



What is Orphan Sunday?

On Orphan Sunday, Christians across America and beyond celebrate the love of the God who “places the lonely in families” and calls us to do the same. Ultimately, Orphan Sunday seeks to *makes the Gospel visible* as God’s people explore and respond to His heart for the orphan in adoption, foster care, and global orphan ministry.

Why Orphan Sunday?

God is vested, deeply and personally, in the plight of the orphan (i.e. Dt 10:18; Ps 68:5-6). He calls His people to share this passion and bring to each child the love of Jesus Christ in both word and deed (Is 1:17; Jms 1:27; Mt. 25:40). On Orphan Sunday, the Church is reminded of this truth and invited to act upon it.

What does an Orphan Sunday event or activity look like?

Each local Orphan Sunday event or activity is created by local believers in the local church. So events vary as much as the people and churches involved. Events in 2010 included sermons and Sunday School classes on God’s heart for the orphan, prayer gatherings, fasts and simple meals, student-led fundraisers, foster family recruiting and live concerts.

What resources can we draw from?

The website www.orphansunday.org holds an array of ideas and resources for local events, from posters and bulletin inserts to videos, study guides and sermon notes.

Whom does Orphan Sunday impact?

As Christians respond to God’s call to care for orphans, lives are transformed. Certainly, orphans and foster youth are changed forever. But it doesn’t stop there. Individual Christians are drawn beyond a self-focused religion to vibrant, sacrificial discipleship. Their churches grow, too, as the community see God’s heart and mirror it. Finally, a watching world is changed as it sees the Gospel *made visible* in Christian adoption, foster care and global orphan care.

Who leads the Orphan Sunday campaign?

The Orphan Sunday campaign is led by the Christian Alliance for Orphan, a national coalition of organizations and churches committed to the Gospel and the orphan. The Alliance includes more than 100 trusted organizations, from Family Life, Bethany Christian Services, and Show Hope, to Focus on the Family, Children’s Hopechest and Compassion International. Most importantly, more than 1,000 local churches held Orphan Sunday events in 2010.