



Angelorum/Next Step Pregnancy Services

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SUMMER 2014 NEWSLETTER

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THANK YOU!



*We have been abundantly blessed
by the following businesses,
ministries and individuals:*

All of our Ministry Partners
Our Monthly Commitment Donors
Our Angel of the Day Supporters
The Vitae Foundation
Microsoft Matching Gifts Program
Expedia Matching Gifts Program
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Barron Garage Doors in Edmonds
The Lynnwood Food Bank
The Biella Foundation in Redmond
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St. Alphonsus Parish in Ballard
Blessed Sacrament Parish in Seattle
North American Martyrs Parish in Seattle
St. Brendan Catholic Cursillo in Bothell
K of C Mother Teresa Council Edmonds
K of C Council 7907 St. Joseph Issaquah
K of C Council 7642 Holy Family Kirk.
2nd Chance Thrift Store in Lynnwood

A Prayer for Summer

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for the gift of summer.
Thank you for sending the birds to
greet me with blissful melody in
the morning and for the celestial
moon to cast heavenly shadows
around me in the evening.

I want to please you always.
I want you to be my focus always.
I want you to be the center of my
life from which all my emotions,
thoughts, deeds and desires
develop. Saturate my mind with
your promises, douse my heart
with your love and be my constant
companion. I ask these things of
you because without you
I am nothing and my life is
meaningless.

Thank you for not giving up on
me. Thank you for showering
me with your grace when
circumstances cause doubt and
insecurity in my mind. Thank you
for your mercy and saving me
from myself and my sinful nature.

Lord, this summer and always,
grant me the grace to forgive as
you forgive, to love as you love,
and to serve and protect the
forgotten and vulnerable in your
name.

Amen.

Our 2014 Auction of the Angels was a GREAT Success!

Great because of an amazing Auction Committee! Great because of a fabulous Auctioneer, Tim Leahy! Great because the evening began with a prayer by Fr. Robert Egan and ended with a prayer by Pastor Jerry Sebranke! Great because of all the wonderful donations! Great because of our two corporate sponsors: Dr. Philip Buenvenida, MD and Couples for Christ Foundation for Family Life! Great because of the fantastic meal served by Twelve Baskets Catering! Great because of the Youth For Life and all the volunteers that gave so generously of their time to help us! Great because of the appetizers that were made with love by the St. Pius X RLC ladies! Great because of the upbeat guitar music provided by Tim Cook! Great because of the presence of the religious men and women that were able to join us because of a generous sponsor! Great because Patrick Mulick gave such a heartfelt “Make-A-Difference” speech! Great because of all the life-loving folks that raised their paddles high! Great because **God is Great!**

“Thus says the Lord, your redeemer, who formed you in the womb: I am the lord, who made all things.”
Isaiah 44:24

This is the verse that was our guiding inspiration as we prayed and planned for a successful event, and we know that ***it was He who made our auction a great event!***

I have sometimes compared the auction planning process to labor ~ lots of tears, waves of pain, bouts of unbearable pressure ~ but in all honesty, there is such a camaraderie of like-minded individuals on our auction committee, that it’s easy to forget about all the heavy breathing and begin planning the next event! Which, as it looks at this point, will be on June 13, 2015. Auction meetings start-up in January so if you would like to be part of this miraculous event, please email kathy@angelorum.org or call 425-329-4569.

Meet Ella Gunderson



This is Ella, with proud parents, Bob and Pam, at her nursing dedication ceremony this past year. All 60 Junior nursing students at Franciscan University of Steubenville dedicated their nursing careers to Christ in a beautiful ceremony.

Next Step has been extremely blessed to have Ella Gunderson volunteering in our office this summer! Ella has a loving soul, a compassionate heart, and a genuine desire to help those in need. Knowing that she will be entering the healthcare field gives me faith for the future of medicine because she is the epitome of what you would hope and pray for if you needed help. Here in Ella’s own words is why she chose to spend her summer volunteering at Next Step:

The main reason why I volunteer at Next Step is because I believe in the work that it has undertaken. As a Catholic Christian, I recognize the need in our country for people who will stand up in defense of the dignity of life from conception until natural death. While we need people in every area of society fighting for this truth, I think that Next Step is in the most important (and often overlooked) area: that is, helping real women with real problems to find real solutions.

I will be starting my Senior year of Nursing school this August, and I am aware of the struggles that lie ahead for all Christian members of the healthcare community. I wanted to spend time this summer at Next Step because I wanted to give of the little knowledge that I have while also gaining valuable experience in handling situations that I may encounter again in the future. I am grateful to Next Step not only for what they have done for me, but especially for what they are doing for the community. I am honored to be a part of this beautiful ministry!

If you would like to volunteer at Next Step, please call our office or email nancy@nextstepnw.com.

***Because of the support of many, our gross profit from our
2014 Auction of the Angels is \$87,000 ~ our best thus far!
Please join us in thanking the following groups & businesses for their support:***

A*Amazing Nails
Act Theatre
Angelorum Board Members
Anthony's Homeport Edmonds
Archbishop Burnette Retreat Center at the Palisades
Ballard Health Center
Beth's Cafe
Blessed Sacrament Knights of Columbus
Boyd's Mills Press
Brent Zepp & Chambers Bay Golf Course
Brunswick Majestic Lanes
Buca di Beppo
Build-A-Bear Workshop
Calabria Ristorante Italiano
Canopy Tours Northwest
Canvas on Demand
Central Market
Choir of the Sound
City Vacuum
Dacels Jewelers
Dimitriou's Jazz Alley
Disneyland Resort
Double D Meats
Eastside North American Martyrs Guild
Emerald Downs
EMP Museum
Farrell Apparel
Gaiam, Inc.
Garage
Hallmark Resort and Spa
Heavy Restaurant Group
Holy Family Respect Life Committee
Hoodport Winery, Inc.
Imagine Children's Museum
Indigo Kitchen & Ale House
Interbay Golf Center
Intiman Theatre
Ivars/Kidd Valley Restaurants
Kaufer's Religious Supplies
Kids Quest Children's Museum
Landmark Theatres
Laurie's Hair Design
Leahy General Construction
Lynnwood Bowl and Skate
Lynnwood Police Department
Mastersdegreedogtraining.com
McMenamins Pubs and Breweries
Melitta Coffee
Mill Creek Family YMCA
Mockingbird Books
Moonpaper Tent
Northwest Outdoor Center
Oriental Trading Company
Panera Bread
PinkCalyx.com
QFC in Lynnwood
Quality Sewing and Vacuum
Red Hook Brewery
Sagewood Properties
St. Alphonsus Parish Respect Life Group Sancta Vita
St. Breandan Catholic Cursillo Group
St. Brendan Respect Life Committee
St. Louise Respect Life Committee
St. Pius X Respect Life Committee
Salty's Seafood Grills
Seattle Aquarium
Seattle Art Museum
Seattle Children's Museum
Seattle Seahawks
Seattle Shakespeare Company
Seattle Sounders
Seattle Theater Group
Shawn O'Donnells
Snappy Dragon Restaurant
Sparta's Pizza
Spirit 105.3 Radio
T.J. Maxx
Taproot Theatre Company
The Murder Mystery Company
The Museum of Flight
The Naff Family Farm
The Parlor Billiards & Spirits
The Picture People
Total Wine
Trader Joe's in Lynnwood
Twelve Baskets Catering
Two Tomatoes Records
University Family YMCA
University of Washington Athletics Department
Vacation Internationale
Warm Beach Camp and Conference Center
Wild Waves Theme Park
Wing Luke Museum
Wolf Haven International
Woodland Park Zoo
Yuen Lui Studio

This is a picture of one of our clients, Holli, with her sister and three children. I asked Holli if she would write down her thoughts about how she has been helped by our ministry and I wanted to share them with you ~

“I am a single mother of three beautiful children: Emma, 6, Sarah, 3, and Gabriel, 2. If I could describe what Next Step Pregnancy Services means to me, I would say it’s like walking straight into God’s own beating heart. It’s a gift of life and the beating heart of Lynnwood. It is a place where the least of these and the poor in our community are served with a true spirit of love. Our family continues to be completely blessed each month with the help and services provided by Next Step. We receive much needed diapers, wipes, clothes, toys, books, hats, gloves, socks, underwear, and shoes. With each of my children received a beautiful newborn layette and we are always offered a bottle of water, a treat, a word of encouragement, and a smile. It is a peaceful place that welcomes and serves graciously the little hands and feet. We feel so much love and have genuine hope for a better day because of the fruits of their services!”



This is just one of the thousands of families your prayers and donations help each year. If by chance you should run into this busy mother, please give her a smile and an encouraging word on behalf of Next Step Pregnancy Services!

Did you know you can help mothers like Holli just by shopping?

It’s easy to link your **Fred Meyer/Kroger Community Rewards Card** to Angelorum Pregnancy Services dba Next Step! Just go to www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards. Our non-profit number is 88245. Every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, Next Step will earn a donation.

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support Angelorum every time you shop, and costs you nothing. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price on your eligible purchases. Simply select Angelorum as your preferred non-profit.

Rock 4US! Roll 4US! Ride 4US! Jump 4US! Squirt 4US! Walk 4US! Crawl 4US!

WHAT IS 4US?

4US (4 UltraSound) is the life-affirming answer to the questions “What can I do in the pro-life movement? How can I help a pregnant woman in crisis? How can I share the joy of working for life?”



WHAT DOES 4US PROVIDE? 4US provides ultrasound machines and training to pregnancy resource centers that provide entirely free services to pregnant women

WHY ULTRASOUND? Upon seeing her baby on an ultrasound, an abortion minded woman will choose life for her baby 90% of the time!

WHAT CAN I DO? Join **The Rally Round 4 Ultrasound-August 15-16** at Ft. Steilacoom Park in Lakewood.

HOW DO I LEARN MORE AND REGISTER? Visit www.4US.org

You can be part of history!

On Saturday, August 16, 4US is hoping to break the Guinness World Record for the **world’s largest squirt gun fight!** 5,000 “warriors” are needed, it’s family friendly, and kids 10 and under are free!

That's Life!

This summer I have been caring for my 84 year old mother-in-law, Natalie, who suffers from dementia. As my in-laws are also my next door neighbors, it's an easy commute and a lovely environment. My father-in-law, Jim, who up until quite recently has been very active and healthy, has experienced some setbacks landing him in the hospital three times in three weeks, is in need of help with his bride of 57 years so that he can recover and gain strength. Our first two hours together mainly consist of watching 1984 reruns of Super Password with Bert Convy and The Andy Griffith Show with Opie, Aunt Bee and Deputy Fife. Watching Natalie enjoy these shows as if it was the first time they aired, is fascinating and her childlike enthusiasm is adorable. Every time she sees little Ronnie Howard in the opening credits she remembers to tell me that he is all grown up now. Our second two hours together consist of doing some light exercises, going for a short walk, taking a drive, or going shopping. At noon I fix Natalie lunch, give her some medicine and wipe down her little messes. When she tells me she's sorry that I have to take so much of my time babysitting her, I tell her I don't feel that way at all ~ I tell her we're just two girlfriends hanging out together. Natalie is a strong Christian woman with exceptional morals and it is my pleasure to spend this special time of her life with her. **End of life, what a special time!**

At 1pm I come to Next Step where we help the youngest of the young ~ and their mommies, another job where I feel completely blessed and fortunate. A typical day in our clinic may consist of three or four women in need of a pregnancy test, a couple of patients for an ultrasound, and lots of requests for diapers and wipes. It can be pretty noisy and confusing and there is a constant need to wipe little fingerprints off the windows. In the counseling room we learn a lot of personal, sometimes shocking information that I hope I will be able to forget one day. Today I am fighting a losing battle with sugar ants ~ where they come from I have no idea but boy can they hunt down and devour a goldfish cracker that one of the children dropped on the floor. In the mail today we received a package consisting of adorable second-hand baby items from a woman I have not had the pleasure of meeting yet, with a handwritten note saying: "Hope this helps some of the women and new moms you serve, Love, Laura." A few minutes ago a friend of our ministry, Scott, dropped off two baby bottles from a bottle campaign held at North American Martyrs several months ago adding approximately \$30 to that campaign's total. Next Step is a ministry of Angelorum and Angelorum means of the Angels ~ like Laura, Scott, and all of you who pray and partner with us. **Beginning of life, what a special time!**

It's a busy day and it's a full day and I know at 56 I'm closer to the end than the beginning. I also know that every moment of every day matters and every person we meet along the way ~ from the newly conceived to the wise and seasoned, are gifts from heaven and opportunities for us to reach out and be the hands and feet of He who creates and orchestrates every moment we have with each other as we await ***Eternal Life!***

Joy and Peace, Kathy

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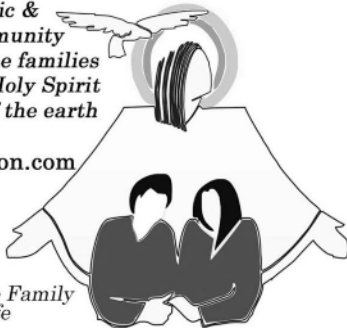
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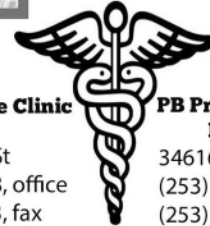
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*Renewing the Family
Defending Life*



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We are very thankful to
Dr. Philip Buenvenida and Couples for Christ Foundation for Family and Life
for sponsoring our 2014 Auction of the Angels!