



*Carolyn's Place*



PREGNANCY CARE CENTER

# CAROLYN'S VOICE

Volume XVII , Issue I

Winter 2009

## **GOD CALLING**

By June Archer

She came from Africa.

Africa ... by way of Georgia.

In early January, a woman arrived on the front porch of 137 Grandview Avenue in the middle of a snow storm. In her car were four children and a supply of milk and orange juice she had obtained from a local hospital, a hospital that had referred her to Carolyn's Place.

Originally from Africa, she and her family had moved to Georgia to find a better life, but the strain of living with an abusive husband made her decide to seek safety for herself and her children. She knew exactly one person, someone in Waterbury, Connecticut. Leaving her old life behind, she sought shelter with that one friend, but help of a different nature was soon necessary.

On the day she came to Carolyn's Place, she was about to give birth to her fifth child. When she appeared on the doorstep, her contractions had already begun. She had no-where else to go. She needed everything.

When we think of a pregnancy care center serving the greater Waterbury area, we don't normally think of the far away continent of Africa; nor do we think of a runaway teen from New Haven or a young woman stepping off a bus from Kentucky at three o'clock in the morning. Sometimes our scope is so narrow, and we are comfortable in the belief that our support of Carolyn's Place takes care of a little corner of the world.

God's call is not always neat and tidy. It comes when we have other plans. It always comes when we least expect it, and when He does call, we wonder how we can accomplish all that He asks of us.

There is no typical day at Carolyn's Place. The woman from Africa was an unexpected guest that January day. In fact, the staff was waiting for the arrival of another woman in need who never showed up. Seventeen years ago, the discovery of an infant abandoned in a church was anything but typical, but God came calling that day, calling a young mother to find a safe haven for her child and calling a community together to make sure no other mother had to face pregnancy alone. To have refused God's call on that day would have meant the absence of help and hope for now nearly 1,000 women and their babies.

Through the dedication of the staff, volunteers, and patrons of Carolyn's Place, that message of help and hope has reached a little farther than our neat and tidy corner of the world. For that, we are so very grateful, and so is a woman from Africa and her five beautiful children.

### *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.*

# Carolyn's Place 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner

## "A Celebration of Life"

By Nancy Goyette

**O**n Sunday evening, November 2, 2008, 157 people attended the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner at the Pontelandolfo Banquet Hall in Waterbury, CT, to celebrate life with those who have been so instrumental in our ministry serving the Greater Waterbury Community. Master of Ceremony, Jerry Brennan, Vice Chairman of Carolyn's Place, welcomed guests, and founder, Fr. Robert Rousseau, made introductions for this year's banquet. Fr. Francis Karvelis said grace before the meal.

A special awards presentation was made honoring three individuals for their years of defending God's precious gift of life. **Barbara Nieves:** for her efforts as a past member of Carolyn's Place Board of Directors and for over 12 years of faithful service as a phone consultant. Barbara is a long-time member of CT Right to Life and Chairman of the Respect Life Committee for St. Mary Magdalen parish in Oakville. **Walter Williams:** in recognition of his valuable legal assistance to Carolyn's Place and his active role as a Board of Director member from 2001 to the present. Walter is a member of the Respect Life Committee at St. Teresa parish in Woodbury. **Fr. Francis Karvelis:** for his staunch support for the sanctity of life, in his actions and from the pulpit, and for his many years of tireless support of Carolyn's Place. We gratefully acknowledge Barbara, Walter, and Fr. Karvelis for their faithfulness to and efforts on behalf of Life; they are role models in the community, affirming the sanctity of life.

Following the awards presentation, we introduced our guest speaker, **Dr. Judith Mascolo**, a graduate from The College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA, and the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. She completed her residency in family medicine in St. Paul, MN, and is now a pro-life family physician in West Hartford, CT. Dr. Mascolo shared from the heart a very moving story about her own personal encounters with choosing life, and provided some disturbing information and statistics regarding abortion and euthanasia practices occurring in the medical profession today. We are all grateful to Dr. Mascolo for taking a pro-family stand in her medical practice and for her courage in speaking out about the practices within the medical community that do not honor life.



*Dr. Judith M. Mascolo,  
Guest Speaker*



*Honoree, Fr. Francis V. Karvelis*

Acclaimed Connecticut artist, Sam D'Ambruoso, donated his stunning 20" x 24" oil painting entitled "Lieutenant River" in Old Lyme. Mr. D'Ambruoso is well known for his oil paintings depicting the beauty of Connecticut's outdoors, and his paintings appear in private and public collections worldwide. The painting was won by Dave and Kathy Goulet of Watertown, CT. Thanks Sam.

The evening closed with Fr. Brian Jeffries of St. Joseph Church, Canaan, CT, leading us with words of prayer.

*Carolyn's Place is so thankful to everyone in attendance, our supporters, volunteers, and staff for making our dinner such a wonderful event. We look forward to next year and what we may be able to accomplish with all of your help and prayers!*



*Board members, Jane Teta and Ginny Baudinet  
with guest, Mayor Michael Jarjura.*

## *Some of God's Biggest Blessings*

### *Come in Small Packages!*

*Choosing life and taking on parental responsibilities as "Graduates" of our Earn While You Learn Program.*



Jamie, Ray, and Newborn Son, Jessie

Mom, Sally, and Her Daughter, Zahixa Lopez, Born 9/2/08

## **JOIN US!**

### **ANNUAL MEETING**

Wednesday, March 25, 2009, 6:30 p.m.

The Carolyn's Place Pregnancy Care Center Annual Meeting will be held on March 25, 2009, at Our Lady of Loreto Church, 12 Ardsley Road, Waterbury, CT, 06708. The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a mass to celebrate the gift of life. A meeting will follow which will update you on our new Education and Outreach Director position and provide you with our 2008 statistics and financial situation. You will have the opportunity for questions, as well as meet the Board of Directors, staff, and other Carolyn's Place supporters and volunteers.

**ALL ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!**



### **March for Life**

Thursday, January 22, 2009, marked the 36th anniversary of the March for Life. This event brought tens of thousands of people to the National Mall in Washington, D.C., in protest of the Roe vs. Wade decision which legalized abortion in 1973. This was a peaceful and prayerful march to the steps of the Supreme Court building.

The awesome thing about this event was the enormous number of youth in attendance. In the morning, there was a youth rally at the Verizon Center. This arena, which holds 20,000 people, had to turn bus loads of youth away because it reached its capacity.

## The Decision

By Donna Marie Merritt

First steps  
Memories kept  
Hearing his dreams  
Coaching her team  
Being the dad  
Of a college grad  
Yet there is no he or she  
And my child I will not see  
My peace is shattered  
My hopes are scattered  
This child was mine, too  
No one asked my view  
My voice did not count  
My thoughts were left out  
And now I never will know  
The child the mother let go  
Without asking me  
The father to be



### *Share Your Gifts ... Volunteer*

Carolyn's Place is always in need of volunteers in many different areas. We can use your time and talents for phone consulting, education preparations and talks, data inputting, newsletter articles, mailings, sorting baby items, upkeep of facility, and many other opportunities. If you are interested in seeing how you might be able to share your talents, please contact us at (203) 597-9050, stop by our Center, or attend one of our **VOLUNTEER OVERVIEW SESSIONS** held at our Center, 137 Grandview Avenue, Waterbury, at 7:00 p.m. on the following dates:

**MONDAY, APRIL 13**

**MONDAY, JULY 13**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 19**

# S I N C E R E

## ST. PIUS X GRADES K-6 SCHOOL OF RELIGION



### BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANGS

We are truly grateful to the following parishes ...

For their third year in a row, **St. Augustine Church, North Branford**, has sponsored an Advent Baby Bottle Boomerang. To date, the parish has raised \$2,848.98.

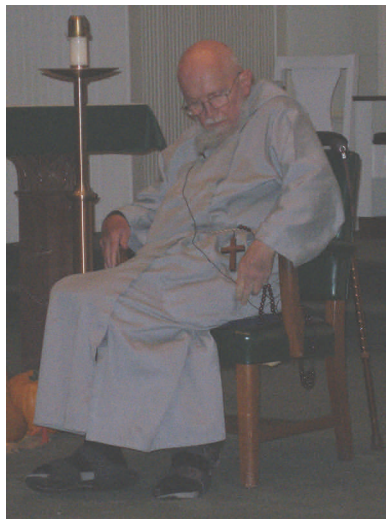
**Our Lady of Loreto Church, Waterbury**, sponsored a Baby Bottle Boomerang last fall under the leadership of Louise Brogna. With donations still trickling in, they have raised \$6,238.80 to date.

**St. Francis of Assisi Church, Naugatuck**, raised \$1,850 in their late fall Baby Bottle Boomerang fundraiser headed by Pro-Life Representative, JoAnne Dowling.

St. Pius X Church, Wolcott, School of Religion Kindergarten through Grade 6 held a Christmas party in December 2008 and collected toys, hats, and gloves to donate to Carolyn's Place. We are very grateful to Kari Yenshenko, who spearheaded this event, and all who participated.

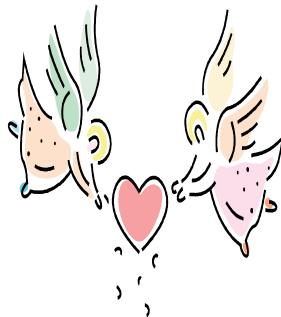
### FR. BENEDICT GROESCHEL, C.F.R.

Carolyn's Place was privileged to host a talk by Fr. Benedict Groeschel, CFR, on Saturday, October 25, 2008. Fr. Groeschel, one of the founders of the Community of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, gave a dynamic and uplifting talk about our obligation to teach God's message on protecting human life. We are extremely grateful to Fr. Groeschel for taking the time to share his wisdom with us and, also, thank the pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish, Watertown, Fr. John Cooney, for allowing us to use the church for the presentation.



### BASKETS OF LOVE

Michelle Crowley's Second Grade Class at St. Matthew's School in Forestville collected newborn items for Carolyn's Place. They filled 10 beautifully decorated laundry baskets.



### BBB COORDINATOR

We are most grateful to Wes Wensek who is now coordinating our Baby Bottle Boomerang initiative. If you wish to sponsor a boomerang, Wes will be available to assist with anything you need.

### 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.

# T H A N K S

During the Advent and Christmas Seasons, many parishes and organizations were abundantly generous, providing us many personal needs items as gifts for our moms and their babies. We would like to acknowledge the following:

- Immaculate Heart of Mary, Harwinton
- Basilica of the Immaculate Conception Women's Guild, Waterbury
- Soroptomists, Waterbury Chapter
- St. Joseph Church, Canaan
- St. Paul Episcopal Church, Woodbury
- Immaculate Conception/St. Casimir Church Prayer Shawl Ministry, Terryville
- St. Matthew Church, Forestville
- St. Teresa of Avila Men's Club, Woodbury
- St. Francis Xavier Church, Waterbury
- Saints Peter & Paul Church, Waterbury
- St. Mary Magdalen Church, Oakville
- IBM, Southbury
- Carter's, Shelton
- Linda Gilligan – Blessed Sacrament School Pre-K Class, Waterbury
- Rev. Bryan Bywater – West Hartford Restless Heart Ministries

## A SWEET WAY TO DONATE

The Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine Centers in Waterbury, CT, held a fundraiser in the form of a contest to guess how many M & M candies were in a jar. Everyone was charged 50 cents a guess. The office matched the \$25.00 raised and sent Carolyn's Place a check for \$50.00!



## A WARM RESPONSE FROM IBM

Once again, employees from the Southbury IBM provided love and warmth to our moms and babies this Christmas. For several years, this group, spearheaded by Marian Colangelo, used their talents to make over 150 blankets from hand knitted afghans to warm fleece. This year, a group of men got together to learn how to make some of the blankets. It was a tremendous response! This past fall, Carolyn's Place was invited to share in the company's Agency Day of Giving. This provided the opportunity for the employees to become familiar with our ministry as we participated in their fair. We are grateful to IBM for welcoming us into their organization and, especially, to those who have so generously donated their time and talents these past years through their blankets and other items donated to Carolyn's Place.



Photo of Marian Colangelo and Marie DePalma

## SHARING THEIR EDUCATION

In November 2008, the students in the **Family and Child Development Class at Wilby High School, Waterbury**, used their newly learned skills to help others. Under the direction of teacher Anita Walkins, the class learned quilting skills by making baby quilts.

These beautiful quilts were presented to Carolyn's Place, along with a book each student specially picked out to attach with the quilt. These were given as gifts for our moms and their babies. The students also made three large baskets



with health and beauty aids as a special present for the moms. The class brought these handmade items to our Center as a mini field trip where they took a tour of the facility and learned about our services. We are most grateful for these students sharing their talents with Carolyn's Place.

6/1/08-5/31/09 Annual Membership (As of February 1, 2009)

<b>Cornerstone Circle</b>				<b>Donations</b>
Anonymous (3)	Lovelace, Deacon and Mrs. William	Desjardins, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas	O'Brien, Laura	Anonymous (5)
Basil, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Michael	Macioci, Mr. & Mrs. Michael	Dube Electric Company, Inc.	Pagliari, Mr. & Mrs. Ernest	Barber, Mr. & Mrs. Charles
Teta, Mary Jane	Malaspina, Mr. & Mrs. Mark	Durkin, Mr. & Mrs. John	Palazzo, Louis	Casazza, Mary
<b>Pillar</b>	Mancini, Mr. & Mrs. Carmen	Dwyer, Mr. & Mrs. Edward	Paquin, Louise	Clark, Sandra
Anonymous (2)	Massa, Mr. & Mrs. Robert	Dwyer, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas	Pearsall, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald	Cyr, Rinette
Donohoe, Mr. & Mrs. Raymond	Massicotte, Mr. & Mrs. Marcel	Dyer, Mr. & Mrs. Robert	Pezo, Mr. & Mrs. Jose	Frazer, Mr. & Mrs. Robert
Farren, Marjorie	Maurice, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald	Ferraris, Sandra	Quinn, Mary	Lavigne, Mr. & Mrs. Keith
Rousseau, Fr. Robert	Moriarty, Mr. & Mrs. John	Fleckenstein, Mr. & Mrs. John	Russo, Anthony	Perrone, Mr. & Mrs. Michael
Zarella, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph	Murphy, Mr. & Mrs. Brian	Foley, Lillian	Ryan, Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey	Samko, Bernadette
<b>Protector</b>	Perreault, Verna	Fortin, Mr. & Mrs. Jean Luc	Ryng, Mr. & Mrs. John	Twomey, Jeremiah
Anonymous (4)	Plocharczyk, Msgr. Daniel	Garber, Mr. & Mrs. Paul	Sakalas, Mr. & Mrs. Robert	Warner, Mr. & Mrs. U. Horton
Brennan, Mr. & Mrs. Jerome	Proe, Dora	Gaudio, Rita	Sazama, Lorraine	
Capece, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Vincent	Quaintance, Mr. & Mrs. Doug	Goggin, Mr. & Mrs. John	Seeger, Mr. & Mrs. Arthur	
Langenbach, Mr. & Mrs. Robert	Ratchford, Robert	Grant, Fr. Robert	Sexton, Mr. & Mrs. Michael	
Shea, Mr. & Mrs. Paul	Ritacco, Mr. & Mrs. Eugene	Greene, Sarah	Shea, Velma	
Tremaglio, Mr. & Mrs. Neil	Roegele, Mr. & Mrs. Bernhard	Grossenbach, Karen	Shuckra, Barbara	
<b>Patron</b>	Skinner, Mr. & Mrs. Robert	Harkins, Mr. & Mrs. Peter	Sipper, Mr. & Mrs. John	
Anonymous (13)	Solomita, Mr. & Mrs. Armand	Horner, Anne	Slaney, Frederick	
Arnauckas, Mr. & Mrs. Donald	St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church	Hurlburt, Alice	Smith, Theresa	
Baudinet, Mr. & Mrs. Charles	St. Stanislaus Church Corporation	Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. John	Sobocinski, Patricia	
Baudinet, Mr. & Mrs. Philip	St. Vincent Ferrer Church	Kaplita, Mr. & Mrs. Paul	Solan, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph	
Berube, Charlene	Strobel, Mr. & Mrs. George	Keyes, Ellen	Souilliard, Mr. & Mrs. Douglas	
Blouin, Nancy	Sullivan, Mr. & Mrs. Robert	Kidulas, Hazel	Spatola, Carol	
Burns, Mr. & Mrs. Richard	Tarsi, Mr. & Mrs. Dean	Koneazny, Margherita	Spatola, Valerie	
Catuccio, Mr. & Mrs. William	Tidgwell, Mr. & Mrs. Mark	Kozak, Mr. & Mrs. Raymond	St. Leger, Mr. & Mrs. Hugh	
Charbonneau, Mr. & Mrs. John	Vitarelli, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald	Kvedas, Fr. Leonard	Stefanczyk, Mr. & Mrs. Henry	
Checovetes, Carolyn	Zupkus, Mr. & Mrs. Kevin	Lavertue, Mr. & Mrs. Donald	Stokes, Mr. & Mrs. Martin	
Colonero, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Vincent	<b>Friends</b>	LeBlanc, Mr. & Mrs. Gaspard	Stoller, Olympia	
Critelli, Mr. & Mrs. David	Anonymous (17)	Lemay, Mr. & Mrs. Gary	Strelchun, Adele	
Dayton, Mr. & Mrs. Richard	Archer, June	Liberti, Lorraine	Thompson, Maria	
DBA Maken Parts Screw Machine Co.	Babarik, Mr. & Mrs. Paul	Linck, Mr. & Mrs. Charles	Turcotte, Mr. & Mrs. Gerald	
DeLuca, Mr. & Mrs. Louis	Bambach, Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence	Loiseau, Mr. & Mrs. Lester	Urbanowicz, Mr. & Mrs. Edward	
Dziubek, Mr. & Mrs. Frank	Banks, Mr. & Mrs. Donald	Lombardi, Mr. & Mrs. Anthony	Vagnini, Mr. & Mrs. Armand	
Flynn, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. John	Barlow, Claire	Longo, Charles	Valenti, Mr. & Mrs. Fred	
Gauthier, Joan	Blank, Raymond	Looney, Fr. Joseph	Wanag, Mary	
Gelineau, Mr. & Mrs. Norman	Boilard, Mr. & Mrs. Francis	Lynch, Mr. & Mrs. John	Watkins, Mr. & Mrs. Timothy	
Golas, Fr. John	Boisvert, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald	Mailhot, Mr. & Mrs. Andrew	Wending, Mr. & Mrs. William	
Gribbin, Mr. & Mrs. Philip	Brickey, Jean	Marottolo, Martha & Carmen	Zawadzki, Mr. & Mrs. John	
Grisgraber, Kathleen	Brophy, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Thomas	Marquis, Marie	Zottoli, Francine	
Gubbiotti, Fr. Jeffrey	Bruch, Dr. & Mrs. Paul	Mascoli, Mr. & Mrs. David	Zupkus, Catherine	
Guillette, Mr. & Mrs. Roger	Calabrese, Mr. & Mrs. Rocco	McColgan, Andree		
Jaksina, Fr. Edward	Camerota, Mr. & Mrs. Daniel	McCormack, Mr. & Mrs. Michael		
Kennedy, Mr. & Mrs. Vincent	Caporaso, Mr. & Mrs. Robert	McEvoy, James		
Knights of Columbus Fr. Loftus	Cappelletti, Jean	McGarry, Mr. & Mrs. Robert		
Council #3992	Caruso, Mr. & Mrs. Louis	McKinley, Patricia		
Kolakoski, Mr. & Mrs. Peter	Charles, Mr. & Mrs. John	McMahon, Mary		
Kozlowski, Mr. & Mrs. Raymond	Charpentier, Cecile	Mingrone, Mr. & Mrs. Victor		
Lajewski, Mr. & Mrs. James	Cooney, Fr. John	Morton, Mr. & Mrs. Michael		
Lizotte, Richard	Cooney, Mrs. Richard	Muckle, Sr., Mr. & Mrs. Robert		
Longo, Joseph	DeLuca, Margaret	Murphy, Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence		
	DeRosa, Ellen	Noonan, Maurice		



During this Lenten Season, please remember to take a minute and pray to our God of Life.

*Prayer to End Abortion*

Lord God, I thank you today for the gift of my life and for the lives of all my brothers and sisters. I know there is nothing that destroys more life than abortion, yet I rejoice that you have conquered death by the Resurrection of Your Son. I am ready to do my part in ending abortion. Today, I commit myself never to be silent, never to be passive, never to be forgetful of the unborn. I commit myself to be active in the Pro-Life movement and never to stop defending life until all my brothers and sisters are protected and our nation, once again, becomes a nation with liberty and justice not just for some, but for all, through Christ our Lord. Amen!

*Fr. Frank Pavone*

*National Director, Priests for Life*

*HAVE A BLESSED EASTER*

**EDUCATING FOR LIFE**

By Ellen Cavallo

**The most recent e-Newsletter from Human Life International (Vol. 4, #2) summarizes the newest Vatican instruction on bioethics, Dignitas Personae. "The primary purpose ... is to clarify Church teachings on biotechnologies that have become prominent since Donum Vitae was published in 1987.**

**Topics covered include the freezing of oocytes, preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD), embryonic stem cell research (ESCR), and 'germline' gene therapy. While the topics are 'heady', the document is understandable to the lay person. Also, as Dr. Brian Cloves states 'it is a welcome clarification regarding many medical and scientific procedures in the increasingly complex area of human reproduction and will answer many questions that have, until now, not been dealt with authorita-tively.'**

**Winter 2009 Wish List & Thank You!**

(If you can help with any of these items, new or used, please contact us at (203) 597-9050.

**ITEMS NEEDED: INFANT CAR SEATS ONLY (NOT TODDLER),** new Dust Buster, free standing coat tree, computer chair with wheels, and a Home Depot gift card for miscellaneous items.

**LABOR NEEDED:** Inside painting and carpentry jobs and some spring plantings.

We are sincerely grateful for the donations we received from our Summer/Fall Newsletter. Also, thanks to Gene and Jackie Ritacco for donating one case of paper and several boxes of envelopes and to our donor of a dresser.

*Carolyn's Place*  
**Pregnancy Care Center**

137 Grandview Avenue  
Waterbury, CT 06708

Client Phone: 203-597-9050  
Business Phone: 203-695-3999

[www.carolynsplace.net](http://www.carolynsplace.net)

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*Carolyn's Place*  
*Pregnancy Care Center*  
*Hope for the future by*  
*promoting responsibility*

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