



To awaken hearts to the truth that  
life is sacred, giving glory to God.

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Volume 26, Issue 1 • Spring 2023

## Preparing to Serve

ZOE for Life!® affirms the value of life by providing nonjudgemental, confidential support during and after an unplanned pregnancy. We believe, as the Orthodox Church teaches, that every life is sacred and unrepeatable, in the image and likeness of our Creator. Whatever legal and societal opinions are, with His Guidance, we work to change the hearts and minds of those around us, to cherish the lives of the unborn child, as well as those of their parents. Each must be cared for and nurtured, so that no one feels forced to choose between their future, and the life of their their child.

While some pregnancies are unviable and will end in a spontaneous abortion, and some of our sisters in Christ will be faced with the potential to lose their own life if the pregnancy continues, we direct our efforts to love, support and inform those who find themselves in a situation of distress due to an unplanned pregnancy.

Many support systems exist to lift her beyond what she can currently see. We want to offer her the opportunity to complete her education; to gain assistance outside of her present situation; to obtain free medical assistance during her pregnancy and for her child up to 18 years of age; 'holding time', where a qualified family will care for her child until her life is more stable. There are myriad opportunities to lift her up, to prove to her that she is not alone. Upon the opening of our women's center, these are a few of the things we will be able to share with her.

For those who have chosen abortion in the past, and seek to heal that wound, an abortion recovery program will be available, as it is today.

In January alone, even though the women's center has not opened yet, we worked with a couple who had made an appointment for an abortion, but through loving guidance chose to marry instead, and parent their child; with a woman traumatized by a miscarriage seeking guidance and the forgiveness of God, to be able to move forward in her life; with a new mother needing a temporary respite from motherhood, to get her life in order, and a young married Orthodox couple seeking information about creating an adoption plan for their baby, because they were uncertain they are ready to parent their child. If this work is being done before we even open our doors, just imagine what we can accomplish once our women's center is established. Surely, this is an indication that He wants this ministry to flourish.

We know that the opposite of love is not hate - it is indifference. The time has come to choose love, His Love is the All Powerful and Unsurmountable Victor over the darkness that works to deprive our children of their birthright. Please join us in creating the oasis of peace that women in distress need, in order to hear and evaluate information that will empower them to make the best possible decision. Your tax-deductible donation to our women's center will help us establish that oasis of time and space she so desperately needs. Please help us make this dream a reality, with your meaningful support.

*Wishing you and  
yours a blessed  
Great Lent*



# 2022 Commemorations

We gratefully acknowledge EVERY donation made to this life-affirming ministry! The following have been named specifically.

## *In Honor of:*

All the women who chose Life and God  
Our Dear Friend, Ted Cherpas  
Paul Martin Stillman's Baptism and  
Chrismation  
Ernestine and Edward  
Captain Matthew Duchene  
Gianna (teenager) and unborn soul  
God's Glory  
Benjamin Grysiak  
Maggie Hook  
Kathy Kovalak  
Ayden, Chloe, Julianna, Eric, Stephanie,  
Kevin, Joseph, Michael, Michael,  
Deirdre, Lara, and Mark  
Life  
Eileen Minamyer  
Mothers that decide to keep their babies  
Our Children  
Padousis Grandchildren  
Valeriya Pekar  
Five healthy grandchildren of Kathleen  
and Thomas Perk  
Berta and Peter Ptak  
Rohan Children and Grandchildren  
Luke Shadid  
Father and Presbytera Williams  
Your Mission  
Your Work

## *In Memory of those lost to Covid-19:*

Fr. James Barfield  
Ruth Meena  
Tricia

## *For the Special Occasion of:*

Birth of Eva Carmen  
Easter

## *In Memory of:*

Aborted Children in  
my Immediate Family  
George and Helen Alexandres  
All Aborted Children  
Mother Ana  
Sandra Asik and twin daughters,  
Alex and Sarah  
Azam  
Baby Sanella  
Berta, Peter, Helen, Fred,  
Ludmilla, Sara, Katherine,  
Pdn. John, Robert, Michael,  
Mary, and all the baby  
angels aborted  
John and Alica Baaik  
Matushka Bonnie (Ioanna)  
Lydia Becker  
Christ Boukis  
Gwen Carter, Lester and  
Lone Evans  
Dr. John Collis  
Judith Curmi  
Christine "Timko" Deutsch  
Anthony James Denos  
George and Mary Dibs  
Marie A. Gaydos  
John, Irene, Amanda, Irene  
and Robert  
John, Nicholas, Irene, Evanthia  
Fr. Thomas Hopko  
Theodore Katsadas  
Archpriest John M. Kembara  
Dr. Harry N. Kotsis  
Departed Grandparents of Fr.  
and Prez. Koutroubas  
Fr. John Loejos  
Theodore and Chris Loizos  
Theodore and Chris Loizos  
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Malandrakis  
Manuel and Lydia Mansur  
My Aunt and Godmother, Margie

Matushka Ioanna  
Fr. James C. Meena  
Protonica Donna Merci  
Socrates and Jean Monos  
Mother Ana  
Aphrodite (Frieda N. Murton  
and Hristos) Chris J. Murton  
Parents of Nicholas and  
Euridici Papadakis  
Daria Petrytkowski  
Kalliope and Vasilius Poulis  
James and Vivian Prillman  
Helen Regas  
Daniel Resanovic  
Rt. Rev. Daniel Ressetar  
Maria Rodina  
Manousos and Eleni Rokakis  
Philip Serene  
Metropolitan Nicholas Smisko  
of Amyssa  
Anne Stafford  
Stylianie  
Pamela Sue Tedford  
Ukrainian Souls  
Karl Wilson  
David and Pelagia Wright  
Deacon John Zarras





# ZOE for Life!® Atlanta

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# ZOE for Life!® Southern Tier Chapter News

## Blessing of ZOE for Life!® Southern Tier Office and Baby Shower

by Marilyn Brady and Matushka Marge Kappanadze

ZOE for Life!® Southern Tier took a big step recently toward fulfilling its mission to help pregnant women who need confidential emotional and spiritual support to encourage them to choose life for their unborn child, and to provide baby items and referrals to life-affirming resources.

On Saturday, November 12, 2022, supporters of ZOE for Life!® Southern Tier gathered at Dormition of the Virgin Mary Church in Binghamton, NY, for its first baby shower and blessing of its new office space.

The afternoon events began in the Church with His Eminence, Archbishop Michael (Diocese of New York and New Jersey, OCA) presiding over the "Prayer Service before Beginning Any Good Work." Prayers were included for those working to support life, those struggling with pregnancy challenges, and those impacted by abortion.

The clergy and faithful (representing several Orthodox jurisdictions) then proceeded next door for the blessing of the "ZOE House," the office space for ZOE for Life!® Southern Tier, which is located in the parish's hall. Participants were able to venerate the sacred relics of the Holy Innocents—children massacred by Herod after the birth of Christ—which were brought there for the special blessing of the ZOE for Life!® facility.

They then returned to the Dormition Church undercroft for refreshments and remarks by Paula Kappos, a founder of ZOE for Life!®, and others. Paula, along with Helen and George Primbas, had graciously traveled from the ZOE for Life!® national office in Cleveland to share in this momentous event. Paula delivered an impassioned review of the history of ZOE for Life!® in Cleveland, shared some touching stories of women whom they had been able to help, and emphasized that not only are blessings delivered to their clients, but volunteers also experience fulfillment in sharing the love of Christ with those in need.

Joyce Merletti from St. Mary's Carpatho-Russian parish in Painted Post, NY, provided copies of her icon of Rachael Weeping for her Children that were

available for a donation to ZOE for Life!® Southern Tier. Representatives from local parishes were given large plastic baby bottle banks to collect additional donations, along with ZOE for Life!® Southern Tier brochures and other literature.

The event provided the opportunity to network with volunteers who will be trained to meet with clients, help with referrals, and arrange to distribute needed goods close to infants' delivery dates. Prior to the baby shower, an Amazon registry was set up for gifts. (Search Amazon for ZOE for Life!® Southern Tier.)

Thanks to everyone who helped make the event a huge success! It was overwhelming to see not only the outpouring of material support—carloads of baby items as well as financial donations—but the palpable supportive spirit that infused the prayer service, blessing, and baby shower. Special thanks go to Archbishop Michael, Fr. Jim Dutko, Fr. David Cowan, Fr. Ivan Synevskyy, Fr. Nathaniel Choma, and Fr. Deacon Andrew Boivert, as well as to Matushka Marge Kappanadze, Paula Kappos, all the supporters who brought baby shower gifts to stock the new space, and the Dormition parish for hosting the service and shower.

### Fund-Raising Brunch

The festivities continued the day after the baby shower and blessing, when, following the Divine Liturgy, St. Michael's (Carpatho-Russian) Church hosted a fundraising Sunday brunch. The menu was terrific, the generosity was humbling, and the loving, supportive, life-affirming

atmosphere was heart-warming.

### It's a Baby!

In mid-December ZOE for Life!® Southern Tier received its first call from a social services professional who had a pregnant client in need of support. By the grace of God, volunteers were able to meet with her, supply her with the baby clothing and accessories she needed, and connect her with local agencies to address other needs. Following up with her a month later, we were thankful to hear that she had delivered a healthy baby. Glory to God!





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## Join Our Bottles for Babies Campaign

*We want to send you a baby bottle, and ask you to fill it with loose change. What could be simpler? Simply empty your change into the bottle every day. When it is full, take it to the bank and send the cash to ZOE for Life!®. Reuse and repeat! Contact Georgiann at [cgbod@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cgbod@sbcglobal.net).*

### Gratitude and Blessings

We are so grateful for your open hearts. Recently a new widow donated funds in memory of her husband, with the request that the money be used to purchase infant car seats to keep little ones safe. What an amazing gift, in honor of her beloved husband, and for the families taken under our care. Such goodness exceeds all expectations!

## Meet Our Executive Director, Dianna Kall

We are proud to introduce you to our Executive Director, Dianna Kall.

As an Orthodox Christian, Dianna brings a background of a common faith, and skill-set ranging from public education and community relations to communications management. Her motto is, "I live to serve and serve to live." She is no stranger to ZOE for Life!®, having volunteered at ZOE House®, and is currently a member of our Communication Committee. She manages our Facebook page as well.



*Dianna Kall, Executive Director*

She has experience working in the nonprofit world, having in her background multi-level experience as an employee with various management responsibilities and as a volunteer for several agencies. Her responsibilities will include the much-anticipated start-up of our women's center, with time and energy devoted to all the details and procedures that need to be put in place.

Although this is an expanded effort to support women in distress at the point of decision about the future of their pregnancies, we are confident that by His Grace, working with Dianna, He will bless and multiply our efforts as He always has!

Will you allow us to ask you to keep her, and our women's center in your prayers?