

You can be a:

Modern Day Magi

Feast of the Epiphany



Wise men still seek Him!

On the first Epiphany, the three Magi celebrated our Savior's birth with generous gifts to the Christ child. You are invited to join with our parish in bearing gifts for the babies of mothers in need. Please bring your gifts unwrapped to Mass by _____ and leave them in the designated collection site.

Suggested Gifts: (newborn-5 yrs.)

Disposable Diapers
Bottles / Bibs
Undershirts / Onesies
Receiving Blankets
Socks & Booties
Crib Sheets & Blankets

Formula
Sleepers
Hooded Bath Towels
Snow Suits
Sweaters/Hats/Jackets
Baby toys

GIFTS WILL BE SHARED BY:

Our Parish, Pregnancy-Help Centers, Catholic Charities/Social Services

SPONSORED BY: The Bishops' Pastoral Plan for Pro Life Activities

BABY SHOWER FOR MOTHERS IN NEED

PURPOSE OF PROGRAM

To collect maternity clothes, baby clothes, layette items, good baby furniture and equipment, baby formula, and disposable diapers to distribute to agencies who directly assist unwed mothers. (Birthright, Crisis Pregnancy Center, Catholic Social Services/Charities, etc.)

INSTRUCTIONS

4 Weeks Before Collection

- Solicit volunteers for a “bootie committee”. Your “bootie committee” volunteers will make blue and pink booties out of construction paper to hang on a tree in the church.

3 Weeks Before Collection

- ✓ Meet with volunteers to make booties. Hook paper clips on each one so they can be hung on a tree. Make as many as you think will be taken by the parishioners in your parish.
- ✓ Put up flyers (available at www.nebcathcon.org/printedresources) in church about the upcoming collection. Place an announcement in the bulletin explaining the collection.

SAMPLE BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT

“Next weekend, our parish Pro-Life Committee will begin a Collection for needy mothers. There will be a tree with booties in the Church. Please take a bootie and return the following week with some item for the pregnant mother or her baby. Our committee would like to collect maternity clothes, baby clothes, layette items, good baby furniture and equipment, baby formula, and disposable diapers. We will distribute the collected items to Birthright, Catholic Social Services/Charities and Crisis Pregnancy Centers. Please help us support those mothers who need our assistance!”

- ✓ Get a small dead tree without leaves and paint it white. Fill a large plastic bucket with four bricks (to steady the tree) and fill it with sand. Hang the pink and blue booties on the tree. Cover the bucket to make it more attractive. Place it in church and set a white bassinet next to the tree. Decorate the bassinet with pink and blue ribbons.

Two Weeks Before the Collection

- Place the tree in the church and have the celebrant ask the parishioners to take a bootie and bring back an item the following week. Have them attach the bootie to the gift. Parishioners with pink booties should bring items for girls. Those with blue booties should bring items for boys.

The Weekend of the Collection

- Have the celebrant ask those who have brought an item for the collection to place it on the altar near the bassinet. Ask the celebrant to bless the gifts and the mothers and babies who will receive the gifts. Remind him to thank those who brought the gifts for the generosity toward those who are less fortunate.

The Week After the Collection

- † Write a thank you note for the bulletin thanking those who donated items for the collection. Tell them where their donated items are being distributed. Ask a few of your Pro-Life Committee members to help you distribute the collection items to your local Birthright and Catholic Social Service/Charities office (see *section D* for organizations in Nebraska). Check over the baby furniture and equipment to make certain it is in good repair.