

# Life Center of Long Island

CELEBRATING THIRTY-NINE YEARS • ESTABLISHED MAY 1986 • DECEMBER 2025

1767 Deer Park Avenue Deer Park • NY • 11729 T. 631.243.2373 infodp@lifecenterli.org

35 East Willow Street Massapegua • NY • 11758 T. 516.798.8746 infoma@lifecenterli.org

474 Fulton Avenue Hempstead • NY • 11550 T. 516.408.6300 infohp@lifecenterli.org

91 Maple Avenue Smithtown • NY • 11787 T. 631.656.0441 infost@lifecenterli.org



### Divine Intervention

t began as a typical day praying on the sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood when I observed an Uber pulling into the parking lot with a woman sitting in the back seat who appeared to look frightened and scared. I motioned to the driver to roll down her window. It was apparent the woman did not speak English, but the driver agreed to translate. I wasn't sure what the nature of her visit to Planned Parenthood was, but I explained I'm sure that whatever her needs were, we could help her right down the block at the Life Center. I signaled to her to exit the car but to my surprise, the Uber driver convinced her not to and pulled into the parking lot.

I began to pray silently and with confidence the Hail Mary and asked Our Lady to intervene and provide Kate\* with hope and strength. Kate\* was inside Planned Parenthood being hooked up to medication tubes to begin anesthesia to start her abortion. Something ignited a spark inside her and at that moment she pulled the tubes off her arm and walked out, coming directly to me. She stood before me speechless. I knew this was my sign to lead her to the Life Center. I started walking towards the Life Center and she followed behind me.

Kate breathed a sigh of relief and began to communicate with ease when our counselor warmly welcomed her and began to speak Spanish. We learned that Kate\* nine days prior had started to experience complications with her pregnancy and went to the local hospital's emergency room for help. Rather than help, the hospital medical staff were quick to inform her that her baby had no heartbeat and must be "removed." However, this was not thoroughly explained to Kate\* and she left the hospital more confused and overwhelmed than when she arrived. Fearful and helpless, Kate\* was handed a stack of paperwork to take to Planned Parenthood. After our counselors compassionately listened to her traumatic story, they educated her of the importance of a sonogram and scheduled Kate for a free sonogram at Mercy Hospital.



Kate accepted my invitation to attend a Mass for pregnant women at Saint Gerard Majella Church in Queens. A long line formed to receive the relic blessing of Saint Gerard Majella from the Bishop. I moved ahead of her on the line, and as I received the blessing, I nervously whispered to the Bishop, "can you please take this relic and put it on the womb of the lady behind me? We are asking for a miracle to save her baby's life?" With that, the Bishop did exactly that. Amazingly, Kate\* was the only person that physically had the relic touch them that day by the Bishop.



I lit a candle as we were leaving and as we entered the parking lot, the Bishop and the Pastor were also leaving. I informed them of Kate's\* traumatic and harrowing story and asked them if they would pray over Kate\* and her baby, but they had something even more special in mind.

They invited us to come back into the Church. The pastor then blessed her womb with a second different relic of Saint Gerard Majella, and Saint Francis of Assisi which were saved in a special box. Our prayers were answered when several months later a beautiful, healthy baby girl was born. Praise be to God.



"At Christmas and always, "May the mother of Jesus and our mother, always smile on your spirit, obtaining for it, from her most holy son, every heavenly blessing."

- Saint Padre Pio \*Name changed to protect confidentiality











Veronica Reves **Hempstead Center Director** 



Our Mission ... "To promote, encourage, and foster public sentiment and respect for the dignity of human life... from conception to natural death."

Donor Site: www.lifecenterli.org • Client Site: www.womenfirstpregnancyoptions.org



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#### FROM THE DESK OF



### **IVF vs. RRM**

## Invitro Fertilization vs. Restorative Reproductive Medicine A Safe, Effective, Affordable Alternative to Infertility



"\*Baby Save Matt!"

he Life Center receives calls from couples who have decided to start a family, with some having difficulty conceiving. They share with us that their doctors have told them they have "unexplained infertility", a non-diagnosis of a diagnosis that is given to an estimated 15% of people trying to conceive. They then inquire if we have connections or can help them contact Adoption agencies because they feel Adoption is their only or last opportunity to have children. Fortunately, we are able to inform them of a best kept secret – the Gianna Center for Women's Health & Fertility.

To expand upon Lorraine's information, **The Gianna Center** is a network of women's - and men's - health and fertility centers that use a natural, holistic approach to reproductive health and gynecological care. Named after St. Gianna Beretta Molla, these centers provide services for a wide range of issues, including infertility, irregular periods, PMS, and PCOS (polycystic ovary syndrome), while avoiding certain assisted reproductive technologies (like IVF). They are associated with Catholic health systems and operate with a mission to "honor a woman's dignity and to sanctify human life".

#### **Services offered:**

- Women's health disorders: Treatment for conditions like irregular and painful periods, PMS, ovarian cysts, and Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS).
- Men's infertility example low sperm count
- Fertility and reproductive medicine: A natural approach to fertility, including the Creighton Model FertilityCare™ System and NaProTECHNOLOGY.
- Family planning: Education and services for natural family planning.
- Holistic care: Treatments include medical, nutritional, and other lifestyle components.

#### Their Approach:

- The centers provide alternative to some assisted reproductive technologies (like IVF)
- They focus on identifying and addressing the root causes of health issues rather than just suppressing symptoms.
- Treatments aim to be holistic, addressing nutritional, behavioral, and spiritual aspects, alongside medical ones.
- It also improves the overall health of the couple and provides answers to the most pressing question, "Why can't we have a baby?" Women and men need access to this safe, effective, and affordable alternative.

#### Safety – RRM is safer than IVF for both mother and child

- **IVF** engineers the creation of embryos with powerful drugs and invasive procedures to address the "disease" of infertility, and IVF carries significant risks for both mother and child, including the possibility of ectopic pregnancy, preterm delivery, severe hemorrhage or seizures in the mother and higher rates of birth defects and perinatal mortality
- **RRM** recognizes infertility as a symptom of other underlying diseases and facilitates natural conception by identifying and treating the root causes of infertility.

Efficacy – RRM has similar live-birth rates to IVF, provides answers, and restores health

RRM also helps prevent miscarriages by identifying modifiable risk factors, a serious concern that IVF does not address.

RRM addresses the symptoms of other underlying diseases and facilitates natural conception by identifying and treating the root causes of infertility. RRM can provide answers about why couples are unable to conceive while also improving overall health.

#### Affordability – IVF is 20 times greater than RRM

- RRM is safer and often much more affordable due to its stepwise approach of identifying the fertile window, restoring hormonal balance, recommending lifestyle modifications, and prescribing medications.
- While RRM may employ surgical approaches, these procedures often have benefits beyond facilitating conception (e.g., removing painful endometrial lesions).

#### And Much More!

Women and couples need access to a safer approach to infertility, effective treatments, answers, better health, and more affordable treatment options. Please note the three Gianna Centers location information on Lorraine's column insert.

For more information, please contact Gloria at 516-798-8746

Blessings,

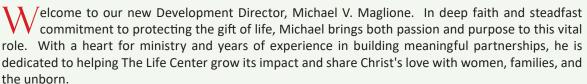
Wishing you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy, and Prosperous New Year!

Give now and skip the mailbox





### Meet Michael - Our New Director Of Development



In this role, Michael will help strengthen our outreach and build lasting relationships to ensure the Life Center continues to grow and make a difference in our communities. Guided by faith, Michael believes

that every life is sacred and worthy of support. He looks forward to connecting with others who feel called to stand for life and strengthen our mission through prayer, service and giving.

Outside of work, Michael enjoys staying active through sports, spending time with family, and volunteering in church ministries.

### THANK YOU ~ THANK YOU ~ THANK YOU



The Life Center of Long Island is blessed by the generosity of parishes and organizations willing to host baby showers and collect much needed baby items for our clients in need. We wish to thank and acknowledge the following organizations for their willingness to assist the Life Center in its mission to uphold the dignity of human life.

Our Lady of Mercy RC Church, Angels of Mercy, Hicksville
St. Rose of Lima RC Church, Massapequa
Christ the King RC Church, Ladies Auxiliary, Knights of Colombus #11163, Commack
St. Martin of Tours RC Church, Bethpage
St. Anthony of Padua RC Church, East Northport, Columbiettes Incorporated
St. Raymond RC Church, East Rockaway, Sodality of Our Lady
Our Lady of the Snow RC Church, Floral Park
St. Patrick's RC Church, Huntington, Catholic Daughters of America

The Life Center of Long Island would like to thank the members of the *Rockville Centre Home Makers* from *Blessed Sacrament RC Church in Valley Stream*, for their generous donation of 30 beautifully hand knitted and crocheted blankets. Thank you for sharing your amazing talents with us!

A heartfelt thanks to the *Leisure Glen Arts Club, Ridge*, for their generous donation of handmade blankets and hats. Our families will certainly be warm and cozy this winter thanks to your kindness.











### IN LOVING MEMORY





~ Anthony Contorno ~ Norbert & Vivian Griffin ~ Rosalie Joannou ~ ~ Paul Monaco ~ Bill Athans ~ Charles Brogan ~ ~ Linda Sersen ~ Edwin Lucie ~

We commend their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed, to the loving embrace of our Father.

May you be blessed always with God's eternal love and grace.





Annual March for Life is on Friday, January 23, 2026, Washington D.C., with its theme "Life is a Gift," that emphasizes the importance to embrace life as something to be cherished and celebrated from the very beginning.







Thursday, December 4 Friday, December 5 Saturday, December 6



#### **HOLIDAY SHOPPING BENEFIT**

Shop Americana Manhasset and 25% of your full-price, pre-tax purchases will be donated to our charity.



Register to get your Champion Number

and select our charity.

Shop Americana Manhasset from December 4 through December 6.



25% of your full-price, pre-tax purchases will be donated to our charity.

You must give your Champion Number at the time of each purchase!

TO REGISTER VISIT

#### CHAMPIONSFORCHARITY.ORG



### 40 Days for Life Recap





Il Glory and Honor to God. We had a very successful 40 Days for Life Fall campaign. Led by the Holy Spirit and with the presence of sidewalk counselors, prayer warriors and with the assistance of the counselors at the Women First Pregnancy center, one woman decided not to have an abortion and seek help at the Women First Pregnancy Center. Please pray that this woman will continue to choose Life for her baby.

Additionally, numerous women were referred to Women First for counseling, pregnancy test kits and baby items. Also, several Women First pamphlets were given to people entering Planned Parenthood and to people in the community. The Pro Bikers for Life humbly asks that you continue to pray in front of the Hempstead AND Smithtown Planned Parenthood. Your presence is a powerful pro-life witness to the community, Planned Parenthood employees and the abortion minded mothers entering Planned Parenthood. You're also giving dignity to the unborn babies being aborted (someone cared).

"Where there is the greatest opposition to the Gospel message, there are also the greatest conversions. "Where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more," (Rm 5:20)

This proven truth should protect us from discouragement in our own efforts to evangelize and pray in front of abortion clinics."

Hempstead Planned Parenthood – 540 Fulton Ave. Smithtown Planned Parenthood – 70 Maple Ave.

See you for the Spring campaign! God Bless you, ~ The Pro Bikers for Life

- Thank you to the approximately thirty - five prayer who attended the 40 Days closing prayer vigil that took place this past Saturday. Also, special thanks to Father Johnny Mendonca-Pastor-St. Christopher's Church-Baldwin (He led the Chaplet of Mercy) and Father Phillip Sandryk-Superior of the Monastery of Saint Josaphat-Glen Cove. (He led the Joyful Mysteries of Life)







#### PLEASE NOTE:

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter via email, kindly forward your email address to infoma@lifecenterli.org.

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