



"As the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."
Colossians 3:13

Your Lenten Sacrifice Empowers Mothers to Choose Life!

Dear Friends For LIFE! Lenten blessings to you. This month, we reflect on the virtue of forgiveness. Bishop Barron reminds us, *"Forgiveness is always a form of voluntary suffering that brings about a greater good."* Many of the women we meet in the consultation room struggle to forgive themselves for becoming pregnant, which can make abortion seem like the easier choice. In their fear, they cannot yet see **the greater good** that comes from trusting in God's plan. The Sisters of Life, in their *Into Life Series*, identify five common fears in the heart of a pregnant woman: (1) I am all alone. (2) I am not enough. (3) It's all up to me. (4) There's no room for this baby in the heart of the father. (5) There's no room for this baby in the hearts of my family members. When we understand these very real fears, we can open *our hearts* to receive her, support her, love her, hope with her, and empower her to make an act of faith during this time of crisis. Our mission is to accompany her from fear to forgiveness and toward **the greater good** of trusting in God's plan.



We met Karina last April when she was feeling overwhelmed by those five fears. *"When I first found out I was pregnant, I was filled with fear and anxiety. I was angry at myself. Abortion was always on my mind, but I knew it wasn't the answer, that it was the devil trying to speak fear into me. It was each time in the consultation room that my emotions were transformed into peace. I began to feel confident and supported to continue my pregnancy. The Life Center provided the mentoring and emotional support I needed, and I soon started participating in their parenting programs, where I met a community of young mothers. In December, I gave birth to my beautiful daughter, Jadelyn. Psalm 127:3 says, 'Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from Him.' The moment my daughter was born, she felt like the perfect gift. God made her just for me. Seeing her reach for me when she cries or when she's sad is such a blessing. She is the biggest blessing from the Lord. Every morning when she wakes up and smiles at me, my heart overflows with gratitude. I am so thankful for what God has given me and for the future He has planned for me and my daughter."*

Karina is a beautiful example of fear transformed into hope. To see the way she connects with other young mothers with such grace is truly heartwarming. Watching her love her daughter so fully is inspiring. She chose to forgive herself, place her trust in God, and embrace **the greater good** unfolding in her life. Because of **your support**, stories like Karina's are possible. Thank you for standing with young mothers and walking alongside them in their journey. We thank God for YOU!

Your Support Makes Our Parenting Programs Possible & Strengthens Families!



Our February *First Thursday Luncheon* celebrated the virtue of charity. With TWELVE young mothers gathered together, TEN babies present and TWO more on the way, the *Blessed Mother Event Room* overflowed with joyful smiles and so much LOVE. Our co-hosts were from San Francisco Solano's *Walking With Mom's Ministry*. Left (L to R): A heartfelt thank you to Mary, Susan, Angie, Carol, and Kathy for filling both our tummies and our hearts with the love of Christ!



We recently hosted our co-parenting couples for dinner at a local Mexican restaurant. The intentional time together and shared meal helped them feel loved and celebrated. Left: The teens and young adults in *Walking With Moms & Dads* have you to thank for this special evening. Your generosity makes this Christ-centered community possible.



Community matters! Left: Sebastian and Juan building brotherhood through shared fatherhood. Center: Some of our moms joined our Program Coordinator, Mechelle, at San Antonio to hear Emily Wilson speak. Right: Juan growing in faith through *That Man Is You (TMIY)* at St. Cecilia's.

Make a Lenten Sacrificial Gift Here or Visit our Website!!

