

 218 3rd Ave. NW, Faribault MN 55021

 Phone: (507) 334-4748

 Email: support@irisRemembers.com

 Website: www.irisRemembers.org

#### **IRIS Holiday Service Of Remembrance**



The Infants Remembered In Silence, Inc. (IRIS) Holiday Service of Remembrance has been held annually since 1993. We all know that the holidays are a special time for children, and seem to be geared for them, but as a parent whose child has died, how do we navigate the holidays?

The IRIS Holiday Service of Remembrance is a unique service that can help with the emotions, fears, frustrations, and anxiety of the season. Many parents who attend have stated "I need to remember and honor my child first, so that I can survive the holidays." You are encouraged to attend the service and are welcome to invite your family and friends to attend with you. This special service will be held on:

> Sunday December 1, 2024 2 pm Chapel of the Good Shepherd Shattuck Campus 1000 Shumway Ave. Faribault, MN

After 31 years, this will be Father Doyle's final IRIS Holiday Service of Remembrance.

The IRIS Holiday Service of Remembrance is designed by and for parents, family, and friends who have experienced or been touched by the death of a child in early pregnancy (miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, etc.) or from stillbirth, premature birth, neo-natal death, birth defects, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), sudden unexplained death of a child (SUDC), illness, accidents and all other types of infant or early childhood death. Everyone is welcome regardless of how long ago the child died or the cause of death. Those attending are encouraged to participate by decorating the chapel windows, reading poems, providing music, and/or bringing treats for the reception that follows the service.

## Having Your Child Remembered



If you would like to have a child/children remembered during the candle lighting part of the service, please complete the enclosed form and return to the IRIS office by November 28<sup>th</sup>. Names that are received

after the 28<sup>th</sup> will be listed on an insert. Remember you must submit the name every year.

#### Decorating Chapel Windows



Decorating the Chapel Windows has become a very special tradition of the IRIS Holiday Service. You are encouraged to bring any keepsake items that you would like to display in the windows. You will be in charge of placing your child's/children's keepsakes in a window and clearing the area when the reception is over. Suggested items for window displays include: scrapbooks, blankets, pictures, poems, small Christmas Tree and other holiday items, etc. There will be volunteers on hand to answer questions and help you however they can. No flames or water allowed in the displays. Due to the magnitude of this project, IRIS will not be able to return items sent to us. Everyone is welcome to visit the displays during the reception that follows the service.

The Chapel of the Good Shepherd will open at **12 noon** for anyone wishing to come early and setup window keepsake displays.



## Your Participation Is Needed

One of the things that make the Holiday Service so very special is the participation of parents, family and friends.

We would love to have your help with the reading of poems, singing, playing an instrument, reading a scripture, decorating the chapel windows, and/or providing treats for the reception that follows the service. You will find signup information on the registration form. Please help make this a very special service by sharing your time and talents.



#### Memorial Poinsettias

IRIS will again be selling poinsettias. Poinsettias will be labeled and delivered to the Chapel of the Good Shepherd. You will be able to take them home following the reception. If you would like to order a poinsettia for yourself or as a gift for family and friends please fill out the Holiday Service Registration Form

and return it to the IRIS office by November 28<sup>th</sup>.



# Sharing Information on the

## Holiday Service

Please feel free to share the information on the Holiday Service Remembrance with others. You are welcome and encouraged to invite your family and friends to the service as well as other bereaved parents. If you

would like, you are welcome to ask your local churches, papers, TV and radio stations to run information about the service. Please feel free to share on social media pages.



### Siblings and Children at the Holiday Service

This is a difficult topic to approach, and it brings up many emotions for everyone involved. Because of concerns voiced in previous years, parents with children under the age of 6 years of age are lovingly requested to sit in the back of the chapel close to the restroom and exit. Children who can Sit Quietly for two (2) hours are welcome to attend the service. Out of consideration and compassion for other grieving parents, you are asked to take children out of the Chapel if they are crying, talking, making noise of any kind, disrupting others in any manner or are restless. If you have questions, concerns or would like to discuss the issue please call Diana at the IRIS office 507-334-4748.



#### "Heavenly Notes".

"Heavenly Notes" are letters or ... "notes" written to your precious child and placed in the sleigh basket, located by the alter, at the IRIS Holiday Service of Remembrance.

"Heavenly Notes" are never read by anyone, you are free

to say or express whatever you like. Following the service, notes are burned and the ashes scattered at the IRIS House/Office in the Memorial Garden and by the Bronze Angel.

Because "Heavenly Notes"  $entire ext{program}$  is so well received we are opening it up to everyone around the world. If you are unable to attend the IRIS Holiday Service of Remembrance you, your family, and friends are invited to write a Heavenly Note and mail it to:

"Heavenly Notes" Infants Remembered In Silence 218 3rd Ave. NW Faribault, MN 55021









#### 31st Annual IRIS Holiday Service of Remembrance Sunday December 1, 2024 at 2 pm

#### **Registration Form**

To have a child's name listed in the program, please have this form to the IRIS office by November 25, 2024. Mail to 218 3rd Ave. NW, Faribault MN 55021 or Email, to: support@irisRemembers.com. Names received later will be listed on a program insert. Names will be accepted through the start of the Service.

Names are NOT held over from year to year. You must submit names every year.

After 31 years, this will be Father Henry Doyle's Final IRIS Holiday Service or Remembrance.

Pa	arents Name:	e:			
Address:		City/State Zip:	_ City/State Zip:		
Ph	none:	Email Address:			
	I / We will be attending this year's service. Family & friends are welcome.				
	I / We will bringing pictures, keepsakes and / or holiday items to decorate the chapel windows ~ Highly Encouraged No flames or water please				
		Help with Clean up on Sunday December 1st following the service	on the tree at the service. ouse during the holiday season		
	I / We woul	uld like to have photos with Santa.			
	I / We woul	uld like to have the following child/children's names read during the serv	vice.		
		Child's full name Pho	netic pronunciation		

Child's fuir hame	
 Child's full name	Phonetic pronunciation
Child's full name	Phonetic pronunciation
Child's full name	Phonetic pronunciation
 Child's full name	Phonetic pronunciation

Suggestions, Notes and Comments welcome:

	Holiday Service of Remembrance Poinsettias Poinsettias are \$19.97 each, and are available in Red. You are welcome to order as many as you like. You are encouraged to take them with you following the Holiday Service, pick up at the IRIS Office, or have IRIS donate your poinsettia. Please provide the name you would like on each poinsettia.					
Names for Card:						
Names for Card:						
Names for Card:						
Please donate my Poinsettia						
Notes, Special Instructions, etc:						
Return with payment to IRIS 218 3rd Ave. NW Faribault MN 55021 or order online (checks made payable to IRIS)						
Your Name:						
Address:						
City/St/Zip						

one #: E-mail:		
CC: #:	_ Exp. Date:	_ Security Code

Item	Qty	Price (Tax Included)	Extended Total
Red Poinsettia		\$19.97	
		Donation	
		Total	



## **IRIS Holiday Service Of Remembrance**

## "Santa & His Little Angels".



31st Annual IRIS Holiday Service of Remembrance Sunday December 1, 2024 2 pm Chapel of the Good Shepherd Shattuck Campus 1000 Shumway Ave. Faribault, MN With "Santa and His Angels ⊚"



For parents who have lost a child, the Holidays can be one of the saddest and most anxiety producing times of the year. Instead of joy, we may feel anguish for what might have been, and an emptiness that has hollowed out our heart.

IRIS would love to make this year's holiday season a little more special for you and your family by providing a free program we call "Santa & His Little Angels"<sub>☉</sub> as part of The Annual IRIS Holiday Service of Remembrance.

Those attending the Holiday Service of Remembrance are asked to bring photos of their child and/or a special keepsake. The items can be place in the windows of the Chapel during this beautiful service. You will be given the opportunity to have a professional photo taken with Santa holding your special items while the Memorial Candles from the service burn peacefully in the background.

It would be helpful for us to know if you will be attending, but registration is not required. If you would like your child's name listed in the service program, please make sure the form attached is returned to the IRIS office by last Monday in November at 5 pm. Drop off, mail, or email to: support@irisRemembers.com

Thank You for understanding that you must be present at the Holiday service to partake in photos with Santa.