

By selecting from any of the complementary program materials below, or from additional resources available on-line, the Spiritual Adoption Program may be customized to meet the specific needs of your parishes, school, or home and may be enjoyed by students of all ages, from pre-school to adult.

Promotional

Brochure
Flyer--Bulletin board/meeting invitation
Flyer--Mass bulletin insert
Announcements--Mass bulletin and pulpit
Letter--Parish priest and school principal
Letter--Parents and teachers
Presentation (Powerpoint)

Pledge & Prayer Cards

Pledge cards--KC-StJ Respect Life (for bulletin boards, church trees, etc.)
Prayer cards--KC-StJ Respect Life
Prayer cards--Holy Family
Prayer cards--Patroness of the Unborn

Monthly Updates

Cards--Annunciation
Cards--Illustrations
Cards--Photos
Posters--Illustrations
Posters--Photos
Posters--Little One Sweet
Labels--KC-StJ Respect Life (for your own cards, bookmarks, etc.)
Mass bulletin announcement



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Program Completion

Certificates of program completion
Birthday party announcements
Baby shower announcements
Spiritual Adoption program participant feedback form

“God does not call us to do great things but to do small things with great love.”
Blessed Mother Teresa



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“Jesus, I love you very much. I beg you to protect the preborn baby I have spiritually adopted.”



Spiritual Adoption

A Program for Schools, Parishes, and Families



Sponsored by the
Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph Respect Life Office

Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.

Jeremiah 1:5



Thank you for your support in the crusade to defend the sanctity of all human life! 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 younger members of our faith.



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

We hope you will enjoy participating in the Spiritual Adoption Program.

In Christ,

Bill Francis, MT(ASCP), MHCE
Respect Life Director
Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph

What is the Spiritual Adoption Program?

It is very simple. Participants in the Spiritual Adoption Program pledge to pray 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. Many people have found that naming 'their child' helps to keep them focused on the reality that their prayers are helping to keep a particular baby safe. This can be done in a parish or school setting, with age appropriate materials.

At the end of the nine months of prayer, schools and/or parishes can hold a baby shower to gather new or gently used items for agencies that provide a home or support for mothers experiencing a difficult pregnancy.

What are the objectives of the Spiritual Adoption Program?

1. Encourage prayer for parents who are expecting a child, that they will respond to God's grace and welcome their child into life.
2. Educate adults and children about the development of the preborn child.
3. Provide mothers in need with a 'baby shower' of donated baby gifts, or simply celebrate with a 'birthday party' at the conclusion of the program.

Who can participate?

Church members, students, prayer groups and anyone who is concerned about the unborn, and who is willing to pray "that they might have life and have it to the full." (John 10:10)



How can my school, parish, or family get started with the Spiritual Adoption Program?

At the beginning of the program a pledge card or prayer card is completed with your name and the name of your adopted child. The prayer is recited at regular intervals throughout the nine months. In addition to the prayer, a regular update on the development of the unborn child is provided in the form of a poster, a card, a bulletin announcement, etc. At the end of the nine months a 'baby shower' or 'birthday party' can be celebrated and the gifts of baby items donated to a local pregnancy center or other organization that assists mothers and babies.

There are a number of different options for promoting your Spiritual Adoption Program at school or in your parish. There are also different prayer and pledge cards, progress update cards and posters, and program completion materials based on the age and specific needs of your participants. All of these materials can be obtained by downloading them from the Diocese Respect Life website below, by contacting your parish Respect Life coordinator, or by simply contacting the Diocese Respect Life Office...**and most materials are totally free!**

To learn more, visit the Diocese Respect Life Spiritual Adoption website at www.respectlifekcsj.org.

Navigation tabs: RESPECT LIFE | PASTORAL CARE | EDUCATION | PARISH MINISTRY | PUBLIC POLICY | RESOURCES | CONTACT US

Logos: Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, Respect Life, Pastoral Care

Spiritual Adoption

Spiritual Adoption is an age-appropriate family-friendly program based on an idea by Archbishop Fulton Sheen in which participants pray for a specific, but unknown, unborn child for nine months, learn about fetal development during the "pregnancy" and celebrate with either a "baby shower" in which baby items are donated to a local pregnancy resource center, or a "birthday party".

The program materials are available free of charge and consist of promotional brochures and flyers for parishes and schools, pledge cards, prayer cards, ideas for providing updates and education, and announcements for baby showers and birthday parties.

Logo: In place of the dove that every one knows adorns the cross, is a dove - the Holy Spirit, which represents the love and prayers of participants that peacefully deliver both unborn children and their parents.