



# THE ROSE PROJECT

Identifying and Supporting Women and Their Families During the Tender Times of Bringing New Life Into the World.



## What is it?

The Rose Project helps a Parish identify and pray for those waiting for a child to be born, those celebrating birth or adoption, wanting to become pregnant or adopt, grieving a miscarriage, stillbirth, abortion, infant or child death.

- *Red Rose*: honoring pregnancy and unborn babies
- *Yellow Rose*: a birth, fostering new children, or celebrating adoptions
- *Pink Rose*: praying for those desiring to conceive, or trying to adopt, those experiencing infertility
- *White Rose*: grieving with families suffering a loss (due to miscarriage, abortion, stillbirth, infant or child death)

## How It Works

- Select a special place in your church for the focal point of the Rose Project Program. This is a perpetual/ongoing program.
- You will need a table large enough to hold a basket, a vase, a small direction display easel, and a prayer card holder.
- Silk roses are placed in the basket.
- People are invited to choose a rose from the basket (according to their particular situation and color), place it in the vase, and complete a card with name (optional) and other information specific to the particular situation.
- Identify church members who will pray daily for families represented by the rosebuds.
- If the church has a Chapter of Elizabeth Ministry, an Elizabeth Minister could be matched with each family, [see ElizabethMinistry.org](http://see ElizabethMinistry.org).
- Prayer cards are displayed next to the vase. Those filling out the tags as well as all parishioners are invited to take a prayer card for their personal meditation.
- Church members are encouraged to pray for all those the roses represent.

## Ongoing Maintenance

- Check the names on the roses in the vase weekly.
- If you have a Chapter of Elizabeth Ministry, assign Elizabeth Ministers to visit each family represented by a rose.
- Each church decides how long the roses remain in the vase: One option... at the beginning of each month, the lead will reset the vase and a note will state, *“At the beginning of each month, the vase will be reset; feel free to renew your “prayer rose” as often as the situation warrants it.”* The vase will be reset.
- When the roses are removed from the vase they are placed back in the basket to re-circulate them.

## Materials

- Display with information/instructions & easel/display frame
- Prayer Cards
- Rose Tags (small cards/slips of paper to indicate situation)
- Silk Roses (red, pink, white, yellow)
- Basket for roses - for roses not yet chosen (ideally a long/flat basket to fit roses laying horizontally)
- Vase for roses - for roses chosen by individual/family
- Small box/basket to hold blank cards or ribbons to tie the cards onto roses
- Small decorative box to contain the filled out cards
- Table or shelf to set items on
- Optional: A set may be purchased for \$175 at <https://shopelizabethministry.mybigcommerce.com/rosebud-program-blessing-bouquet-english/>

## Program Promotion

- **Launch Weekend** - ask permission for a announcement to be made at all Masses; have a table in the gathering space near the program set up with volunteers before and after each Mass to provide more info about the program; encourage parishioners to sign up if interested in supporting the ministry through various means (e.g. praying for participants, providing a meal if needed, providing other support, helping with the program operation...)
- Have **bulletin announcement** regularly to explain the program and increase awareness - especially the first 6-12 mos.
- **Collaborate** with Mother’s Group, Women’s Ministry or other appropriate ministries at parish.
- **Program Materials Available:**
  - Flyer
  - Poster
  - Completion Cards

- Prayer Cards
- Cards to include if sending a note in the mail for resources for various situations (miscarriage, foster/adopt)- *COMING SOON!*
- Bulletin Announcement/Social Media Graphic

### **Additional Outreach Activities**

- Send a note/card in the mail to the family which can include:
  - a prayer card (specific to situation)
  - card with qr code/links to resources (specific to situation)
    - Pregnancy & Unborn -
    - Birth - information on Baptism at the parish
    - Those desiring to conceive, or trying to adopt, those experiencing infertility - links to adoption/foster resources; fertility care resources
    - Miscarriage/still-born - links to miscarriage support resources
  - Offer to provide a meal
  - Inquire about any other support needed

### **Current Parishes participating in this ministry**

- **Holy Trinity - Lenexa** - Purchased the Elizabeth Ministry package. Holy Trinity does not have a Elizabeth Ministry at their Parish.
- **Church of the Ascension - Overland Park** - Using materials created by the Archdiocesan Pro-Life Office
- **Sacred Heart of Jesus - Emporia** - Using materials created by the Archdiocesan Pro-Life Office
- **Queen of the Holy Rosary - Overland Park** - Using materials created by the Archdiocesan Pro-Life Office