

Resources: End of Pregnancy, Ministries, Publications, Websites, and Prayers



The following pages are a compilation of prayers, publications, websites, ministries, and resources suggested and selected by volunteers of **Treasures In Our Hearts**, as well as families who sadly have suffered the loss of their baby due to miscarriage or stillbirth.

As you struggle to find peace, know that everyone's journey is unique. There should be no expectations or judgments, rather prayer and support recognizing that family members will all react differently. **TIOH** recommends that you use all available resources; talk to medical professionals including bereavement specialists. Seek the counsel of a priest, deacon or minister, create a memory ... a tangible remembrance to hold in your heart. Share your story - open up to family and friends as they too suffer in your loss, join a group of others that have experienced such a loss, contact **Treasures In Our Hearts**, utilize the resources that follow.

Blessing...

for a Woman who has Suffered the Loss of Her Child through Miscarriage or Stillbirth

Almighty, everlasting God, lover of holy purity, who chose in your wisdom and goodness to call this woman's child to your heavenly kingdom, be pleased also, O Lord, to show your mercy to this servant of yours, comforting her with your love, helping her to accept bravely your holy will. Thus comforted by the merits of your sacred passion, and aided by the intercession of blessed Mary, ever a Virgin, and all the saints, may she be united at last with her child for all eternity in the kingdom of heaven. We ask this of you who live and reign forever and ever. Amen.

Delivery Aids

Sometimes an unborn baby dies in the womb and a woman is told she will soon miscarry. A Delivery Aid offers a way to deliver the child with as much dignity as circumstances allow. Netting is used to catch your baby's remains, the netting is placed between the toilet seat and bowl.

Deliver Aid Order Information

[Elizabeth Ministry](http://elizabethministry.com)

elizabethministry.com

(920) 766-9380

120 W 8th St,

Kaukauna, WI 54130

Treasures In Our Hearts has purchased a limited number of Delivery Aids available for moms who have been told that they will soon lose their baby. Please call 517-435-5814 or email tioh@queenschurch.com if this need arises.

You have been told that your baby is or will be stillborn at birth. What can you do? This plan will allow you to have some control when all control seems to be taken from you.

Family Birth Plan for a Stillborn Baby

We, _____ and _____, have learned that our baby is or will be stillborn at birth. We have named our baby _____. Please use this name when referring to our little one. Ask us how we feel, if our baby has been active, and what special stories we have from the pregnancy. This validates and honors our child's life.

Sadly, our beloved child _____, has been diagnosed with _____. However imperfect our baby appears, this is our child, whom we love deeply. This love compels us to revere and treasure every moment of our baby's life to its fullest natural extent. Your compassion and understanding during this bittersweet and difficult time is appreciated. We believe that the memories of our actions during this sacred time with _____ will console us.

If applicable, we would like our doula in attendance during the delivery, including during a C-section if at all possible. If not, we would like our doula to be in the treatment room with our baby until _____ (father) can get there. We understand that after the birth, situations may arise that were not anticipated and decisions will need to be made. We simply ask you to keep us informed so we can participate in the decisions about what is best for _____.

We ask that no intervention be taken without our approval, other than what is outlined below. We trust you will respect our wishes.

Any drugs given during labor to _____ (mother) should be given in doses to provide maximum comfort while allowing her to remain alert. Our other preferences regarding management of pain for _____ (our baby) include: _____.

Please allow _____ to cut the umbilical cord. (Sometimes the cutting of the cord is too difficult for a family member to do as it can be seen as the "beginning of the end." If this is the case, make sure that the staff knows your wishes so that they do not have to ask).

We would like oral/nasal suctioning for our baby, _____'s comfort only and **NO** intubation without our permission.

If our baby has fewer or more problems than expected, please discuss all options with us. Other than routine post-delivery care, we wish for private time with our little one. We will discuss exceptions that should be made.

Please ask if we would like a family member, the hospital chaplain, our priest, or minister contacted. Thank you for your medical expertise, your professionalism, and your sensitivity. Our hearts are broken as we say goodbye to our precious child before we even said hello.

Resources for Families who Suffer the Loss of a Child through Miscarriage or Stillbirth

Following is a compilation of various resources that you might find helpful as you grieve the loss of your child.

Ministries

Your church, pastor, priest, or minister can provide counseling, comfort, and assistance to families who suffer the loss of their child through miscarriage or stillbirth.

Queen of the Miraculous Medal Parish

Treasures In Our Hearts

Telephone: 517-435-5814

Email: tioh@queenschurch.com

Catholic priests and/or deacons, as well as volunteers of **TIOH**, educated in pregnancy loss, death, and bereavement, are available to you during this time of crisis.

Back In His Arms Again

A resource for pregnancy loss from the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio

<http://www.backinhisarmsagain.com/>

Shrine of the Holy Innocents in New York

Inscribe your baby's name in the book of life

<http://www.innocents.com/shrine.asp>

Rachel's Vineyard

For healing after an abortion

<http://www.rachelsvineyard.org/>

Perinatal Hospice

For those who have lost a baby via stillbirth or whose baby will die soon after being born

<http://www.catholicsistas.com/2012/08/21/infant-death-and-sacred-parenting-an-interview/>

Tiny Purpose

A mom-to-mom support group

<http://tinypurpose.com>

Remembering Our Babies...October 15

<http://www.october15th.com/>



Prayer After the Death of a Child

Author Unknown

My life is upside down, loving God. The order of the world is out of place and I can't do anything to right it again. Oh, Lord, you know the pain in my heart at all times and you know why: my child has died. How can it be that my beloved child is gone? The child I cared for with such concern in every illness, the one I held close to my heart and promised to take care of for a lifetime, is not here for me to care for anymore. It hurts deeply that I wasn't able to protect this child I love with my whole being from a death that seems so unfair.

Let me feel calm. Let me breathe deeply. Be with me in this kind of deep and transformative pain. I now carry this darkness with me on my back and in my heart, always. It is my burden and my companion.

Lord, there is not a single minute of my life when this loss is not etched so keenly into my brain and heart, whether it is in the middle of a busy day or in those choking moments of grief in the solitary dark of night. Let me be grateful for every minute we had together. Let me treasure those memories and find joy in them.

Help me to deal with people better. They don't know what to say. They stumble and look away when they see me. They pretend nothing has happened. I know they "don't want to remind me" but they don't understand it is with me always, always.

Teach me, Lord. Tell me what you want me to do with this. What am I supposed to learn from this kind of pain? What are you calling me to do?

Open my battered heart and lead me to comfort and peace. Only you can give me the peace I need. Let me feel your presence in my life.

Publications

For Parents and Family when a Baby Dies

Abbott-Northwestern Hospital

Heartbreak Pregnancy - Unfulfilled Promises

Atlas, Janel C.

They Were Still Born: Personal Stories About Stillbirth

Barney, Anne

Stolen Joy: Healing after Infertility and Infant Loss

Berg, Barbara J.

Nothing to Cry About

Burpo, Todd

Heaven Is for Real: A Little Boy's Astounding Story of His Trip to Heaven and Back

Carney, Audrey McDonald

Holding On To Faith: Hope After Miscarriage And Loss

Centering Corporation

Miscarriage: A Book For Parents

Claussen, Cindy

Born to Fly: An Infant's Journey to God

Davis, Deborah L.

Empty Cradle, Broken Heart: Surviving the Death of Your Baby Loving and Letting Go

DeFraim, John, Leona Martens, Jan Stork and Warren Stork
Stillborn: The Invisible Death

Deymaz, Linda
Mommy, Please Don't Cry: There Are No Tears in Heaven

Doerr, Maribeth Wilder
For Better or Worse: A Handbook for Couples Whose Child has Died

Donnelly, Katherine Fair
Recovering from the Loss of a Child

Edwards, Elizabeth
Saving Graces: Finding Solace and Strength from Friends and Strangers

Faldet, Rachel and Karen Fitton
Our Stories of Miscarriage: Healing with Words

Fischhoff, Joseph and Noreen O'Brien Brohl
Before and After My Child Died: A Collection of Parents' Experiences

Friedmann, Rochelle and Bonnie Gradstein
Surviving Pregnancy Loss: A Complete Sourcebook for Women and Their Families

Gamino, Louis A. and Ann Taylor Cooney
When Your Baby Dies: Through Miscarriage or Stillbirth

Gemmill, Deborah R.
The Chance To Say Goodbye

Glazer, Ellen Sarasohn
The Long-Awaited Stork: A Guide to Parenting After Infertility

Guthrie, Nancy
Holding On to Hope: A Pathway through Suffering to the Heart of God

Hagley, Norman
Comfort Us Lord, Our Baby Died: A Book of Prayers for Families

Hamilton, Charity
Footprints on Our Hearts: How to Cope After a Miscarriage, Stillbirth or Newborn Death (DVD)

HAND Helping After Neonatal Death
Unsung Lullabies - A Parents' Guide to Healing After Childbearing Loss

Ilse, Sherokee
Empty Arms: Coping With Miscarriage, Stillbirth and Infant Death

Ilse, Sherokee and Linda Hammer Burns
Miscarriage: A Shattered Dream

Johnson, Joy
Dear Parents: Letters to Bereaved Parents

Knifong, Carey
Angel Baby: A Journal of Healing After the Loss of an Unborn, Born Still, or Newborn Child

Lanham, Carol Cirulli
Pregnancy After a Loss: A Guide to Pregnancy After a Miscarriage, Stillbirth, or Infant Death

Limbo, Rana K. and Sara Rich Wheeler
When a Baby Dies: A Handbook for Healing and Helping

- Manning, Martha
All Seasons Pass: Grieving a Miscarriage
- Nykiel, Connie
After the Loss of Your Baby: For Teen Mothers
- Panuthos, Claudia and Catherine Romeo
Ended Beginnings: Healing Childbearing Losses
- Peppers, Larry G. and Ronald J. Knapp
Motherhood and Mourning: Perinatal Death
- Rosof, Barbara D.
The Worst Loss: How Families Heal from the Death of a Child
- Scher, Jonathan and Carol Dix
Preventing Miscarriage: The Good News
- Schweibert, Pat and Paul Kirk
When Hello Means Goodbye
Still to Be Born: A Guide for Bereaved Parents Who Are Making Decisions about Their Future
- Stevenson, Nancy Comey and Cary Higley Straffon
When Your Child Dies: Finding The Meaning In Mourning
- Woodward, Joan
The Lone Twin: Understanding Twin Bereavement and Loss
- Wunnenberg, Kathe
Grieving the Child I Never Knew

Prayer for Life

Author Unknown

Heavenly Father, You have created a soul for all eternity and it is by no human will that it has perished; you have willed it to return to Your mercy. And because you create only what is good; something mysterious and good has happened in the world for all eternity because of this created child.

Especially for Fathers

- Czukas, Elizabeth for About.com
Suggestions for Men on Getting Through Miscarriage and Other Pregnancy Losses,
Updated June 08, 2012
- Fleming, David
Noah's Rainbow: A Father's Emotional Journey from the Death of His Son to the Birth of His Daughter
- Floyd, Gregory
A Grief Unveiled: One Father's Journey Through the Loss of a Child
- Hilling, Hogan
Miscarriages and Expectant Fathers - How Pregnancy Loss Affects Men
- Nelson, Tim
A Guide For Fathers: When A Baby Dies
- Woodwell, William H., Jr.
Coming to Term: A Father's Story of Birth, Loss, and Survival

Publications

For Grieving Children

Dodge, Nancy C.

Thumpy's Story: A Story of Love and Grief Shared by Thumpy, the Bunny

Gryte, Marilyn

No New Baby: For Siblings Who Have a Brother or Sister Die Before Birth

Johnson, Joy and Marv with Heather, Ray and Jody Goldstein

Where's Jess? For Children Who Have a Brother or Sister Die

Johnson, Patricia Polin and Donna Reilly Williams

Morgan's Baby Sister: A Read-Aloud Book for Families Who Have Experienced the Death of a Newborn (Helping Children Who Hurt)

Samuels, Valerie R.

Always My Twin: for young children who have experienced the death of their twin sibling

Schwiebert, Pat

We Were Gonna Have a Baby, But We Had an Angel Instead

Tapp, Kathy Kennedy

No Smile Cookies Today

For Clergy, Funeral Directors, Hospital Chaplains, Support Groups, Mental Health Professionals, and Other Care Providers

HAND Helping After Neonatal Death

Health Provider's Manual for Helping After Perinatal Death

Lamb, Jane Marie

Bittersweet...hellogoodbye: A Resource in Planning Farewell Rituals When a Baby Dies

Miscarriage Prayer

Mother Angelica

My Lord, the baby is dead! Why, my Lord-dare I ask why? It will not hear the whisper of the wind or see the beauty of its parents' face - it will not see the beauty of Your creation or the flame of a sunrise. Why, my Lord?

"Why, my child - do you ask 'why'? Well, I will tell you why. You see, the child lives. Instead of the wind he hears the sound of angels singing before My throne. Instead of the beauty that passes he sees everlasting Beauty - he sees My face. He was created and lived a short time so the image of his parents imprinted on his face may stand before Me as their personal intercessor. He knows secrets of heaven unknown to men on earth. He laughs with a special joy that only the innocent possess. My ways are not the ways of man. I create for My Kingdom and each creature fills a place in that Kingdom that could not be filled by another. He was created for My joy and his parents' merits. He has never seen pain or sin. He has never felt hunger or pain. I breathed a soul into a seed, made it grow and called it forth."

I am humbled before you, my Lord, for questioning Your wisdom, goodness, and love. I speak as a fool-forgive me. I acknowledge Your sovereign rights over life and death. I thank You for the life that began for so short a time to enjoy so long an Eternity.

Websites

For Comfort and Support

[A Place to Remember](#)
[CLIMB](#) (Center for Loss in Multiple Birth)
[Create a Memorial Website](#)
[Honored Babies](#)
[LAMBS](#) (Loss of all in Multiple Birth)
[Loss of a Multiple Bereavement Support](#)
[Mommies Enduring Neonatal Death](#) (M.E.N.D.)
[Pregnancy Loss](#)
[Scrapbooking for your Angel](#)
[Silent Grief](#)
[Twinless Twins](#)

Photographic Services

Note: There are no charges for these services. You may find that viewing the photos on these sites is emotional and difficult, rekindling the loss of your own baby. Please be prepared for possible grief to come flooding back.

[Now I Lay Me Down To Sleep](#) For Parents experiencing an infant loss, (as early as 20 weeks gestation) this site can provide you with heirloom memories of your precious baby. At your request, we will have a professional photographer come to your hospital location for a private and sensitive photography session. You will be provided with a DVD of your baby set to a meaningful melody and the CD file of all photographs taken that you can personally reproduce up to a 5X7 size. Please note: Each photographer's offer varies location to location. Check listing photographer for what he/she can provide. Many locations available in each state.

[Baby Angel Pics](#) Hollywood FotoFix, under the AngelPics Project, will retouch any picture of a stillborn baby, or a baby that has died soon after birth at no charge. The artists will remove any bruising, tubes, and other medical equipment that the baby may have, even replacing the background if desired. Images may be taken to a participating dealer or uploaded online.

Mementos

[My Forever Child](#)
[Guardian Angel Loss of Twins Pendant](#)
[Jewelry for Miscarriage and Infant Loss](#)
[Thumbies](#)
[Mother's Bracelets](#)
[Footprints Ring, Reunion Necklace, Safe in His Hands Print](#)
[Remembering Our Babies](#)
[Remembrance Garden Stone](#)
[Miracle Baby Dolls](#)
[Life Gems](#)
[Merry Christmas from Heaven](#)
[Glass Etching](#)
[Grave Blankets](#)
[Memory Maker Bracelet](#)
[Cross Stitch Patterns](#) - Angel of Mercy and Angel of Mercy II
[Precious Moments](#) -

Always By Your Side; Boy 550023/Girl 550022
Mommy's Love Goes With You; 69007 may be retired
No Tears Past the Gate; 101826 retired, but can be found on ebay
Safely Home; 120114
His Love is Forever With Us; 890009 two angels hugging; perfect to represent twin angels.

Statues for a Memory Garden

[The Comfort Company](#)
[Historical Garden Reproductions](#)