



ROMAN CATHOLIC
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OF CHARLESTON**

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PRESS RELEASE

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The Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston opens St. Clare's Home, a place for women experiencing a crisis pregnancy ~ Ribbon Cutting is scheduled for Aug. 11, the feast day of St. Clare of Assisi ~

GREENVILLE, S.C. – After more than a decade of prayer, planning and preparation, the [Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston](#) is opening St. Clare's Home, a maternity home for women experiencing a crisis pregnancy. Diocesan official will hold a ribbon cutting to officially open the home at 9:00 a.m. on Aug. 11, the feast day of St. Clare of Assisi, its patron saint. "In spite of our pro-life efforts, there are thousands of women every year who choose abortion instead of life for their baby," said [Most Reverend Robert E. Guglielmone](#), Bishop of Charleston. "Although our crisis pregnancy centers are doing great work, we have few safety nets in place for pregnant women who find themselves without a place to live. St. Clare's Home will give women an alternative to aborting their baby."

St. Clare's Home will be a safe place where expectant mothers can live and gain life skills while they are pregnant and for up to two years after giving birth. The 9-bedroom house will serve up to 8 women over age 18 and, if needed, their already born children. While living at the home, residents will learn life and parenting skills, and have the opportunity to further their education at either a high school or college level. At the conclusion of their stay at St. Clare's Home, residents will have the skills to care for themselves and for their child or children.

St. Clare's Home is the vision of Claire Capelle Puzzuti who, 15 years ago, had a dream about abortion. "It was a terrible dream, really, about pregnant moms needing help," said Puzzuti. "I told my mother about the dream, and we knew we had to do something. We thought of a home of refuge for women in crisis pregnancy situations. It's extremely overwhelming to now see our vision become a reality."

Nuns from the [Sisters of St. Michael the Archangel](#) order will operate the home. They and the staff will provide support, education, and care in a Catholic environment. Sr. Francisca Fassemo, regional superior for the sisters, shared her great hope for St. Clare's Home. "Our sisters are elated at the opportunity to bring the love of Christ to these pregnant women in crisis. It has long been our hope to grow our ministry to this part of the United States, so we are elated to join Bishop Guglielmone in this important lifechanging endeavor."

Those interested in learning more about St. Clare's Home are encouraged to visit its website at www.stclarehomesc.org.

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