together, you helped raise \$30,620, which was generously matched by Dr. and Mrs. Ken and Christine Kernen, bringing our total impact to \$60,620.

Thank you for standing with our mothers and babies. Your support continues to transform lives with hope, dignity, and love.



Mary's Mantle

## SAVE THE DATES

