

GUIDELINES FOR GIFTS

- Often the greatest need is for **NEWBORN** sizes of clothing and diapers (0-6 months)
- Gifts should be in sizes Newborn - 12 Months
- Please do *not* gift wrap the items. It is easier to distribute them if we can identify categories and sizes.
- Only **NEW** items should be gifted so that these families can experience the joy of receiving something that has never been used.
 - If you receive used items, consider donating them to St. Vincent de Paul.
- Gifts should not come into contact with cigarette smoke at any time.
- There is no need to wash the items or remove tags.

New, Unwrapped Sizes NEWBORN through 12 Months of the Following:

Sleepers & Pajamas	0-3 Month Sleepers/Outfits
Onesies & Undershirts	Outerwear
Socks & Booties	Bottles
Crib Sheets	Bibs
Blankets	Diapers
Hats & Mittens	Rattles & Toys
Wipes	Pacifiers
Baby Shampoo	Baby Lotion

PROMOTION AND IDENTIFICATION

Ensuring a visible presence and engaging invitation to participate is key to a successful shower in your parish. Below are some ideas to help you promote and streamline the process

- Be sure to put up as many posters as possible.
- Set out your receptacle of choice in an appropriate, accessible, and visible area that will serve as a reminder to the faith community throughout the Advent Season. You may want to have multiple collection sites.
- Publish the enclosed Advent Baby Shower notices in your bulletins and announcements.
- Designate a Baby Shower Sunday or Mass to highlight the ongoing collection program. Encourage parishioners or children to bring up the shower items at Offertory and place them in front of the altar, or in a manger or cradle at the front of the Church.
- Have a designated receptacle made by the children in each classroom at the schools, and religious education classes at Church.
- Have a classroom baby shower party.
- Collect gifts at all school Masses.
- Combine resources and buy one expensive gift, such as a diaper bag, coat, or diapers.
- Incorporate the Advent Baby Shower into potlucks and Christmas parties held by your organizations.
- Instead of bringing gifts for each other, bring gifts for the Advent Baby Shower.

Looking for a cute way to gather the baby items? Try one of these!

- Bassinet
- Manger
- Toy Box
- Cradle
- Under a Christmas Tree
- Crib
- Doll Bed
- By a Nativity Scene
- Large Gift Wrapped Box

SHOWER GIFT COLLECTION AND DISTRIBUTION

Each parish will be responsible for distributing the shower gifts to meet the needs of their own parish and to the programs in their community. This ensures the items are being distributed Diocesan wide to all in need. If you are unable to use all of the items donated, we ask that you bring them to a local hub near you or to the Catholic Chancery offices.

Local Hubs include:

Aberdeen: Sacred Heart & St Mary

Watertown: Immaculate Conception & Holy Name

Pierre: SS Peter and Paul

Brookings: St Thomas More

Huron: Holy Trinity

Yankton: Sacred Heart & St Benedict

Gifts may also be brought to:

Catholic Family Services
Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls
523 N. Duluth Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

We are located in the Catholic Pastoral Center, First Floor. You can ask our First Floor receptionist to direct you to our offices. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

If possible, please bring gifts by **February 12, 2021**, so that we can organize and prepare the baby closet, but know that they will be welcome anytime. We will then coordinate distribution to those in need outside the parish organizations. Be sure to identify from which parish or institution/organization the gifts were collected.



“The best gift we can give to any child is to make that child feel wanted, loved and cared for because that child is the greatest gift of God.”

~ Saint Teresa of Calcutta

SAMPLE BULLETIN NOTICES

Bulletin Notice for November 29th

SHOWER CHRIST'S LITTLE ONES

We invite you to participate in the 28th Annual Advent Baby Shower, beginning November 29th and continuing through Christmas. Please bring **NEW** gifts, including clothing sizes newborn to 12 months, and place them in the designated area. (See poster for further information.) These gifts will fill the needs of people in our parish, Catholic Family Services, foster homes, hospitals, Birthright, the Free Clinic, domestic shelters, and Native American ministries.

Sponsored by Catholic Family Services, partially funded by CFSA.
www.sfcatholic.org/cfs or join us on Facebook

Bulletin Notice for December 6th, 13th, and 20th

SHOWER CHRIST'S LITTLE ONES

As Mary clothed the child Jesus, so we are invited to clothe the littlest in our midst. Little ones across the Diocese are in need of your help. Join us in the 28th Annual Advent Baby Shower running now through Christmas. Please bring **NEW** baby items, including clothing sizes newborn to 12 months, diapers/wipes, blankets, toys, etc., and place them in the designated area.

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