

## **Saint Gianna's Home for Mothers and Babies**

Gianna's Choice Pregnancy Options and Support service aims to reach abortion vulnerable women throughout New Zealand, encouraging and empowering them to choose life.

Family Life International NZ first began a Pregnancy Options and Support service almost 30 years ago. Our team at Gianna's Choice serve mothers, babies, and families throughout New Zealand, as well as at our *Gianna's Choice Centre* in Auckland. We also support this nationwide assistance with a *Mobile Life Centre*.

Who is Gianna?

Gianna's Choice Pregnancy Options and Support service is named after a very courageous and virtuous woman, Gianna Beretta Molla who in her fourth pregnancy was found to have a tumour (fibroid) in her womb. She was faced with three options—abortion, hysterectomy or removal of the fibroid.

Gianna chose to have the tumour removed in order to give her child a chance at life. She suffered greatly throughout the rest of the pregnancy and knew that death was a possibility. With great faith she made it known to her family "If you must decide between me and the child, do not hesitate: choose the child? I insist on it. Save the baby."

Gianna Emmanuela Molla was born on April 21, 1962 by caesarean section. Her health continued to decline and she died on April 28, 1962. She was canonised a saint by Saint John Paul II on May 16, 2004, Saint Gianna is the patron saint of physicians, mothers and unborn children.

Gianna's Choice was life!

### OUR PLEDGE

We pledge to ALL women facing an unplanned pregnancy, regardless of creed or personal circumstance, every possible help with moral support, practical support and financial support where necessary, in order that they may give life to their baby.

Sometimes mothers are in need of intensive support and accommodation. This is why *Saint Gianna's Home for Mothers and Babies* was opened. It is the perfect place for this assistance, and brings hope to those in urgent need. Sometimes that help might be for a day, a night, or even for 2-3 years.

*Saint Gianna's Home for Mothers and Babies* was officially opened on Friday 19 June of 2020, with Bishop Michael Gielen celebrating at this blessing event.

[For more information on Gianna's Choice, go to: [www.pregnancyoptions.org.nz](http://www.pregnancyoptions.org.nz)