

Prayer of Blessing

For Adoptive Families, Adopted Children, and Couples Considering Adoption

In honor of National Adoption Month in November, the priest may offer a special blessing before the final blessing, while the congregation is standing, for all families who have been touched by adoption: adoptive families in the community, children and adults who were adopted, parents whose children have been adopted by other families, and anyone who feels called to adopt. Alternatively, a special mass may be held for families touched by adoption.

With hands extended, the Priest concludes the intercessions by blessing the families in these words:

**Gracious Father,
Your Word, spoken in love,
created the human family
and your Son renewed the human family
in charity and mercy.**

**Today we join in offering heartfelt thanks
to almighty God for all those
whose hearts have been touched by adoption.**

[For adopted children:

**God, author of all life,
bless, we pray, all adopted children;
give Your constant protection
as You watch over them.]**

[For adoptive families:

**Endow all adoptive families
with sincere and enduring love
as they seek to create a new and loving home
for their adopted children.]**

[For couples hoping to adopt:

**Lord, grant couples seeking to adopt
comfort in all anxiety
and help in their determination as they seek
to grow their families through adoption.]**

**Fill this parish community
with faithfulness and new resolve
to share in the formation
of these children and all children
in Christ our Savior,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.**

R/. Amen.

As circumstances suggest, the priest may sprinkle the families with holy water.

If appropriate, an adoptive family may bring forward bread and wine for the celebration of the Eucharist and the faithful may bring forward other gifts to relieve the needs of families in difficulty.

Adapted from the Rite for the Blessing of a Child in the Womb.