

Theme: The Power of Home

Topic: Adoption and Foster care

Discipline: English

Overview: Students will learn about the number of infants and children available for adoption or in the foster care system. They will explore adoption as a loving option for unexpected pregnancies. Activities and personal testimonies will reinforce the need of each person to have stability, love, and family. They will be presented with practical opportunities to help kids find homes and/or mentors.

[STUDENT HANDOUT.](#) |  [Adoption Community Resources](#)
[Scripture & Church Teaching](#)

Have students read the handout on Adoption and discuss it with them as a class.

Below are Additional Classroom Resources for students and parents.

Videos

Adoption Stories

- [Adoption Stories from the World Meeting of Families](#) Two families share how adoption has not only helped their family grow, but also has made them more compassionate and loving people. Catholic News Service. 2 minutes.
- ["A Birthmother Story: Grace"](#) A birthmother shares her moving story of choosing adoption for her baby. Adoption is chosen because birthmothers love their children more, not less. 4 minutes.
- [Gianna Jensen's Story](#) Pro-life activist Gianna Jensen shares her adoption story. 3 minutes.
- ["Adoption Montage"](#) From Students for Life of America, a birthmother, adoptive mother, and adoptee all share their stories. 10 minutes.
- ["8 Adoption Stories"](#) Heartwarming collection of stories showing the power of adoption. ABC. 13 minutes.
- ["I'm Adopted"](#) Lisa shares the story of her adoption and of eventually talking to both of her birthparents. Students for Life of America. 5 minutes.
- ["Unwanted"](#) Story of Ryan Bomberger, adopted after his birth mother was raped but chose life. Positive message of overcoming a bad situation and the power of adoption. 1.5 minutes.

- ["Jessica's Story"](#) of being a birthmom and placing her child for adoption with a loving home. Jessica is an important part of her daughter Macy's life and her new adoptive family. 6 minutes.
- iChoose Adoption stories of birthmoms who chose to place their children for adoption. [Miranda's](#) story, 1 minute. [Cristen's](#) story, 1 minute. [Angela's](#) story, 6 minutes.
- College student [Callie Mitchell's](#) story of placing her son Leo in an open adoption. NBC Rock Center story. 7.5 minutes.
- [Adoptive parents meet their baby for the first time](#) The results are astounding. 8 minutes.
- ["A Husband Lost, a Daughter Found"](#) New York Times article with 2 minute video about one woman's experience when her adult daughter finds her at 17 after being adopted at birth. Positive depiction of the choice to adopt and good reunion story.

Foster Youth Stories

- [Foster Youth Share their Stories of Loss, Trust, and Hope](#) Former foster teens tell their stories of the challenges and benefits to their foster care experiences. Powerful to learn how so many kids live. 17 minutes.

Apologetics

- ["Children in Foster Care"](#) Students for Life of America offer information on discussing adoption and foster care from a pro-life perspective. Apologetic in nature. 7 minutes.

Articles

Stories

- [Washington Times story](#) of a priest who turned to Facebook to help find adoptive parents for an unborn child given a diagnosis of Down Syndrome. With one day to make the decision, close to 1,000 families respond that they will adopt the baby. Beautiful story!
- [Catholic Couple Adopts Triplets](#) Heartwarming story.
- [Adopting Teens](#) Liz shares her story of adopting Ashley, one of many teens who often age out of the foster care system before being adopted.
- [Stories from Catholic Charities](#) A birthmother and adoptive parents' stories from the diocese of Arlington.
- ["Adoption is Biblical"](#) Mary Ann shares her story of adoption and how adoption is Biblical, especially because we are adopted children of God. from Priests for Life.

Pastoral

- ["Accompanying Expectant Mothers Considering Adoption"](#) Practical advice from the USCCB to help mothers who might be considering adoption.

Websites

[Adopted and Loved](#) Website with resources and information for birth moms and people wishing to adopt.

[These Kids Are Waiting for Adoption](#) photo list of some of the children in foster care in LA, awaiting adoption.

[Brave Love](#) - gorgeous website highlighting the [stories](#) of brave love shown by birth parents, adoptive parents, and adoptees

[Post-Secondary Support System](#) Website connecting students aged-out of the foster care system to programs that will help support their college education.

[National Council for Adoption](#) Resources and information for all types of adoption and different people involved.

Scripture and Church Teaching

[Exodus 2:1-10](#) The adoption of Moses by Pharaoh's daughter.

Prayer Opportunities

["Adoption Novena"](#) This PDF from the USCCB has different prayers for all of the people involved in adoption. Each prayer features scripture, silent reflection, a prayer, and a petition to St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus Christ. It is formatted to be a novena, but can also be use on a one-time basis.

["Intercessory Prayers: Adoption"](#) Pre-written intercessory prayers from the USCCB for use at Mass in English and Spanish.