

## Promotional Mass Announcements

Below are samples of announcements that may be included in your parish bulletin or made from the pulpit. If you would like to contribute additional samples of announcements you have used, please send them to the Diocese Respect Life Office.

### Bulletin Announcements

**NEW Diocese Respect Life Spiritual Adoption Program!** *[date]* @ *[time]* in *[location]* -- Help our Parish Respect Life team design our own personalized program to share in prayer for parents who are expecting a child, learn and educate others about the development of the preborn, and provide mothers in need with a 'baby shower' of donated baby gifts. To learn more, contact *[name]* at *[phone/email]* or go to [www.respectlifekcsj.org](http://www.respectlifekcsj.org) and select "Programs & Events→ Spiritual Adoption".

**Join our NEW Parish Spiritual Adoption Program!** -- Share in prayer for parents who are expecting a child, learn and educate others about the development of the preborn, and provide mothers in need with a 'baby shower' of donated baby gifts. To learn more, contact *[name]* at *[phone/email]* or go to [www.respectlifekcsj.org](http://www.respectlifekcsj.org) and select "Programs & Events→ Spiritual Adoption".

**NEW Parish Spiritual Adoption Program, "Come Learn and Be A Part!"** -- *[date]* @ *[time]* in *[location]* -- We are excited to introduce our new Spiritual Adoption Program. Participants simply pledge to pray for nine months for an unborn baby, learn about the development of the preborn, and in the end sponsor a 'baby shower' for a local pregnancy resource center. There is no cost to participate and best of all...the program can be enjoyed by all, from pre-school to adult. To learn more, contact *[name]* at *[phone/email]* or go to [www.respectlifekcsj.org](http://www.respectlifekcsj.org) and select "Programs & Events→ Spiritual Adoption".

### Pulpit Announcements

Pastor or Parish Respect Life Coordinator

My Dear Friends in Christ,

With assaults on human life increasing at an alarming rate, I am asking you today to make a personal commitment to pray daily for one unborn child. We, as individuals and as a parish family, have the opportunity to participate in a wonderful program to "spiritually adopt" one unknown baby for the next nine months. Each of us can pray for our child that he or she will be carried to term and experience the fullness of life, as God intended.

For just a moment, picture a young woman who just this week discovered that she is seven weeks pregnant. What she may not know is that her baby's heart has been beating for four weeks, it can flex its fingers and toes, suck on his or her thumb and is totally dependent on her. She may not know where to turn. She may be struggling with her fears of being a mother. She may be experiencing pressure and advice from many caring and well-intentioned family members and friends.

Many people, like us here today, know we all have a strong Father and we care enough to help our brothers and sisters in need. Our prayers can make a difference in whether this baby will be born safely. Our prayers can also be a form of spiritual support for all parents.

Please take a prayer card placed at [\[location\]](#) and pray the very brief prayer daily for your "adopted child". While this child may remain unknown to us, God knows who the child is. Therefore we ask that you name your child in order to stay focused on the reality that your prayers are helping to keep an actual unborn child safe.

At the end of the nine-month period we as a parish will celebrate the "birth" of our spiritually adopted babies with a baby shower. In this way we can also help, in a very tangible way, the mother as she brings to term a beautiful gift of life. All gifts collected at the shower will be donated to [\[local pregnancy center\]](#) to help mothers in need.

For more information, please see the brochures and posters at [\[location\]](#) or contact a member of our Parish Respect Life Ministry.

May God bless you, your loved ones, and our entire family of brothers and sisters in Christ.

Thank you,

(This pastoral pulpit announcement was inspired in part by the Spiritual Adoption Program of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, MD)

#### Parish Respect Life Coordinator

This month, [\[parish name\]](#) will have the opportunity to join parishes across our diocese to participate in a newly formed Spiritual Adoption Program. You may "adopt" a child individually or as a family. Sign-up materials are located in [\[location\]](#).

While this child may remain unknown to us, God knows who the child is so we ask that you name your child in order to stay focused on the reality that your prayers are helping to keep an actual unborn child safe.

You will then say a very brief daily prayer for your unborn child and for all unborn children.

You will receive monthly updates through [\[method of updates\]](#) describing your baby's development.

There are millions of unborn babies desperately in need of your prayers. Please help these children and help support your Parish Respect Life Ministry. Spiritually adopt a child and share the love for life that God have given you?

Thank you and God Bless.

#### Parish Respect Life Coordinator

As faithful Catholics we must understand how truly precious the gift of human life is. All too often in our efforts to share this wonderful message we find ourselves in discussions that require an understanding of theology or a knowledge of science or a level of life experience which is exclusive of some members of our faith.

For this reason the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph Respect Life Office sponsors a Spiritual Adoption Program that can be enjoyed by all members of our Catholic family whether in our parishes, in our grade schools, in our middle schools, or in our homes.

There is no cost to participate. Participants in the Spiritual Adoption Program pledge to pray a brief daily prayer for nine months for an unborn baby. While this child will remain unknown to his or her 'spiritual parent', God knows who the child is. Prayer is the most powerful tool we have.

You will receive monthly updates through [\[method of updates\]](#) describing your baby's development.

At the end of the nine months, our school/parish will hold a baby shower to gather new or gently used items for [\[pregnancy resource center\]](#), a local agency that provides support for mothers in need.

So Spiritual Adoption Program:

- Encourages prayer for parents who are expecting a child; that they will respond to God's grace and welcome their child into life.
- Educates adults and children about the development of the preborn child.
- Provides mothers in need with a 'baby shower' of donated baby gifts.

For more information, please see the brochures and posters at [\[location\]](#) or contact myself or another member of our Parish Respect Life Ministry.

Thank you and God Bless.