

MACH 1 Mission Statement

MACH 1, Mothers and Children, is a
peer group organized to:

provide encouragement
lend support
honor and uplift
nurture
minister
and ultimately to celebrate

Moms and Motherhood.

It recognizes what moms bring to their families and society by their very existence.

Each woman is encouraged to grow in her relationship with God and to know herself in light of God's great love for her.

Participants are offered an informal Bible study with a variety of learning experiences including speakers, group discussion, shared laughter, food and prayer.

The material is based on Catholic teaching, yet women of various religions attend and are most welcome.

This book is dedicated to:

Grandpa Larry and Grandma Cleo
Here is my quilt.
Love, Roberta

To all the women who have taken the time to teach me. I am
forever in your debt.
Carol

Acknowledgments

The following is a short list of the people who helped us along our journey, first in believing we could start MACH 1 in our parish, and then believing we could actually get this dream down on paper.

Thank you, Jesus, for your love without which we could have done nothing. Thank you, Mary, for mothering us and guiding us as we worked and grew together these past seven years. Thank you to all those in the communion of saints, who carried us through this learning process. We are deeply grateful for your guidance.

Thank you to our mothers, Mary and Bev, who believed we could do this. You supported us by anticipating our needs and offering help, sometimes in areas we hadn't even thought of yet.

To our husbands, Tom and Bill, who supported us in the various stages of this growing ministry. A simple thank you cannot cover years of love together. Thanks for growing with us and being fathers to our children.

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To Peg, without your constant enthusiasm and encouragement, this project may not be quite as complete. You saw our potential and showered us with support. Thanks.

To our sisters, sisters-in-law, cousins and girlfriends who have encouraged us, supported us, and who have been excited that this program is available for moms in the Catholic Church.

To our brothers who kept asking, "Hey, how's that book thing going?" you'll get a signed copy for extra!

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Thank you, Cathy, for bringing fresh insight to scripture, and showing us how it can apply to us as mothers.

Finally, to all the moms who have participated in MACH 1 so far. As of September 2002, there are three active groups in Minnesota and North Dakota. You are why we were prompted to start the original group. You are why we wrote a manual. Your desire to know more about the Catholic Church and for true companionship within the Church is what MACH 1 is all about. You minister to us as board members and your participation in discussion calms us so we can enjoy being in the group ourselves. The hope and laughter in your eyes keeps us going. It is a joy to know you and a privilege to continue on this journey with you.

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