

# Mary's Mantle

EVERY CHILD IS A GIFT, EVERY SOUL HAS A PURPOSE.

## CORE VALUES OF MARY'S MANTLE

### JUSTICE *Sought*

Every action big or small within Mary's Mantle should work toward justice in the lives of our mothers. There are times that our society fails to prevent injustice, but Mary's Mantle should always strive to uphold justice in every situation. It is through justice that we can fully embrace the dignity of every life.

### LOVE *Revealed*

It is through the Love of Jesus Christ we are compelled to more fully live the Gospel and in doing so invite others into a relationship with Christ. Mary's Mantle is that invitation. Through our relationships with our moms and their children, may we introduce to them the life changing love of Christ. Let our witness of that love be a source of new life, healing, fulfillment and hope to all who encounter it.

### MERCY *Lived*

We must see the dignity of every mom, let not her poverty, her brokenness, nor any affliction prevent us from beholding Christ within her. Let second chances, unconditional love, forgiveness and acceptance define our ministry of mercy.

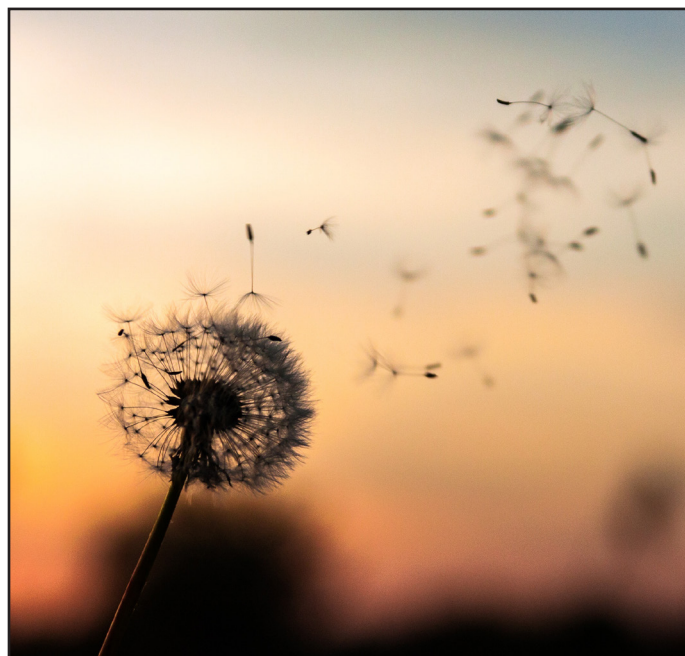


### DIGNITY OF LIFE *Recognized*

May we behold each person that crosses the threshold of Mary's Mantle as a beloved child of God, treating them always in manner which honors their Creator. May all who act on behalf Mary's Mantle hold deep a conviction to the Gospel of Life recognizing that each and every life is a precious gift from God.

### FIDELITY TO TRUTH *Adherence*

Mary's Mantle looks to the teachings of the Catholic Church for direction and guidance. The foundation of our ministry was built on these truths and they continue to breathe life into our daily work. Let us faithfully adhere to Catholic Church teachings and through them discover the greatest freedom found only in Jesus Christ.



# FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KATIE MONTES

Dear Mary's Mantle Supporters,

Happy Spring!

This past month, we celebrated the baptism of one of the former residents of Mary's Mantle. Lojen was welcomed into the church at the Easter Vigil at St. Therese of Lisieux Parish in Shelby Township. The Mary's Mantle staff rejoiced with Lojen and her son, Gabriel, on receiving this beautiful sacrament and the beginning of their new faith journey together.



While we rejoiced at this full initiation in the Catholic faith, there are many times when we get the opportunity to rejoice with the women at Mary's Mantle as their faith is being nurtured. We are blessed to witness the beginnings or the rebirth of their relationship with Jesus. As each staff member or volunteer can attest to, the simple beauty of sharing one's own faith with a resident can have a

powerful impact. God works on each and every one of us in different ways and at different points of our faith journey. We are blessed to be stewards of God's great plan here at Mary's Mantle.

Something the women at Mary's Mantle have been recently enjoying is the new "Mass Club" that our Spiritual Coordinator, Suzanne Barcewicz, created earlier this year. The women have been traveling to local Catholic parishes once per month for Sunday Mass, instead of attending the Mary's Mantle home parish of Corpus Christi. This gives the women the opportunity to experience the Catholic Mass at different locations – to really be able to experience firsthand some of the many vibrant churches throughout the Archdiocese. For now, staff have been welcoming the women to their own parishes – but soon we will open this to more Mary's Mantle supporters. We ask that you prayerfully consider "hosting" the women at Mary's Mantle during the next year. Please watch for more details to come early this Summer on this wonderful opportunity.

As always, thank you for your generosity, but most importantly, thank you for the prayers.

Blessings,  
Katie

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Mary's Mantle is pleased to highlight the generous women from St. Hugo of the Hills who put on a wonderful dinner each year for the moms and babies of Mary's Mantle. The generous members (and their friends) from St. Hugo's Ladies of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul group have been hosting this event annually since 2015 for the Mary's Mantle moms.

The group spends several months planning this event and their effort always shows; every detail is planned to make sure the moms have an enjoyable evening.

The moms are not only treated to a delicious dinner, but volunteers are on hand to provide child care for the babies and children. The Mary's Mantle moms get to enjoy the sometimes rare, treat to have a nice quiet dinner without their children, while fellowshiping with each other and the hostesses.

On top of the dinner and child care, each mom is

blessed with many items to take home. The items are picked with each mom in mind and are both practical and personal. This year the moms received cleaning supplies, hygiene products, a purse, scarf, and jewelry. They also each received a Rosary and Crucifix for their homes. The children received hygiene products, books, clothes, coat, pajamas, play dough and stickers.



On behalf of all of the moms who have had the opportunity to attend this beautiful evening, we sincerely thank each and every person that played a role in putting it on. God bless each of you!

## Circle of Hope

There are many ways to support Mary's Mantle; the gifts of your time through volunteering and prayer are invaluable to us. Additionally, your financial donations will go a long way in supporting the women and babies of Mary's Mantle all next year. We thank you for your generosity.

If you would like to make a one-time gift, you may mail a check made out to Mary's Mantle in the enclosed envelope. Alternately, you may visit [www.marysmantle.net](http://www.marysmantle.net) to make a secure online donation. Just click "Donate" under "Support Us" tab on the home page.

Finally, we ask you to prayerfully consider signing up to be a monthly donor through the Mary's Mantle Circle of Hope program. By joining the Circle of Hope, you will help provide Mary's Mantle with a steady and reliable source of income - and make a difference in the lives of our residents and their children; truly a gift that keeps on giving.

Please visit [www.marysmantle.net](http://www.marysmantle.net) to learn more, and to sign up to be a monthly donor.



# A NOTE FROM BETH COLLISON

Friends of Mary's Mantle,

This June will mark ten years since the birth of Mary's Mantle. Ten years since that frightened young pregnant woman crossed the threshold into my heart and into the hearts of many of you.

The impossible became a reality because the Lord willed Mary's Mantle into existence. He desired it out of His love for each of our moms and their babies. From the early days to today, I have witnessed countless miracles through the ministry. Life changing, life giving, life affirming miracles. The spirit of the ministry is renewed with the birth of each baby.

I have often told staff and board alike that we are all blessed to be part of this work. The Lord is the conductor and we are all blessed to be invited on the Mary's Mantle train. We should embrace our time on the train but must also listen carefully for when the call comes for our stop.

With a heavy heart I write to let you know that my stop has arrived. I am confident that this is the Lord's will for

me right now. I am also confident that it is He who has beautifully weaved this ministry together and He who will continue to enhance His creation by weaving with new skeins of yarn. The new skeins no doubt will strengthen His creation and add new and exciting elements to its beauty...to the work He continues in Mary's Mantle.

I will still be engaged in the ministry just not as formally. Faith @ Work will remain committed to it as well. Though my heart aches with the thought of letting go, that pain pales in comparison to the gratitude I hold for having been invited onboard. My life has been transformed by the 71 beautiful souls we have served. I once read and believe whole heartedly it to be true, the poor are God's ambassadors.

Thank you for joining me on this journey. I have so enjoyed our train ride together. I will hold the memories of our trip close to my heart for eternity.

God bless you!

Beth Collison

## WELCOME, FATHER PHIL!



Mary's Mantle is pleased to welcome Rev. Phillip Cooke, SJ, to the Mary's Mantle Board of Directors.

Fr. Phil is a priest of the United States Midwest Province of the Society of Jesus. He currently ministers as the associate pastor of Gesu Church in Detroit where he spends time both in the parish and grade school. He

has worked at the University of Detroit Mercy where he founded the Center for Social Entrepreneurship and at Red Cloud Indian School where he taught high school and was a pastor. He has a passion for walking with youth especially those most at risk. By the grace of God during his time on

the reservation, Fr. Cooke became a grateful member of AI-Anon. It was within the program that he began to discover how big his God truly is. And he finds that God keeps getting bigger.

Fr. Cooke grew up in Kansas City, Missouri, and studied philosophy at Creighton University. He wrote his Licentiate in Sacred Theology at the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University on liberation theology and social entrepreneurship, followed by a fellowship as the first Jesuit-in-Residence at the Miller Center for Social Entrepreneurship at Santa Clara University. He is forever grateful to the Lakota people of the Pine Ridge Reservation whom he attributes for giving him many spiritual gifts through their resilience, reverence and faith in the Creator.

Mary's Mantle is grateful to have him join the Board and looks forward to learning from his vast experience and deep faith.

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Mary's Mantle♥

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### 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.

[WWW.MARYSMANTLE.NET](http://WWW.MARYSMANTLE.NET) • [MARYS.MANTLE@COMCAST.NET](mailto:MARYS.MANTLE@COMCAST.NET)

### *Save the Date*

Keepsakes of the Kingdom

Saturday, October 12, 2019

Mass, dinner, and auction

Troy, MI

*He counts the stars and calls them by name.*

Psalm 147:4