



“Families are the first place where the values of love and fraternity, togetherness and sharing, concern and care for others are lived out and handed on.” Encyclical letter “Fratelli Tutti” of the Holy Father Francis.

Every child deserves a loving family. We are all adopted sons and daughters of God, and we know that the family is the basic building block of society. Los Angeles County has more than 38,000 children in foster care. These foster children and youth need the love of a family to support them and nurture them to their full potential. We can all do our part to help children in foster care.

for families

Become a foster family

Is your family called to be a foster family to children in need? Do you want to say yes to fostering but don't know where to start? Perhaps you have questions: How long is the process? Is there financial support? Do you need to own a house?

There are a variety of resources available to answer any questions you might have. Visit lacatholics.org/foster to learn more and access a list of various organizations.

for individuals

Become a CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) are trained volunteers who work one-on-one with children and youth. They represent and advocate for them in the dependency court system. CASA's make a life-changing difference in the life of a child while helping make decisions that are in the child's best interest.

Volunteer

Many organizations lack resources and are always looking for volunteers to help with programs and events. Volunteering is also a great way to meet and learn about the needs of foster children first hand. This can help to identify your calling.

Awareness

A simple way to help is to create awareness about foster care. Follow foster care organizations on social media and share about the great work they are doing. You can also invite others to help and volunteer.

for parishes

Host a foster speaker

The Archdiocese can help provide speakers who can share about foster care. Learn about how families can become foster families, or how the parish community can support foster children as a group. We'll help you find a speaker for after Mass, provide you with prayer cards and resources.

To book a speaker at your parish, contact Karina Perez (213) 637-7632

for schools and religious ed classes

Organize a drive

Foster youth often lack basic necessities. Organizing a drive to collect practical items such as jeans, pajamas, socks, backpacks, or luggage to carry their belongings is a great way to get students involved and teach them about foster care.

Involve the family

Send flyers home with students to encourage family discussions. Encourage participation of families in activities such as a drive, volunteer for a day or attend a school foster care presentation.

Learn More

Invite a speaker to talk with your students and parents about fostering. Hearing the testimonies of foster parents and when possible, youth will help give a better understanding of foster care and how families in your parish can help.

For more information, ideas and resources, visit: lacatholics.org/foster



**Office of Life,
Justice & Peace**
Archdiocese of Los Angeles

