

## “A Match Made in Heaven”

It seems that everyone’s journey into adoption is individualized. Our journey began as many others before us; we struggled with infertility for years. We were eventually blessed with our precious son, Carson. The doctors told us if we wanted more children our best bet would be to begin trying immediately. We did and we found out that we were pregnant when Carson was a mere 8 months old. Unfortunately, the pregnancy was not viable and our quest to grow our family was put on hold. We realized after several years that it was not in God’s plan for us to have more children biologically. So, we started a journey to see what God had in store for us as a family and to investigate our options. Our research led us to the wonderful office of Catholic Charities. Of course, this office has been an answer to our prayers.

We began our adoption journey with Catholic Charities in the Spring of 2007, when we met to develop a plan for adoption. It began the process that would eventually change our lives and deliver to us the most precious “gift from Heaven.” We worked throughout the summer to complete our portfolio, which was the most amazing process of self reflection. We were placed officially on the adoption list in August of 2007. We received a few phone calls to present our portfolio, but nothing seemed to develop. Then we received the phone call that we had prayed so diligently to receive. As I sat at the kitchen table one cold winter January night, Cheree called with news of the birth of a sweet baby girl who was going to be placed for adoption. I was shaking profusely as I listened to the details. We had received this phone call before but something was different about this one – God had his hand on this one. The birthmother had requested a meeting with us. We quickly agreed; of course. Our baby girl was born in January several weeks premature. She stayed in NICU for three weeks and on February 4<sup>th</sup> we brought her home from the hospital. She was tiny, but so perfect. She instantly was ours and she stole our hearts from the moment we held her. Actually, she stole our hearts from the moment that we had heard of her. It was quite amazing! She was our “match made in Heaven.”

On September 12<sup>th</sup>, we completed our adoption journey with finalization. We are so grateful to the workers at Catholic Charities for the work that they do on a daily basis. Cheree, Tiffany, and Precious have truly become an extension of our family throughout this process. We have been blessed beyond words.

