

# Catholic Identity Patch Program

## MODELS OF FAITH

### Saint Gianna Molla

Saint Gianna Beretta Molla (October 4th, 1922 - April 28th, 1962) was an Italian pediatrician, a working mom, professional woman, and a loving wife who is best known for refusing both an abortion and a hysterectomy (surgery to remove her reproductive organs) when she was pregnant with her fourth child, despite knowing that continuing with a pregnancy could result in her death. Gianna specialized in obstetrics/gynecology and pediatrics; therefore she gave special attention to mothers, babies, the elderly, and the poor. She gave generous service to Catholic Action, a group of lay Catholics in Italy that sought to encourage a Catholic influence on society. She was canonized as a saint on May 16th, 2004 by Pope John Paul II. Gianna's feast day is April 28th. She is a patron saint of mothers, physicians, and preborn children.

## INSTRUCTIONS

To earn this patch, learn about Saint Gianna Molla. Complete one activity from each section. Although you may want to add this page to your Girl Scout or Camp Fire USA journal/scrapbook, you do not need to write out the answers.

If you are working together as a group or troop, have discussions and/or group activities. If you are working individually, include your family. If you are an older girl or boy, learn about Saint Gianna Molla and teach younger children.

Once earned, Girl Scouts may place this patch on the back of the sash or vest.

Once you have learned about Saint Gianna Molla, your leader, advisor, or parent may order the patch for you by visiting [www.nfcym.org](http://www.nfcym.org) and clicking the "SHOP" link at the top of the page to access the store.

## Why Is It?

That Saint Gianna Molla is pictured on the patch holding a child?

## Create Your Own Activity

Learn more about Saint Gianna Beretta Molla and create your own activity.



# Learn & Take Action

## For All

The church recognizes saints and those deemed “blessed”, not to get the bragging rights in heaven but to offer the models of holiness for our earthly pilgrimage.

- How does Saint Gianna help us with our earthly pilgrimage?
- Saint Gianna is the patron saint of what special intention?
- Saint Gianna was a member of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. Learn about the St. Vincent De Paul society.

## Social Action

- Learn about two Catholic Social Action issues. Share what you learn with someone else.
- Perform a service project. You could collect winter coats for needy children or organize a baby shower for a local shelter or home for pregnant women, collecting baby blankets and clothing. Or you could visit the elderly in your community on a regular basis. Provide service to your local food bank; assist with collecting important contributions. Organize and provide babysitting while parents attend Mass or other meetings in your parish.

## For Older Youth

Gianna gave generous service to Catholic Action. Learn about Catholic Action (also known as Catholic Social Action), especially during her lifetime in Italy. What current issues does Catholic Social Action address?

Saint Gianna was a working mom, professional woman, and a loving wife. Her vocation was marriage and cooperation with God in "forming a truly Christian family." Have a conversation with your mother or grandmother about how she balances her responsibilities.

Learn more about the vocation of marriage as taught by the Catholic Church. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has an entire website dedicated to it.

**Catholic Identity Patch Program is a project of the  
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[www.NCCGSCF.org](http://www.NCCGSCF.org)

