

# What is the "Walking With Moms in Need" Initiative?

## Walking With Moms in Need Initiative (WWM):

Walking with Moms in Need is a nationwide, parish-based initiative to increase support for pregnant and parenting mothers in need. It works to ensure that any woman who finds herself unexpectedly pregnant, or parenting in difficult circumstances, can turn to her local Catholic Church and be connected with the resources she needs. Parish volunteers can walk with moms throughout the motherhood journey, offering them authentic Christian friendship and parish teams can provide ongoing support such as prayers, meals, baby showers and connections to communities within the parish.

- Pregnant women in need should feel they can turn to any Catholic Church for help
- Every parishioner should know where to connect a pregnant woman in need for help

# **Embrace Grace (EG) Support Groups:**

Embrace Grace is a 12 week faith-based support group for single, pregnant women. As part of the Walking With Moms initiative, this program allows parishes to love and encourage women in their moment of fear and uncertainty with a pro-love, non-judgmental curriculum. A women experiencing an unexpected pregnancies will receive practical, spiritual, and emotional support as well as a baby shower at the end of the session. She will complete the program with a connection to the parish and other moms-to-be, knowing Jesus loves her and her baby!

#### Gabriel Project (GP) Ministry:

The Gabriel Project is an Archdiocesan Ministry that provides a woman in a challenging pregnancy with an "Angel," a trained volunteer who walks alongside her to provide emotional, material, and spiritual assistance. The "Angel" is a mentor and a friend the woman can turn to for help in finding solutions to her immediate needs throughout her pregnancy and even after the baby is born. Parish members can connect women in need to this helpful ministry.

### **Pregnancy Resource Centers (PRC):**

Pregnancy Centers are local, nonprofit organizations that provide compassionate support to women and men faced with unplanned or difficult pregnancies. PRCs offer confidential services and accurate information about pregnancy options. Clients can receive a wide-range of services including counseling, sonograms, parenting classes, support groups, STD testing/treatment, and maternity and baby items. Many PRCs are under the oversight of a Medical Director. These services are always free of charge and available through pregnancy until the child turns three.

