**9 Days for Life: Thursday, January 18 – Friday, January 26  
www.9daysforlife.com**

**Day Nine: Friday, January 26, 2018**

**Intercession:** For God’s peace to fill the hearts of all who travel upon the path of adoption.

**Prayers:** *Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be*

**Reflection:** The Letter to the Hebrews reminds us to “hold fast to the hope that lies before us. This we have as an anchor of the soul, sure and firm” (Heb 6:18-19). We pray that all who are involved in the adoption process would be filled with the hope of Christ and “the peace of God that surpasses all understanding” (Phil 4:7). We also remember that we too can cling fast to this anchor of hope, for we have received “a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, ‘Abba, Father!’” (Rom 8:15). May our loving Father envelop each of us in his love today and open our eyes in faith that we may see and rejoice in his love.

**Acts of Reparation** (choose one):

* Make an act of faith, hope, or love ([www.usccb.org/faith-hope-love](http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/prayers/acts-of-faith-hope-and-love.cfm)).
  + Fast from snacking today. Eat three meals only.
  + In “**An Adoption Love Story**,” Jenny\* shares her and her husband’s story of adopting their son, Andrew. Read about some of the challenges, concerns, and joys on their journey at [www.usccb.org/adoption-love-story](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/2014/an-adoption-love-story.cfm), and spend some extra time in prayer for all who are involved in the adoption process.

**One Step Further**:

“**Accompanying Expectant Mothers Considering Adoption**” suggests nine ways to offer ongoing support to a woman who is considering placing her unborn child for adoption ([www.usccb.org/women-considering-adoption](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/2016/accompanying-expectant-mothers-considering-adoption.cfm)). Many of the tips given are also helpful for supporting a friend who is experiencing a challenging unexpected pregnancy, even if adoption has not been brought up.

Supplemental reference information regarding adoption can be found at [www.usccb.org/adoption-resources](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/adoption-prayer-and-education.cfm).

*\*Names changed for privacy.*

NABRE © 2010 CCD. Used with permission. Copyright © 2018, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved.