

Promotion

Getting the word out to the parish

Gabriel Sunday

1. Meet with your pastor to plan how the Gabriel Project will be presented to the parish. It is essential the whole parish know about the Gabriel Project.
2. Pick a Sunday with readings which tie in with the Gabriel Project. October, which is Respect Life Month, January, March 25 the feast of the Annunciation, and/or May are good times to introduce the Gabriel Project.
3. The Sunday before insert a flyer in the bulletin preparing the congregation for Gabriel Sunday.
4. On Gabriel Sunday, have someone speak at all the Masses about the Gabriel Project. The speaker may be the pastor or someone who is involved with the Gabriel Project and is a good spokesperson
5. Include the Gabriel Project in the prayers of the faithful.
6. Brochures with volunteer sign-up cards are made available in the pews or at a table near the entrance of the church where parishioners can sign up to volunteer or donate money if they desire. During the presentation, draw these materials to the attention of the congregation.
7. Ask the congregation to pray about the area of work God is calling them to do with the Gabriel Project. Request the prayerful support of the entire parish for the Gabriel Project.
8. On Gabriel Sunday or at another designated time, the pastor can bless the parish's Sign of Life.

Angel Training

A list of volunteers, angels, is gathered from Gabriel Sunday. All Gabriel Angels must attend an Diocesan sponsored training at the parish or at the Diocese before seeing Mom. This is imperative. The Angels must also obtain continuing Education at the regularly Scheduled Gabriel Project Workshops at the Diocese. The diocesan Gabriel Project Arlington office provides training regularly and all training materials.

1. Pick a date and time, coordinating with the GPA office, for Angel Training. It is nice to have the training on a Saturday morning following the parish's regular Saturday morning Mass to encourage the prayer aspect of Gabriel Project.
2. Invite the Pastor to join us after Mass for refreshments and ask him if he could welcome the participants and say an opening prayer.
3. The host site provides attendees a continental breakfast such as coffee, juice, supplies, bagels, pastries, fruit, etc. The diocese can pay for this expense with prior approval. Please forward a cost estimate for GPA's review prior to placing the final order. Suggestions of places that have been used in the past are: local supermarket, Panera Bread, or Kimberly's Catering (703-448-7298).
4. Promote Angel Training through the parish bulletin, website, and announcements.

Commissioning of Volunteers and Angels

Once you have volunteers committed and angels trained they must be recognized in front of the church community with a commissioning ceremony during Sunday Mass.



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Promotional Items

The following are available to you through the GPA office. We highly encourage you to utilize all avenues of promotion for your Gabriel Project in order to have a successful ministry.

- Sign of Life - Can be purchased through the GPA office. The Sign of Life is a 4' x 6' wooden freestanding sign with a message and image of the Madonna of the Streets in English and Spanish. The sign serves as a witness to the entire community and advertises the church's willingness to help a pregnant mother in need.
- Business Cards - Angels may carry GPA business cards with them as they visit: doctor's offices, pharmacies, day care centers, etc.
- Poster Board - Provided by GPA, these boards may be placed around the parish or used at parish functions. The GPA emblem and phone number are on the poster.
- Web Page Template - We encourage every GPA site to have a Gabriel presence on their parish's website to reach out to new moms and volunteers.
- Brochures - A great tool to be placed in the parish and may also be used at other ministries activities and presentations. GPA can mail brochures to your parish.
- Fliers - GPA has generic fliers available for you to customize for Gabriel Sunday, Angel Training, and Gabriel Project. Promoting your parish based event with fliers is always a good idea.
- Bulletin Announcement - Let the parish know of the ministry's events and successes also when the ministry is in need of prayer.



Bulletin Announcements

Gabriel Sunday

The Office for Family Life of the Catholic Diocese of Arlington is proud to announce that Gabriel Project is starting at (insert parish name). This diocesan parish-based pregnancy assistance program will be officially introduced on "Gabriel Sunday," the weekend of August 18-19. Learn more about how to help and/or sign-up to for a future training. Your prayers are appreciated for this ministry now, as we prepare to implement it at our parish, and throughout the year as we serve any pregnant women needing support. For more information, please contact...

Gabriel Project Training for prospective Gabriel Project Volunteers will be held (insert day, date, and time) (following the 8:30 a.m. Mass). Your prayers are appreciated for this ministry now, as we prepare to implement it at our parish, and throughout the year as we serve any pregnant women needing support. If you are interested in participating, or for more information, please call the Gabriel Project office at 703-841-2755 or visit their website:

www.arlingtondiocese/offices/family/volunteer.html