

James Gargione
26 London Drive
East Brunswick, NJ 08816
(732) 432-7918

January 24, 2007

Ray of Hope Foundation
19 Holmes Avenue
Jersey City, New Jersey 07306

Hi Ray, Debbie, and Deeni,

Debbie and I want to thank you for the many prayers and rosaries you have said on behalf of our daughter Gabriella. Gabriella had her kidney transplant surgery on July 19, 2006, and Debbie was her donor. They are both doing very well, and we have seen remarkable improvements in Gabriella's eating, energy level, and overall development.

As you know, Gabriella was born without any kidney function, and was placed on peritoneal dialysis three days after birth. This birth defect is unusual and difficult to manage in newborns. Debbie and I were devastated when we learned the news about our daughter's diagnosis. We couldn't understand how this could have happened to good, honest, and hard-working people who believe in God and go to church every Sunday.

This event certainly rocked our faith, and led us to question our belief in God. I found myself especially angry with God, and couldn't understand why he did this to us. However, as mad as I was with God, deep down I still loved him, and believed he would help us through this situation. Debbie and I came to grips with our circumstances, and knew the only way to get through this difficult time was to remain positive, do all we can for our daughter, and pray to God for his help, strength, and healing.

A few weeks after Gabriella was born, a friend of my parents told us about Ray, and how through his intersection to Lord Jesus, the Blessed Mother, and Saint Ann miraculous healings have taken place. So I went onto your website, got your number and called. I spoke with Debbie; she was so nice, compassionate, and caring as I explained my situation. She said Ray would call that night and pray with my wife and me. We waited with anticipation at our daughters bedside in the neonatal intensive care unit. When Ray called we began talking about our daughters circumstances, as well as sharing some background information about Debbie and me. Then Ray began to pray while Debbie, Gabriella, and I held hands.

From that point forward Ray and Debbie called us frequently offering us prayers, solace, and support. We always looked forward to your calls as they brought us a sense of comfort and hope. Debbie and I couldn't believe how people we never met were so nice and genuinely concerned about our daughter situation, as well as our well being. We later learned that Ray and Debbie not only prayed for Gabriella when they called, but would pray for Gabriella at every group rosary.

Through Ray and Debbie's example, My wife Debbie and I began saying the rosary. I have been a devout Catholic my entire life and always prayed, but never said the rosary. I don't say it on a regular basis, but find myself at times picking-up the rosary beads and praying.

We couldn't have gotten here today if it weren't for all the prayers and blessing bestowed upon us, as well as having the support of great family and friends, such as you, helping us every step of the way. Gabriella will have to be continuously watched and take medications for the rest of her life, but we are so lucky to have her in our lives. We pray for the sick children in the world, and ask God to heal them of their affliction so they may enjoy a long life of happiness and good health.

We ask you for your continued prayers and friendship, and look forward to supporting the Ray of Hope Foundation for many years's to come.

God bless you all.

Sincerely,

Jim Gargione