

Minutes of the Gabriel Project Meeting of June 11, 2020

Attendees: Aleyda, Alicia, Anne, Carly, Debra, Nancy, Peggy, Roseann, Rosemary, Yolanda

Meeting Held via Lifesize On-Line Meeting Application

Welcome and Opening Prayer – Aleyda & Yolanda

- **Respect Life Ministry Updates**

- ❖ On Wednesday mornings throughout the year, St. Mary's Respect Life Ministry members join with members of the Respect Life Ministry of Holy Spirit Church in Fairfield and pray for all the pregnant women seeking abortions at the Planned Parenthood Business at 1325 Travis Blvd. in Fairfield and for the staff there as well. (Wednesday is the day of the week when a prayerful presence is particularly important at that location, because that is the day of the week in which the business performs surgical abortions there.)
- ❖ Debra reported that the 40 Days for Life Fall campaign is coming up and will run from 9/23 to 11/1. The goal of the 40 Days for Life campaign is to conduct prayerful vigils in front of abortion facilities each day during the 40-day campaign period. We will be holding the 40-day prayer vigils at the Planned Parenthood Abortion Business in Fairfield and will coordinate our vigil times with the Respect Life Ministry members of Holy Spirit Church in Fairfield to help cover the 40 days. *More information on this campaign will follow in August.*
- ❖ With regard to our housing project for women in crisis pregnancies with or without young children, Debra reported that we have concluded our virtual tours of the Bishop Gallegos and Mother Teresa Maternity Homes in Sacramento and Placerville and that she is working on getting a tour of the Opportunity House Shelter in Vacaville set-up for the group. *(Update at 7/8/20: The tour has been scheduled and Colleen Berumen the Executive Director will conduct it for us in person from 11:00 to 12:00 noon on 7/23. Debra will send out a reminder of the tour on Monday, 7/20.)*

- **Article on St. Mary's The Gabriel Project and Respect Life Ministries in the Fall issue of the Catholic Herald Magazine**

Yolanda reported that the Fall issue of the Catholic Herald Magazine will feature a piece on Bishop Jaime Soto's Walking with Moms Initiative for 2020/2021 and that she, Aleyda and Debra have been interviewed in connection with it, demonstrating how our St. Mary's TGP and Respect Life Ministries work together to serve moms in need in our area. We hope that the article will help get the word out to help us serve even more moms in need and to inspire other parishes to institute these ministries, if they don't currently have them.

- **Mercy Center Retreats**

Debra reminded members of the June 13th virtual retreat on the topic of the Holy Spirit, offered by the Mercy Retreat and Conference Center in Auburn. She also mentioned that some may wish to participate in another retreat in the same series, to be offered in July, which may be an in-person retreat offering. *(Update at 7/8/20: The group has since decided against participating in the July retreat.)*

- **Our Newest TGP Angels**

Yolanda relayed the wonderful news that our St. Mary's TGP members Nancy, Roslyn and Rosemary will serve as the TGP Angels for our clients in the City of Vallejo and in the southern portion of our County. We look forward to assisting them in their work and are grateful they are a part of our group.

- **TGP Training**

- ❖ Yolanda and Aleyda emphasized that all members need to complete the Safe Haven training if they want to be around TGP clients. At the end of the training module, a certificate is issued to the participant which is valid for three years.
- ❖ Each member who wants to be around clients also must have their finger-prints taken. The Safe Haven Training is to be completed first, and then the finger-printing, as there is a cost for the finger-printing services.

- **TGP Finances**

- ❖ Yolanda reported that there is a current cash balance in the TGP account of \$789.67 as of 6/11/20 and that Father Berg recently added a TGP on-line giving option to the “Give Now” page of the St. Mary’s Parish website. Simply go to the Give Now web-page and select The Gabriel Project Fund to donate. This is a great development, since TGP baby supplies are running low and due to the Covid crisis, we will be unable to raise monies through our usual fundraisers, such as the August yard sale.
- ❖ Yolanda will update the group at the July meeting on the cash balance as of 7/1/20, the start of our parish’s new fiscal year.

- **Angel Fund Guidelines**

Aleyda went through the updated Angel Fund Guidelines that she had emailed to the group members earlier in the week and asked for any feedback and/or comments on them.

- **Role of Angel and Assistant Angel**

Aleyda explained the roles of Angel and Assistant Angel for the benefit of our new members and mentioned that though we have had some difficulty in getting members to take on the Angel role in the past, things have gotten better and more members are now taking on the role. Aleyda or Yolanda as the TGP Parish Coordinators will perform the first assessment of each client, using the client intake form. The client’s Angel will then complete the assessment of that intake form and will give the completed form back to the TGP Parish Coordinator as part of a unified effort.

Closing Remarks and Prayer – Aleyda & Yolanda

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:05