

3800 Park Avenue St. Louis, MO 63110 phone: 314-577-5605 glennon.org

"So it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead" **Luke 24:46**

February 2016

Ash Wednesday marked the beginning of Lent on February 10. It is a season of penance, reflection and fasting. This season can transform our lives as we prepare for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Sunday in March. We pray you have a holy Lent.

This year, we are celebrating the 60th Anniversary of SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital. You will be hearing about our history leading up to a gala celebration later this year. We thank you for all you have done to make these 60 remarkable years possible and we look forward to the next 60 years and beyond, to drive and support our mission:

"Through our exceptional health care services, we reveal the healing presence of God."

Last month we explained the new IRA rollover legislation. For many of you, required minimum distributions (RMDs) present you with an opportunity to establish a charitable gift annuity or make an outright gift to benefit our patients. Your gift makes a difference in the lives of our patients and families and provides the financial support necessary for delivering exceptional health care in state-of-the-art facilities to all children in need of care.

We appreciate your longstanding generosity and we remain committed to becoming a national leader in health care. We are constantly striving to increase our support for faith-based, medical treatment and research.

May God reward you for all you do.

Rose Brower 314-633-7351

Andrew Sutton 314-678-6647

Major Gifts and Planned Giving Team

aura A. Wult

Laura Wulf 314-678-6635

Please consider leaving a heartfelt gift to help our patients in need by including SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Foundation in your will and financial plan.



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

You make a difference in the lives of Cardinal Glennon kids! If you are in town, we hope to see you at our upcoming events.

Scoops of Fun
Glennon Sunday
Homers for Health Game Shows
Ambassador Choice Awards
Glennon Golf Classic
Glennon Gallop Polo Match
Dierdorf-Pronger Golf Tournament
Tree of Hope Opening
60 th Anniversary Gala
Foundation Holiday Party
Glennon Guild Fashion Show Boutique & Luncheon



For more information about these events, please call **1-800-269-0552** or visit **glennon.org**

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Superman Liam

When I arrived at Liam's hospital room, full of family and medical staff, I was touched by the peace and love that filled the room. The hospital room had become "home" to Liam's family. Liam's 5-year-old brother Riley was playing video games and would take breaks to hug and play with his little brother, careful to avoid the tubes and monitor leads. Mom and dad, Jessica and Laramy were chatting with the staff and getting updates on Liam's progress and next steps. To distract Liam, Laramy would play peppy music and we watched Liam break into "dance" and clap joyfully. Liam was giving the doctors high fives. Riley would challenge Liam to a sword-fighting match with pencils.



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Liam responded gleefully and held his own. Once the staff left the room, Jessica and Laramy began to share their heartwarming story. Riley shared his lime green headsets with Liam so he could watch videos on the iPad.

Liam Wyatt Gregory was born on December 8, 2013. He had the normal childhood illnesses such as ear infections, sinus infections and asthma. Life was good, and Liam was an active, strong young boy. Laramy refers to him as "Superman."

On September 29, 2015, Jessica and Laramy were excited to learn that they were expecting another boy; the beginnings of a baseball team. Who could imagine that the next day, their busy and scheduled lives would come to a screeching halt. Liam had coughs due to his recent case of RSV and his ongoing

asthma. This time, though playful, Liam was short of breath and having trouble breathing. They took him to the doctor who ran tests on him and immediately Liam was rushed to SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital. Liam's heart failed and he was placed on ECMO (Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation) life support. After the maximum amount of time on ECMO, Liam was the recipient of a Berlin Heart. A Berlin Heart is an air-driven pump which takes over the work of the patient's own heart. It is used to allow time for a donor heart to be found.

This loving family of four has been at Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital with Liam since his arrival in September.





The holidays came and were very hectic. They were praying that Liam would receive a heart for a Christmas present, as stated by a priest who visited Liam in the fall.

About 8 p.m. on Christmas Eve, they received a call saying that a heart was available in Minnesota; the Christmas miracle for which they prayed. In less than 24 hours, Liam's Berlin Heart was removed and the donor heart was in place and pumping. The doctors were confident of the match and explained that it would take some time for the donor heart to acclimate to Liam's body.

Liam has been making steady progress since the transplant, yet the road ahead is a long one. Laramy, Jessica and Riley look forward to the

day when they can take Liam home, resume family life and welcome another baby boy. Until then, Jessica and Laramy are grateful for the state-of-the-art medical care Liam continues to receive and the exceptional compassion of other hospital teams, such as Footprints and Child Life, which have supported their family goals and needs.

Please pray for Liam and his family.

