

Hosting a Parish Baby Shower

Many parishes hold baby showers or diaper drives each several times annually. This is a great way to get the entire parish involved with the Gabriel Project ministry and to raise awareness. Some ideas for getting started include:

- Consult your pastor or parish administrator to determine an appropriate weekend to host the shower. Possible time frames to consider are October (Respect Life Month), January (the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*), or the months of May and June (Mother's and Father's Days). June is also the anniversary of the recent *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health* decision and this may also be an appropriate time to raise parish awareness.
- Advise other parish ministries of the Shower and ask them to advertise it to their members. Inform Mom's or Women's groups, Knights of Columbus or Knights of Peter Claver chapters and youth and seniors groups.
- Advertise the shower at least a month in advance in the parish bulletin, parish website and on social media. Ask your pastor to make a pulpit announcement about the event.
- Inform parishioners about what items are needed in your advertising. The most-needed donations tend to be more expensive items (such as car seats and cribs) or items that are used quickly (diapers and wipes). Encourage parishioners to donate gift cards so you can purchase necessary items without the need to find storage at the parish.