

## *Finding/Collecting Your Baby*

### **Directions for using the Miscarriage Kit:**

- Once you start spotting, take the miscarriage kit contents into the bathroom with you.  
(\* You might find it helpful to keep the strainer, peri-bottle, and collection container on a disposable plastic food container or tray for convenience and sanitation purposes. The tray will allow you to quickly move the kit contents to and from the bathroom and it provides a sanitary place for your strainer to air dry in between bathroom/collection trips).
- Fill the peri bottle (clear squirt bottle) with water.
- Immediately after sitting down on the toilet, firmly holding the strainer tab, place the strainer under you.
- Strain your urine, all clots, and everything expelled from your vaginal area.
- If there are any contents in the strainer, examine those contents.
- Use the peri bottle to rinse the blood off the contents in the strainer.
- Discern and distinguish blood clots from placenta, sack, cord, and baby. Look for pink tissue. Pictures of baby development are provided on the other side of this card.  
\* Note: your baby might not look the same due to chromosomal abnormalities or any decomposition that might have begun. \* Note: if you will be having testing done, only the placenta is needed, you can hold on to your baby. Collect baby's placenta in a ziplock bag if you'd like testing done.  
\* Note: if your baby is less than two months gestation (or might have died that early on in pregnancy and ultrasound has not identified a large enough baby to definitely find easily), it might be difficult to find your baby. In this circumstance, place everything you have collected in your collection container. If you identify baby later during the collection process, you can place your baby in a second container and dispose of the contents of the first container. If you do not identify your baby, you may bury all you have collected (your baby may very well be there).
- The collection process may take many trips to the bathroom.

### **If you find your baby:**

- Carefully place your baby in your preferred burial container (St. Paul's keeps some caskets on hand and might have a suitable casket for you if you cannot afford to purchase one of your own. Please contact the parish office for details).
- For the littlest of babies, the silver container may be used as a burial vessel. You may use the laminated collection container decoration kit enclosed within your miscarriage kit (included in 1st and 2nd trimester loss kits) to decorate your silver collection container for burial if you find this decoration kit helpful (decor can be affixed to container with enclosed glue dots or double sided tape). Some prefer to decorate baby's container with their own decor or to place the collection container within a casket or other burial vessel.  
\* Note: Tiny, early miscarried babies might be sticky and may be difficult to transfer later. Make sure to place baby in a preferred burial container or on a preferred piece of blanket or cloth that is easily transferable to your preferred burial container.  
\* Note: Once born, baby's appearance will change quickly. Skin color will darken and the tiniest of babies will flatten out since their bones are not yet formed. Take pictures upon finding the baby. Baby can be kept in a closed container in the refrigerator until burial. \* Take measurements of your little one too. You might want to have these later.

### **If you don't find your baby during this bathroom trip:**

- Rinse the strainer and let it air dry.
- Place strainer, peri bottle, and collection container back in your container/tray or ziplock bag (perhaps more handy for those who have to collect away from home) until the next trip to the bathroom.
- Start the process again on the next trip to the bathroom. Continue this collection process until baby is found or, if baby is not identified, until collection is complete (there is no more to be collected, bleeding has stopped).

Please note: This information is not medical advice.

For all medical questions contact your physician.

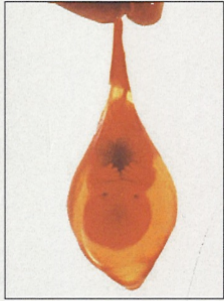
Pray to God for physical, emotional and spiritual strength as you miscarry your baby.

Baby development photos and some wording from Heaven's Gain Ministries were used for this card, with permission from Heaven's Gain founder Donna Murphy

# Baby Development



This is a picture of a baby at 5 weeks after conception or 7 weeks since LMP\*. This baby is only about a third of an inch long. The arm and leg buds start to grow. The eyes and ears begin to form.



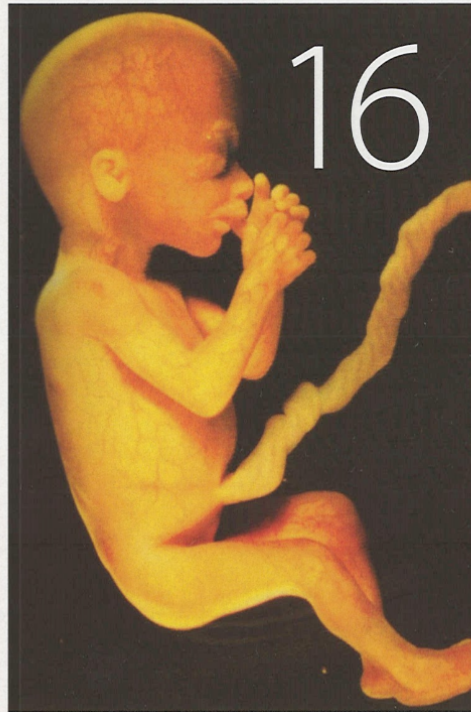
This is a picture of a baby at 6 weeks after conception or 8 weeks since LMP\*. This baby is only about a half of an inch long. The baby's arms and legs have grown longer. Hands and feet begin to form and look like little paddles.



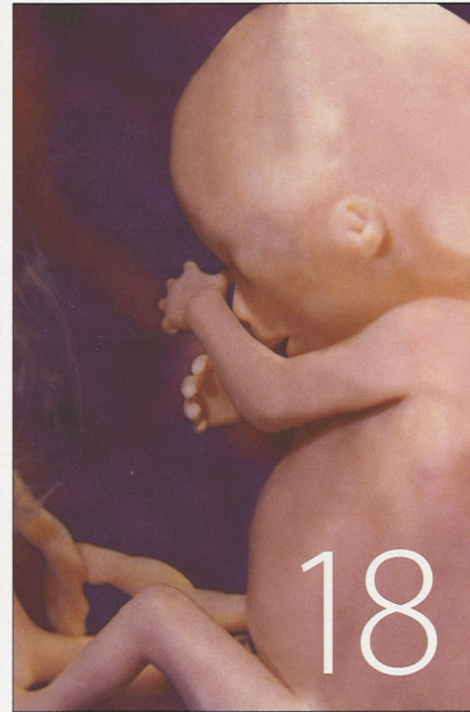
This is a picture of a baby at 9 weeks after conception or 11 weeks since LMP\*. This baby is about 2 inches long. Her head is a little less than half her body length.



This is a picture of a baby at 10 weeks after conception or 12 weeks since LMP\*. This baby is about 2.5 inches long. Her head is a little less than half her body length. She now has fingernails.



This is a picture of a baby at 14 weeks after conception or 16 weeks since LMP\*.



This is a picture of a baby at 16 weeks after conception or 18 weeks since LMP\*.



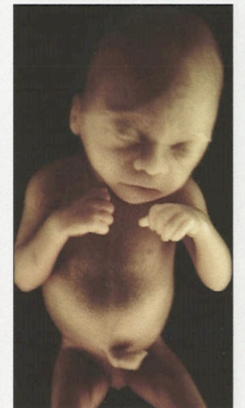
This is a picture of a baby at 7 weeks after conception or 9 weeks since LMP\*. This baby is about 1 inch long when his legs are stretched out and weighs about ¼ oz. The baby's facial features are visible including his mouth and tongue. Fingers and toes can be seen.



This is a picture of a baby at 8 weeks after conception or 10 weeks since LMP\*. This baby is about 1.5 inches long when his legs are stretched out and weighs about ½ oz.. The outer ears begin to take shape.



This is a picture of a baby at 11 weeks after conception or 13 weeks since LMP\*. The nose and chin are well defined. This baby is about 3 inches long and weighs about 1 oz.



This is a picture of a baby at 12 weeks after conception or 14 weeks since LMP\*. This baby is about 3.5 inches long. External genitalia are now forming.

\*LMP — Last Menstrual Period