



Spiritual Adoption Program

Dear Parents,

As many of you know, October is Respect Life Month. In order to create a better awareness of the significance of life at all stages we will once again be implementing the Spiritual Adoption Program at our school. This program is modeled after a number of very successful programs used in other dioceses across the country. The students, as participants will 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 so we encourage the students to name the baby they will be praying for. They will pray daily in class for nine months, but it is also a great opportunity to pray at home for their unborn baby. Being that October is also the month of the rosary, consider praying the rosary as a family for your spiritually adopted baby.

Monthly updates will be provided by the school describing the baby's development.

As a result of this program, we placed the statue of the Virgin Mary carrying baby Jesus in the front garden of our school last year as a reminder to all of the dignity of life.

All classrooms will have a picture frame of a baby with a prayer asking for the protection of unborn babies.

Later on in the school year, we will be setting up a collection of baby gifts where the children and their families can donate items for a baby shower. These baby gifts will be donated to Respect Life so they can help mothers in need.

The purpose of the Spiritual Adoption Program is three-fold:

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

Prayer: "Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to protect the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted." Bishop Fulton J. Sheen

Thank you for helping our children to grow in their awareness of, and appreciation for, all life that God has so lovingly created.

Sincerely,

Holy Rosary + St. Richard Catholic School
Moms' Prayer Group