

September 6th, 2012

Dear Parents,

The St. Francis Respect Life Committee is very excited to be collaborating with the school on a Spiritual Adoption Program that will follow this school year. Thank you to Principal Kim for envisioning its potential fruits; we hope you enjoy it! As well as announcing it in the school newsletters today and next week, we will be presenting at the school assembly on September 17<sup>th</sup>, the official start date.

The purpose of the program is to encourage prayer for all unborn children, educate the children on the development of the pre-born child, and to serve a needy family in the community with donated baby gifts.

The teacher packets we prepared for their meeting last week included:

1. Prayer cards for each student
2. 10 "thank-you notes" from the baby for each month, emphasizing its appreciation for continued prayer on the nine-month journey, along with updates on development

The school has been given 10 16"x20" full-color posters depicting how babies develop. They are very gentle and appealing, both illustrating and describing in words the baby's growth stages in the womb. There is no mention of abortion on the posters. For the nine month period, beginning in mid-September 2012 and going through mid-June 2013, the posters will be displayed near the entrance to the lobby.

We will be providing activities along the way to keep everyone's interest. Please see the calendar below.

- In October, Respect Life Month, we will be asking the students to participate in a poster puzzle activity in the individual classrooms. The theme is "Every Child Brings Us God's Smile"; words from Pope Benedict XVI. More details to come. The final product will be announced to the parish and displayed in the Parish Center during the month of January, Sanctity of Life Month.
- In December, we will give the teachers "precious feet" pins to be distributed. Again, more on that later.
- We will adopt a needy, expecting family from Sherwood, or surrounding areas, and in the month of April collect gifts in a basinet displayed in the atrium.
- In May, we will hold a baby shower event at the school and then, along with the student government and chaperone, deliver the gifts to the family.
- In June, we will display pictures of the baby we adopted and thank you notes from the family.

This is a first for all of us; thank you so much, in advance, for joining us along the way. Please contact us regarding any issues, questions, etc. OK, here we go!

Yours for Life,

Amy Cookson 503.307.4726 & Sue Pelletier 503.703.1710

St. Francis School  
Spiritual Adoption Program  
2012-2013

<b>Month</b>	<b>Development</b>		<b>Event</b>
	month	Weeks*	
September	Day 1		Kickoff at Assembly on Monday September 17th
October	1	0-4	Poster Puzzle Activity Introduced on Wednesday October 17th
November	2	5-8	
December	3	9-12	Precious Feet Distributed by Teachers
January	4	13-16	Announce/Display Final Product of Puzzle Poster Activity to Parish
February	5	17-20	Family Adopted, Wish List Collected
March	6	21-24	Introduce Adopted Family in Newsletter, Classroom Gift "Themes" Decided by Staff Based on Wish List
April	7	25-28	Baby Shower Gifts Collected
May	8	29-32	Baby Shower
June	9	33-40	Thank You Card and Pictures of Baby Displayed
*number of weeks per month correspond to program			