



St. Clare's Home

RESTORING HOPE ~ SAVING LIVES

NEWSLETTER 9 | JULY 2024

Dear friends of St. Clare's,

We had a busy Spring at St. Clare's that has brought us into a busy summer!

- Gloria Dausch and Joanne Bennett were so excited about St. Clare's mission that they wanted to share our story with more people in the Grand Strand area. They organized a fun evening to tell our story with a fundraiser at Pawley's Island Plantation.
- We are blessed to announce the plans of opening St. Clare's Home Charleston. A celebration party was held at the Chancery, planned by Mary Nemeth. The search is underway for a suitable home in the Charleston area.
- Construction of the new convent for the Sisters of St. Michael the Archangel was completed and Bishop Jacques Fabre-Jeune, CS, came to bless the convent on June 18.
- Another St. Clare's baby, Zoe, was baptized at Blessed Trinity Church on June 15.
- Three moms left the home to start their independence journey. Right after one of the moms left, the ceiling in that bedroom collapsed due to a leak from our air handler. We give thanks to God it happened when the room was empty! Two bedrooms and the hallway needed repairs from the water damage, which are now complete, and an alarm was put on the air handler.
- Our moms are working hard on their classes, jobs and learning life skills. Some are still looking for jobs so they can work toward independence. If you know a potential employer in the Greer area, please get in touch. One of the ongoing problems for the moms' independence is transportation. Getting back and forth to work is a challenge and Ubers are expensive. **If you have a used car you can donate, please call Valerie: 864-275-5505.**



Save The Date

Pink & Blue Gala

February 21, 2025
6:00 pm

Join us for a Mardi Gras
celebration at Fluor Corporation!

Become a sponsor! Contact Valerie:
vbaronkin@charlestdiocese.org



Bishop Blesses New Convent for Sisters of St. Michael



Finally, all-powerful God, thank you for making the dream come true! The blessing of this long-awaited convent for the sisters of St. Michael the Archangel took place on June 18. The opening blessing of a new convent is a profoundly significant ceremony within the Catholic Church, symbolizing the consecration of a space dedicated to religious life, prayer, and community.

This event began with a celebration of the holy Mass by Bishop Jacques Fabre-Jeune, CS. In his homily, he reflected on the significance of the convent's mission, the sisters' community life and their role in the broader Church and community.

After the conclusion of the Mass, the sisters, executive committee members and donors processed with the bishop through the convent. The bishop blessed each room and space to sanctify the entire building. This event marks the beginning of the convent's life as a place of prayer, reflection and service to God and the community. All the donors, friends, and families present fellowshiped over refreshments afterward.



Bishop Blesses New Convent for Sisters of St. Michael (cont.)

A special thanks to all that made the building of this convent a reality. The donations were made with significant contributions from donors purchasing room naming opportunities in memory or in honor of a loved ones. These included:

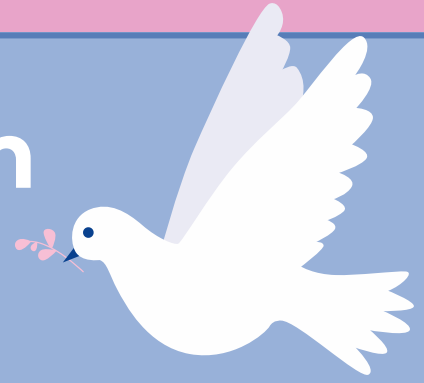
ROOM NAME	IN HONOR / MEMORY OF	DONOR
ST. MARTHA BEDROOM	Marta Conway	Joe Conway
ST. GERARD MAJELLA BEDROOM	Irene Bikulege & Jean Greenway	The Bikulege Family Foundation
ST. JUDE BEDROOM	St. Thomas More	Randal & Carolyn Watson
ST. PADRE PIO BEDROOM	Mama Gay	Jim & Linda Hamrick
ST. JUNIPERO SERRA BEDROOM	The Hediger & Boyd Families	Gary & Gail Hediger Michael & Sandra Boyd
OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CHAPEL	In thanksgiving for our parents: James & Harriet Davison David & Charlotte Williams who taught us that all life is precious.	Spencer & Loretta Williams
ST. JOSEPH OFFICE	The Armaly Family	Steve & Kristen Armaly
STS. FELICITY & PERPETUA LAUNDRY ROOM	St. Mary Church Parishioners	St. Mary, Greenville
ST. ZITA BROOM CLOSET	Sister Mary Frances	Taylor Smith
ST. FINBAR OF COOK OFFICE	Finley Luke Capelle	Joan & Leo Ounanian
ST. THERESA LITTLE FLOWER DINING ROOM	Conner Penoyer	John Penoyer
BACK PORCH	Mama	Taylor Smith

The convent was named St. Michael the Archangel by Mark Escude, in honor of his wife Sheryl, who donated over half the cost of the building. The professionals who worked on construction of this beautiful convent also made significant contributions:

- Architect **Lee Oshields** - Worked pro bono
- Structural Architect **Alex Zuendt**, Zuendt Engineering - Worked pro bono
- Builder **Paul Bates**, Reformation Homes, and subcontractors - Built at-cost

Thanks to all and our gracious Lord for this new home for the sisters.

Baby Zoe's Baptism at Blessed Trinity Church



On June 15, Blessed Trinity Church in Greer witnessed the joyful baptism of Zoe, the daughter of Randerlys, a member at St. Clare's.

Zoe was baptized and welcomed into the Christian faith, surrounded by her St. Clare family, friends and the parish community. Father José Gabriel Cruz Rodriguez, pastor, led the ceremony. He began with the Liturgy of the Word, reading Bible passages that highlighted the significance of baptism and the new life it symbolizes. The priest then called upon Zoe's parents and her godmother, Sister Theresa Adeboye, SSMA, to pledge to support and guide Zoe in her spiritual journey.

They professed their faith and renounced sin on her behalf, affirming their commitment to raising her according to the teachings of the Catholic Church. After the priest poured the blessed water over Zoe's head, he baptized her

in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This holy act cleansed her of original sin and signified her entrance into the Church. Following the baptism, Zoe was anointed with chrisam oil, symbolizing her reception of the Holy Spirit and her initiation into the community of believers. Then, the priest presented her with a white garment, symbolizing her new life in Christ, and a baptismal candle, signifying the light of Christ that now shines in her life.

The ceremony ended with prayers for Zoe and her family, asking for God's blessings and guidance as she started her spiritual journey. The congregation joined in a joyful celebration, welcoming Zoe into the Catholic faith and the loving community of Blessed Trinity. A reception was held at St. Clare's Home hosted by Sandie Boyd, Elda Zayas and Monica Mason. To God be the glory for the great things he has done!



St. Joseph the Worker Day at the Home



Students from St. Joseph's Catholic School in Greenville visited our home on Friday, May 3, in honor of St. Joseph the Worker Day (May 1).

These students teamed up into four groups to help with a few ongoing projects after we explained the history of the home and started with a prayer of welcome. By the end of the session, a garden was enlarged and planted for the season, a covered area behind the new convent was cleaned out and washed, the barn was swept and organized, and the pergola was reassembled.

We ended our day together with Mass on the back porch, celebrated by Father Richard Tomlinson, parochial vicar of Prince of Peace Church in Taylors.



Local businesses make an **impact!**



“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me. ... Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.”

Mt 25:35-36,40

St. Clare’s Home has received many generous gifts this year! We say a big THANK YOU to the following people and area businesses:

- **Landscapers Supply** provided the beautiful mulch the volunteers from St. Mary Church in Greenville spread around the gardens of the home and convent.
- Our residents had free dental checkups from Dr. Preston Hamrick at **Heritage Dentistry**.
- Brand new granite countertops were donated and installed by John Rozelle at **Rozelle Stone Company** of Easley.
- And **Mary Anne Moroney** crawled around under our house recently to put in the new vapor barrier!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT

We could not accomplish our mission without you!

Please visit our [Wish List Here](#) or our Amazon [Wish List Here](#)

Our PO Box:

St. Clare’s Home
1754 Woodruff Road, #170
Greenville, SC 29607



Please send any checks to our PO box listed above, or click [here](#) to donate.

♥ To sign up for our **newsletter**, click here: charlestdiocese.flocknote.com/StClaresHome

♥ To arrange donations, call **843-259-1108**.

♥ To volunteer, contact Colleen Chmiel: stclaresvolunteer@charlestdiocese.org

Are you able to donate a car for the moms?
Call Valerie at **864-275-5505**