



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
**DIOCESE**  
**OF CHARLESTON**

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

## PRESS RELEASE — *For Immediate Release*

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### **Gala benefiting Greenville maternity home happening in March ~ Abortion survivor is the featured speaker ~**

GREENVILLE – St. Clare’s Home, the only maternity home in Greenville County serving women 18 and over, will host its second annual [Pink & Blue Gala](#) at 6 p.m. on March 25 at the Greenville Convention Center. Melissa Ohden, founder and CEO of the Abortion Survivors Network, is the featured speaker. Melissa survived a saline abortion attempt at seven months gestation and is now a nationally recognized speaker and author.

St. Clare’s Home opened in August of 2021 and is operated by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston. It houses, cares for, and educates expectant mothers who are in need of shelter and safety. Mothers can live at the home for up to one year after giving birth and are provided with everything they need to help them succeed in learning to provide for themselves and their children. St. Clare’s Home has room to house up to eight women and in certain circumstances accepts pregnant moms with smaller children.

“St. Clare’s Home has been an incredible blessing to the Greenville area and to women in need of immediate and longer-term assistance,” said Valerie Baronkin, executive director of St. Clare’s. “We have had eight babies born at the home and have assisted 17 women and their children since we opened. This gala will benefit our moms and support our efforts to offer help and assistance to women.

“Since opening our doors, we’ve been fortunate to add a garden, some chickens, storage spaces, and even more rooms onto the house due to our wonderful supporters. However, there is so much more to do for those we’re assisting now and those we will help in the future. Our gala directly supports women,” she said.

Tickets to the Pink & Blue Gala are \$100 per person and include dinner and a cash bar. To learn more about the gala or to purchase tickets, go to [stclareshomesc.org/pink-blue-gala](http://stclareshomesc.org/pink-blue-gala).

Photos of St. Clare’s Home for media are available [here](#).

*To speak to Valerie Baronkin, please contact her directly at 864.275.5505. To learn more about St. Clare’s Home, please visit its [website](#).*

#### **ABOUT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON**

Founded in 1820, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston is comprised of 114 parishes and missions, 32 Catholic schools, and 350,000 people. It encompasses the state of South Carolina.

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