**Sample #1: Naming and Commendation of an Infant Who Died Before Birth**

The loss of a child before birth is causes parents profound grief. The Rite of Naming and Commendation emphasizes the Church’s respect for human life from the moment of conception . It also allows the family to acknowledge the reality of that brief but cherished life, identify the child by name and commend him or her in faith to the loving mercy of God. Parents whose child died before birth for any reason including miscarriage, stillbirth, illness, accident or abortion can find healing through participation in this rite. [Parish] in [location] will offer a Naming and Commendation Rite on [date], [time] .

**Sample #2: Help for Grieving Parents**

It often happens among the people of God that a child dies prior to birth due to a miscarriage, an accident, or for some other reason. If the unborn child is delivered alive, baptism is possible. However, if the child is dead, baptism is not administered as the sacraments of the Church are for the living. When parents lose a child before birth, their grief can be profound yet often go unrecognized by family, friends, and even their church. We can forget that as soon as a new life is confirmed, a connection forms between the unborn infant and the parents. When that connection is severed the parents can become engulfed with an enormous sense of loss.

The Naming and Commendation of an Infant Who Died Before Birth gives spiritual and emotional comfort to parents whose child died prior to birth. To aid parents who have lost a child prior to birth for any reason, a Naming and Commendation Rite will be held at [parish] on [date] [time] .