



# CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES OF SOUTHERN NEBRASKA

## Hope in the Good Life

October 2020

Blessed Chiara Luce Bodano/York Dukes Girls Golf

### Set the world ablaze with love

We have a lot to be hopeful for if we have Jesus in our hearts. We also have a lot to be hopeful for when we look at our youth.

Blessed Chiara Luce Bodano is on her way to sainthood and she lived on earth only 18 years. She passed away on October 7, 1990. The Church celebrates her life of heroic virtue on her feast day of October 29. She is a modern day saint for our youth to look up to.

Chiara was a member of the Focolare Movement and found consolation in the image of the forsaken Christ.

Many times she was made fun of by peers for her virtue and her trust in Christ. Throughout it all, when she was ridiculed and made fun of she remembered that Christ underwent the same agonies. And in that she found peace, strength, and holiness.

Chiara was stricken with pain while playing tennis at the age of 17. She found out she had bone cancer and began to suffer immensely. While

experiencing the suffering, her doctors had this to say about Chiara: *"Through her smile, and through her eyes full of light, she showed us that death doesn't exist; only life exists."* And as Chiara was dying it is said that she shared this with her mother about the importance of the youth of the world: *"Oh Mama, young people...young people...they are the future. You see, I can't run*



*anymore, but how I would like to pass on to them the torch, like in the Olympics! Young people have only one life and it's worthwhile to spend it well."*

Chiara knew young people could set the world ablaze.

The York (NE) Dukes High School Girls Golf Team are some of the youth that set this world ablaze with care, compassion, and love. Under the leadership of their coach Josh Miller (a proud Johnson-Brock Eagle graduate), they are doing little things across the state that are having a huge impact. The team started "Food Fore Families" in the fall of 2019 to help Nebraska

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Last year,  
our Hastings  
CSS office  
recycled  
**306,621**  
pounds of  
clothing  
at a value of  
**\$44,995**

#HopeintheGoodLife



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## #HopeintheGoodLife

### *Set the world ablaze with love (continued)*

families in need across the state. Every time the Dukes play in an 18-hole meet, they stop at a school, food pantry, or other organization to donate a bag of canned food which the girls brought from home. Coach Miller has a different golfer explain the program to the place they are making the donation to, to give them some ownership in the process. The team is proud to give back to the communities of Nebraska and they understand how lucky they are to be in a position to do so!

Recently, the team stopped at Catholic Social Services of Southern Nebraska in Lincoln and gave us food for our food pantry. CSS is humbled to receive this gift and we thank Coach Miller and all of the York Dukes Girls Golf team as they are apostles of compassion and goodness. Their virtue is helping to spread love throughout Nebraska and they are feeding people that they may never even meet. What a witness we should all be thankful for and look up to!

Thank you Ladies and Coach Miller for your witness and example!!! Stay safe and Go Dukes!!!!

*Fr. Justin Fulton, Executive Director*



In light of social distancing efforts, our Bountiful Harvest Celebration this year will not include a banquet. However, you can still help bring Hope in the Good Life to those we serve in and around the 16-county greater Hastings area by visiting [www.cssisus.org/bh2020](http://www.cssisus.org/bh2020). You may make a donation online or click on the link to take part in our Bountiful Harvest online auction. You'll find a great selection of items including getaways, collectibles, golf outings and more! Bidding ends October 25th.