



Laura Karlen, St. Catherine Ministry Director

About Us

Laura Karlen began St. Catherine Ministry in 2022 after experiencing miscarriages in 2010 and 2011 and helping friends and family members through their miscarriages over the years. Her desire was to reach out to suffering families in a more systematic way through St. Catherine Ministry.

Laura resides with her husband, Steve, and their five living children in Fitchburg, Wisconsin. She and her volunteers assist families free of charge.

“We can’t take away the pain of miscarriage. But, we can make it less lonely and bewildering.” – Laura Karlen

Let’s Connect!

While this brochure or our web page can help and provide comfort, we are able to offer more support by connecting directly. St. Catherine Ministry is just a phone call, text message or e-mail away!

St. Catherine Ministry

(608) 445-2064

stcatherine@ourladyofhopeclinic.org

ourladyofhopeclinic.org



Why “St. Catherine”? St. Catherine of Siena was the 25th child in her family; many of the children died in infancy. She is recognized as the patron saint of miscarriage. Director Laura Karlen lost her first baby, Gianna Maria, on St. Catherine’s April 29th feast day.



St. Catherine Ministry
Accompanying families through miscarriage



Miscarriage Support

St. Catherine Ministry

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We're here for you, even now.

Have you or a loved one received the sad news of a miscarriage? Is the miscarriage already underway? Have you or a loved one experienced miscarriage recently or in the distant past and desire support now? In any case, St. Catherine Ministry is here to accompany you. From providing miscarriage kits to referring for burial sites to crying with you, we want to help because we have been there, too.

Ministry Support – You Have Help!

1) We can listen. The greatest comfort at a time like this is knowing you're not alone.

We have been through miscarriage ourselves. Whether it's answering questions, sharing our own experiences, or just crying with you, St. Catherine Ministry offers compassionate support for grieving families. The loss is real, and we want to accompany you through it.



"All things work for good for those who love the Lord." –Romans 8:28

2) We provide a miscarriage kit to help you know what to expect and be able to recover your baby.

Recovering your baby is time-sensitive and important. If possible, preparation is helpful. We can provide a *free miscarriage kit*, which includes FAQs and tips, through Our Lady of Hope Clinic (ourladyofhopeclinic.org) or directly through our ministry. These kits can be used at home or brought with you.

3) We offer advice about burying and remembering with dignity this precious child.

St. Catherine Ministry can assist families with burials at their parish cemetery, a diocesan cemetery, the Miracle of Life Rosary Garden (St. Mary of Pine Bluff) or elsewhere. We can provide a *free burial vessel* and information on other burial spaces and memorials near and far. Burying your baby with dignity is a gift to you *and* your child.

**There's much more to offer you!
More information is online at
ourladyofhopeclinic.org and
through a direct connection by
phone, text message or e-mail!**

Join the Network!

At St. Catherine Ministry, we are pleased to have a network of supportive volunteers who will...

- make a meal;
- refer a woman going through miscarriage;
- promote the ministry at the parish or pastorate level; and
- offer prayers.

Please contact us to get involved!

*"Behold, I make all things new."
–Revelation 21:5*

