

Mater Filius Queen City 134 Whipple Street Cincinnati, OH 45233



Defending Life with Love!



Our mission is to defend and safeguard the life, well-being, and dignity of both the unborn child and the child's mother. "Defending Life with Love"

OUR VISION

Our vision is to help expectant mothers learn about healthy parenting through our workshops and through the education, caring and support of our volunteers, many of whom are mothers themselves.

OUR VALUES

Following Catholic social teaching, we recognize that we are responsible to and for one another. The Mater Filius community values that guide our work include Love, Hospitality, Community, and Excellence.

https://www.mfqc.org/donate



payable to Mater Filius Queen City and mail to: Mater Filius Queen City 134 Whipple Street

If you feel called to donate, please make checks

Cincinnati, OH 45233 Phone: (513) 351-3368

Email: materfiliusqc@mfqc.org

Mater Filius Queen City is a is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, EIN 37-1830654.

FALL AND WINTER





and friends:

We are deeply grateful for your faith and generosity, which uplift the mission of Mater Filius Queen City.

Your support enables us to uphold the sanctity of life and the dignity of each woman we serve. This past year alone, we have touched the lives of over 200 women, offering vital resources and heartfelt support as well as safe housing for seven women, walking with them throughout their pregnancy as they build a foundation for a future of hope and love for their family.

We are thrilled to announce the nearcompletion of our Early Childhood Learning Center (ECLC), which will soon provide free early childhood education for infants and preschoolers, enabling our mothers to attend work or school with peace of mind.

Our mission is inspired by Mary's Fiat—her selfless "Let it be done". This active, selfless model of service, especially her journey to serve her cousin Elizabeth in the spirit of love,

quides our work.

We humbly ask those who feel called to this mission to join us in embodying the Catholic values of faith and service, to walk alongside women in Mary's footsteps with empathy and strength, giving witness to life. Whether helping with daily tasks, teaching, or simply being a comforting presence, volunteers are essential to fulfilling our mission.

Thank you for being the heart of Mater Filius Queen City. Together, as one community, we say "yes" to life, responding with Mary's spirit of love and action. Through your time, prayers, and presence, we continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of mothers, children, and our broader community.

With heartfelt gratitude,





A VISIT FROM OUR FOUNDERS

On September 3 we welcomed Miriam and Jose Manuel Tejeda of Mexico City, founders of Mater Filius, to our Mater Filius home. We were additionally blessed to have Jim and Julie Mainelli of Omaha NE, National Directors for Mater Filius US, join us. Our time spent with each of them proved to be invaluable. We began our day attending Mass together at our home parish of St. Aloysius on the Ohio. After Mass they had an opportunity to tour our home, meet our Ima (housemother) and the Mathis (expectant mothers and mothers we serve). Speaking with Emily, our Ima, and the Mathis they learned about Mater Filius Queen City firsthand! Mikki and Kirk Doerger, executive directors, spent time one on one with our guests, as they were supported in their leadership role. Miriam, Jose Manuel, Jim and

Julie enjoyed lunch and dinner with our leadership team, Board of directors and volunteers. During this time we all learned more about the founding of Mater Filius and its history. The visit was a wonderful time for us to pray together, learn and be mentored.

"SEVEN SISTERS" AND A SPIRITUAL BOUQUET



The Mater Filius "Seven Sisters" celebrated Priesthood Sunday by honoring our chaplain, Father Thomas Flynn, with a Spiritual Bouquet after the September 26 Mass at Mater Filius. You may wonder who the Seven Sisters are and what is a Spiritual Bouquet.

Seven Sisters are seven women who each commit to pray one hour in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament for a priest or bishop on a specific day of the week. In this way they cover a complete week of praying for Father Thomas that he have a deeper conformity to Christ. "Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a beautiful thing for me." Matthew 26:10. Spiritual Bouquet is a beautiful Catholic tradition that offers a perfect gift for important occasions. It is the offering of

prayers and/or sacrifices to another as a gift. Who doesn't want prayers and acts of devotion said on their behalf? And what greater gift can we offer than our prayers and acts of love?

OUR NEWEST BUNDLE OF JOY

Our Mater Filius home joyfully welcomed a beautiful little girl on October 18. Her mother is over the moon with joy and loving the role of motherhood and she is grateful for a safe and supportive place to live and grow as she gains confidence in her parenting skills.



THE TILMA - A SIGN OF SERVICE

During Miriam and Jose Manuel's visit to our Mater Filius home Miriam shared with us the story of the tilma, the piece of clothing that our Ima and volunteers wear. It should not surprise us to learn that Miriam was led to design the tilma during a time of prayer. As the first Mater Filius home was taking shape in Mexico City Miriam felt that the Ima and volunteers needed some type of "uniform". She visited



the basilica and prayed to Our Blessed Mother for direction. That night she received in a dream the image of the tilma, including the color for this "uniform". In this dream she was told "it will be a uniform of service". She recognized this as the "uniform" of Juan Diego so many years ago. He had a tilma that covered and protected him. He served others through wearing it as he used it to carry corn and protect him from the rain. Our tilma serves as a metaphor for humility and readiness to do God's work. A priest told Miriam that this tilma will be a scapular for all who wear it. A scapular is a type of apron, indicating our readiness and willingness to serve. This is not merely a practical apron but, as St. Benedict's Rule points out, it is to be worn "for work." Miriam reminds us that our tilma becomes the armor and breastplate of God. When we wear the tilma it is a way for us to say "now I am working". Wearing the tilma gives us the opportunity to explain our ministry and our "work for Mary" to others.

BEYOND GRATEFUL!

With appreciative hearts, we offer a resounding note of thanks to the ten Knights of Columbus councils in the greater Cincinnati area who have generously donated to Mater Filius. We are truly blessed to call each of them a friend of our mission. Additionally, the national Knights of Columbus organization has shown incredible support through partial matches for many of these gifts via the Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) program. Through the Knights' generosity and that of all our donors, we continue our loving service to mothers in need. Thank you, Knights of Columbus, for standing with us to protect life and strengthen families in our community.

IMPACTING LIVES!

Our mothers who have transitioned into independent living receive continued support in many ways, empowering them to thrive and pursue their dreams. One remarkable mother spent her summer joyfully learning to drive—a goal that brought her closer to independence. After countless hours of practice, she proudly passed her driver's test on the first try. We are so proud of her dedication and accomplishment, which opened doors to new job opportunities and the chance to save for her own car. With each milestone, she grows more confident, embracing a bright future for herself and her family.

