

SETON SERVICES  
A DIVISION OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES  
**General Adoption Information**

**Process**

We suggest that couples attend orientation meetings at several different agencies in order to find the best place for their process. Couples will be invited to our next orientation meeting when we receive the **reply form**. The orientation meeting will explain our program and our process. To have your name placed on our waiting list, we request a \$50 registration fee. Next, you will be invited to attend an adoption triad meeting. This is a panel presentation that allows all of us to learn from those who have experienced the adoptive process as adoptive parents, birth parents or adults adopted as infants. Our third required meeting is an interactive group with a focus on grief and loss issues in adoption.

**Eligibility Guidelines**

A couple generally must meet the following guidelines:

1. Be married at least three years at the time you begin the adoption study.
2. Live within the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. (This includes the counties of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Goodhue, Hennepin, LeSueur, Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Washington and Wright.)
3. We request a wait of twelve months between placement of another child in your family.
4. You must notify us if you become pregnant while working with this agency for the purpose of adoptive placement.

**Seton Adoption Program**

This program is primarily designed to serve the pregnant parents in our Seton Prenatal Program. Birth parents come to Seton seeking decision-making counseling. Those clients considering an adoption plan are invited to look at the Waiting Families Book. This book contains profiles of families in the Seton Adoption Program who have an approved adoption study by Seton Services/Catholic Charities. Usually there are twenty to thirty family profiles in the book.

**International Program**

The Seton Adoption Program has a partnership with **Children's Home Society of Minnesota** to provide an international adoption program for families with approved home studies at Catholic Charities. Families are expected to enter the domestic infant program and then move to the international program if they wish. Individual countries may have specific requirements different from Catholic Charities' requirements. These options may be explored on the Children's Home Society of Minnesota website by clicking on the highlighted link above.