

Gabriel Team Memo – Mar 25, 2011



St. Anthony of Padua, Novato

Dear Gabriel Team,

What a wonderful feast day this is - the Annunciation, Mary's Fiat and the Incarnation! And Mary's calling having been made known to her by St. Gabriel, our ministry's patron saint along with Our Lady of Guadalupe.

I hope you will find the information below helpful to you in your work as Gabriel Angels.

I am so grateful to you.

God bless you and your works of love,

Fredi D'Alessio

Note to Parish Coordinators:

Gabriel Team Memos are only sent to volunteers registered as coordinators, angels and auxiliary angels. If your parish has any assistant angels or supporters with whom you'd like to share a team memo, feel free do to so.

Angel Testimonial:

As we celebrate Mary's calling to be the Mother of God, I'm delighted to be able to share with you a wonderful testimonial, ***Called to Be an Angel***, written by Patsy Gonzalez (**see**

attachment). This testimonial will eventually be posted on our website, but for now I am waiting to see if Catholic San Francisco is going to publish it. It has already been submitted to them, [so please don't publish, post or distribute it at this time.](#)

About Patsy Gonzalez:

Those of you who attended the Gabriel Project Conference on 9/12/09 may recall Patsy's reading of a beautiful prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe which she composed for the occasion (see <http://sfgabrielproject.wordpress.com/prayer-for-the-gabriel-project>).

Patsy has been an indispensable asset to *The Gabriel Project* as an Auxiliary Angel almost from its inception - well before the Auxiliary Angel Program was formally initiated. Now that her parish, Church of the Nativity, recently joined the Gabriel Team, she is also a parish angel. Patsy has been counseling pregnant mothers for eighteen years at Juan Diego Society Women's Center in San Jose and she also has extensive experience in [sidewalk counseling](#). She recently became the godmother of a Gabriel client's child.

Patsy shares my zeal for this ministry and her encouragement and moral support from the early start-up days through today helps sustain my endeavor to see this ministry flourish throughout the archdiocese.

Some of Patsy's comments regarding her angel work are noted on our website (see <http://sfgabrielproject.wordpress.com/being-an-angel>).

I'm so grateful to have Patsy as one of our Angels and for all she has done for pregnant mothers within and beyond *The Gabriel Project*. I'm also grateful for her letter to the editor regarding the article written by Tom Burke, which was published in the Mar 11 issue of Catholic San Francisco. I also wrote a letter to clarify some statements made in that article (included below).

Client Testimonial:

In addition to Patsy's, one of the moms being mentored by her has also written a testimonial which I expect to receive shortly.

Website Additions:

BRIEF VIDEO - Angels, Mom and Bishop

REFERRAL RESOURCES - Helping After Neonatal Death

MENTORING RESOURCES - Info for Teens II

Possibly others since your last visit.

New Team Members:

We have recently been blessed with a few more angels who joined the parish team of St. Francis of Assisi in East Palo Alto (*which recently received three new client referrals*).

Client News:

Baby Tiana Mae was born on February 12th; her mom is one of Church of the Epiphany's clients.

Baby twin sisters, Christiele and Christied were born on Feb 11; their mom is a St. Raphael client.

St. Andrew is ministering to a mom and both Church of the Nativity and St. Francis of Assisi are ministering to multiple clients.

Please keep all of our client families and those who are assisting them in your prayers.

My letter to the editor (clarification):

Thank you so much for including an article about The Gabriel Project in the Mar 11 issue.

In response to Marcella Colbert's remarks, I'd like to provide some clarification about the ministry as it is implemented in our archdiocese.

In addition to carrying the blessing of new life, many pregnant mothers also carry the burden of poverty. The Gabriel Project provides volunteers an opportunity to manifest authentic Christian discipleship while simultaneously exercising both lungs of Catholic teachings - the social justice and pro-life aspects of the Church.

This ministry is open to Catholics who commit to faithfully uphold the teachings of the Church in serving our clients. The work is not reserved for women. Men are also welcome to fully participate in the ministry. So too are members of non-participating parishes. They are needed and I encourage them to volunteer as Auxiliary Angels. Details on this as well as much more information about this marvelous ministry can be found on our website: <http://sfgabrielproject.wordpress.com>.

Thank you again for writing about The Gabriel Project.

Gabriel Project Posters:

TGP needs to have more exposure not only to draw more volunteers, but more importantly to make pregnant mothers aware of our services. As noted in my previous memo (<http://sfgabrielproject.wordpress.com/memo-archive>), this really needs to be a team effort so I ask that you review the suggestions I listed in that memo regarding promoting TGP awareness in your neighborhoods. I am grateful to those of you who have responded and are distributing client pamphlets and car decals, etc.

I have created a file from which you can have posters or fliers of any size printed. They can be very large or as small as postcards.

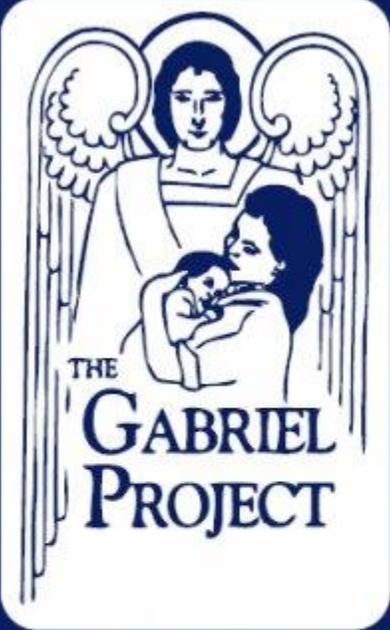
See the snapshot below. You'll notice that the URL for our client website is included and that the wording of our message has been modified to accommodate the placement of these posters at locations other than participating Gabriel Parishes.

You can download a PDF file of the poster from <http://sfgabrielproject.wordpress.com/poster> and bring it to your local copy center for printing. They are fairly inexpensive to print and really come out beautifully.

If you need instructions on how to go about having this file printed at your local copy center in various sizes, please let me know.

Please know that if you plan to design your own poster, your layout may differ from our standard signs and posters, but neither the text nor logo should differ unless prior approval has been received.

Snapshot of Poster:



**PREGNANT?
WORRIED?
NEED HELP?
800-910-0191**

[HTTP://ANGELFORME.WORDPRESS.COM](http://angelforme.wordpress.com)

**THE MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES SEE IN THE
CONCEPTION OF EACH CHILD A FRESH EXPRESSION OF GOD'S
UNFAILING LOVE. WE OFFER IMMEDIATE AND PRACTICAL HELP TO
ANY PREGNANT MOTHER EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTIES.**