

Jack and Elizabeth







Hello

We are Jack and Elizabeth, and we have two children, Beatrice and Theodore, whom we adopted as newborns. Thank you for taking the time to get to know us. We are so very honored that you are considering us to be the parents of your child. We hope you feel supported and loved at this time, no matter what you are going through.

Understanding you may be facing an unexpected and challenging decision, we want you to know we are praying for you and your baby as you walk this path. As you explore your options, please be assured that your child would be welcomed with great love and joy into our family.

The opportunity to welcome another child into our family through adoption is one we are so grateful for, and we do not take the responsibility lightly. We understand that adoption is for life, and if you choose to place your child with us, we look forward to continuing a relationship with you.

Again, we pray for your peace and strength as you consider your options. We believe our hearts and our home have room for another child to love, and we thank you again for considering us as a family for your child.

With love and Prayers
Jack & Elizabeth



A classic case of “Opposites Attract”

Our story as a couple starts on St. Patrick's day 13 years ago when we met at a road race. A mutual friend introduced us and it turned out to be a classic case of “opposites attract” with extroverted Jack and quieter Elizabeth. We ended up having our first date that same night - we went out for Chinese food which has become our St. Patrick's day tradition!

As we got to know each other, we learned that we shared the same faith and strong family values. At the time, Elizabeth was living 2 hours away. Jack, a true gentleman, spent a lot of time braving rush-hour traffic to visit. When he visited we would often get last-minute tickets to Red Sox games and have a lot of happy memories at the baseball stadium. We enjoyed all Boston had to offer, like museums, restaurants, the beach, and historic sites.

It wasn't long until we realized we wanted to be married. After Jack proposed at Christmas time, we were married the following November, on a very cold but beautifully sunny day. Our siblings and close friends made up our wedding party. We held our rehearsal dinner at a German restaurant as a nod to Elizabeth's heritage and our reception with about 150 family and friends in an old train station - Jack has loved trains since he was young and it was a really fun venue!



Soon afterward we bought our first home (where we still live) and got to work fixing it up. In the early years of our marriage we both worked a lot and spent a lot of time exercising - mostly training for road races. Although we were always hoping for children, looking back, we see those early years as a blessing where we had the opportunity to build a solid foundation for our marriage.

We welcomed our daughter after nearly 5 years of marriage and our son 4 years later. With less free time for hobbies and travel, our focus has shifted. We still try to find time together in different ways, and the time we have alone together is valued much more.





Hi, I'm Elizabeth

I grew up in a small town in New England, with my four younger sisters and parents. We had a big yard with a stream in the back where my sisters and I had endless fun catching frogs and making up games. It was a really happy childhood.

My mom stayed home with us and my dad was a pilot, both in the military and for a commercial airline. Maybe that sparked my love of traveling when I was younger! During college I spent a year abroad in Germany, where my dad's family is from, and spent lots of time traveling throughout Europe. I have such a soft spot for German food, language, and culture and I look forward to sharing that with my children someday, hopefully with a trip overseas.

Now I am much more of a homebody. I love to read mysteries, historical fiction, and books that help me dive deeper into my faith. If I have some free time, you will probably find me on a long walk - I find it so relaxing. In the past I have enjoyed running and have run a half marathon. The training was difficult, but I enjoyed the structure and challenge it provided, and I absolutely loved the feeling of finishing a long run!

I also enjoy cooking, but I've never been a big fan of baking. I'm trying to change that, and I have a few cookie and muffin recipes perfected. I'm working on improving bread and rolls, and my family has been subjected to my weekly dinner roll experiment on Sundays, ranging from the excellent to the barely edible.

I worked for many years in the state government in a big city and had a really interesting, fast-paced job. However, at heart I always wanted to be home with a family. Being a stay-at-home mom is the best job I will ever have. I love making a home for my family, being the one to plan meals, decorate, and even clean and do laundry. I am so grateful to watch Beatrice and Teddy grow each day, and to be there not only for their happiest moments, but also to comfort them during their hard times.



I grew up in the same town we now live in and had a great childhood biking to school, playing street hockey with neighbors, and walking to my grandparents' house a few streets over. My father built a small insurance agency in town while my mom juggled the accounting for the agency and taking care of my sister and me.

When I was 7, we began spending summers on Cape Cod at the small cottage my parents bought. Without TV, my sister and I had to amuse ourselves. I listened to baseball games on the radio, did countless puzzles, and swam in the ocean. My dad, sister and I went on many sailing adventures in our boat, joining races with neighbors and friends. As I got older, I worked as a waiter in a local seasonal restaurant.

Hey, I'm Jack





Attending boarding school for high school was a formative experience in my life. I was challenged academically, and I was forced to more effectively manage my time and focus on the task in front of me, all while living away from home for the first time. While experiencing the challenges and setbacks during those years of high school, I had the unwavering support of my parents, teachers, and coaches who didn't ever stop believing in me. This gave me the confidence to attend college in Washington, DC. My time in Washington shaped me by exposing me to people with ideas and experiences totally different from my own, and I made lifelong friends as we figured out our careers and future plans.

However, after a number of years in DC, I wanted my children to grow up in a small town, so I chose to move back to my hometown and continue our family insurance agency. I enjoy working with the customers and getting to know them personally, and being in sales means I'm usually not stuck behind my desk all day but instead spend a lot of time out seeing customers.

Being a dad has brought a whole new perspective to my life. Beatrice and Teddy motivate me to work hard to provide for my family, and knowing that I serve as a role model to 2 small children reminds me to always lead by example in showing patience and kindness. My favorite part of the day is coming home to them (and all their crazy energy!) after work.

I knew early on Elizabeth...

was the right match for me partly because of how our personalities fit well together. While I tend to get an idea and run with it immediately, Elizabeth will often ask the extra question(s) to make sure we haven't missed a detail.

Elizabeth's introspective nature leads her to always be willing to learn, most especially when it comes to parenting. Being able to have Elizabeth at home with kids is such a huge blessing, she sees firsthand if Beatrice or Ted is having a difficult time with a change. She draws on techniques that she has learned to respond with love and encouragement. This trait helps to foster a sense of calm in our family.

Elizabeth sensitivity also leads to making sure our home is inviting and warm. She takes the time to think of small touches around the house that we all appreciate. Such as having our



home's decor reflects the time of year. In the summer, there are fresh berries and peaches from the farmer's market and in the winter lighted garland on the mantle.

I love that when she discovers an idea or a challenge that genuinely motivates her, nothing deters her from accomplishing it. Lately, she has been working to perfect homemade bread to go with her homemade soups. Since everyone in our family loves bread, we are all happy to be taste testers.

I knew that Jack would be...

a wonderful husband and father because of his big heart. He is one of the most generous people I've ever met and never hesitates to give his time to friends and family, as well as to the community organizations he belongs to. He works hard to support our family, not only in his job as a small business owner but also at home, staying up late to make sure the house is set for the next day when I'm just too tired, and always volunteering to get up with Beatrice or Teddy if they need comfort during the night.

There's nothing Jack likes more than a good party –he is always the first person to volunteer to host family holidays! I remember when we hosted some of his college friends for the weekend, he was up at 5 AM to bake a pie and then got a huge breakfast on the table before anyone else was even awake. He brings that same energy to marriage and parenting and cares for all of us so well.

Jack is upbeat, truly enjoys life and brings a lot of happiness wherever he goes. I admire his work ethic, positive outlook on life, and sense of purpose and adventure. He is never discouraged by anything life might throw at him, instead choosing to look on the positive side and figure out a way to overcome it. Not to mention, he is a great baker and makes a delicious cheesecake!





An Incredible Journey

About a year and a half after we began our journey into adoption, we got the surprise of our life when we found out that Beatrice had been born and we could meet her and her birth mother the very next day. Life has never been the same and we still cannot believe we get to be her parents. Adopting our son Theodore has only increased our joy – it has been beautiful to watch a sibling relationship grow between him and Beatrice. We hope they remain close throughout their lives.

Parenting has been an incredible journey, made possible for us by our children's birth parents who have given us the enormous privilege of raising these precious children. We have maintained an open relationship with some members of their birth families, which has been really wonderful. This is something we hope to continue if we adopt again. We believe there can't be too many people loving a child, and we want our children to know and appreciate their unique individual backgrounds as they grow up.

Being a part of two adoption stories so far has enriched us more than we could have imagined. We know adopting again would bring even more beauty, love, and joy into our lives.



B E A T R I C E



Beatrice is a smart, talkative, creative 6-year-old. She joined our family through adoption as a newborn. Beatrice is a wonderful big sister. She has always loved being “Mommy” to her baby dolls (she has many!) and was thrilled to welcome her little brother, always entertaining him and making him laugh.

Beatrice loves Paw Patrol, swimming (and pretending to be a mermaid), helping in the kitchen, and doing arts and crafts. She has a big, sweet tooth and will never turn down an opportunity for popsicles or ice cream.

Beatrice was born missing her lower leg and foot, so she uses a prosthetic leg to get around. This doesn't slow her down at all - she swims, rides her scooter all around the neighborhood, and took her first dance class this year, which she loved. She recently learned to jump off the diving board into the deep end of the pool and was very proud of this new skill!

One thing we admire about her is her confidence. She will strike up a conversation with anyone, adult or child, and say what's on her mind. When Beatrice gets an idea, it is almost impossible to talk her out of it. We know her strong will is going to take her far in life and we can't wait to watch her grow even more!



T E D D Y

Theodore, or Teddy as we call him, also joined us through adoption at birth in November 2023. He has been such a gift to our family! He is happy and very active with a mischievous grin. He is very friendly and seems to enjoy being around new people. Teddy is always interested in what's going on around him and is happiest when he is playing outside, chasing a ball around or digging in the dirt. He especially loves his bubble lawn mower, which he would happily push up and down the sidewalk all day if he could.

Although he is pretty easy-going, we are starting to see his own little personality develop as he learns more words and figures out how to express himself. Teddy asks to read books all day long and will often take a book with him to a comfy chair and flip through it by himself - it's so adorable! His favorite books are anything with animals or trucks. His new favorite food is pickles, and he will loudly yell PEEKUL anytime he sees the jar!



A place where love abounds

We bought our home almost 10 years ago. Although it had been well maintained by its previous owners, it was definitely a fixer-upper and we knew it would need a lot of work.

Jack took on a lot of the projects himself, such as drywalling our whole dining room with some help from both of our fathers. We love that our home is more than 100 years old and has a very classic style and layout, with a central staircase, the living room to the right and the dining room and kitchen to the left.



We recently completed a major renovation of our kitchen and dining room with the goal of creating more space not only for our immediate family, but for hosting parties and holidays with our extended family and friends. Just a couple weeks after the project was completed, we hosted Thanksgiving for 30 people - we definitely put the new kitchen to the test!

One of our favorite features are the built-in bookcases surrounding the fireplace, which looks especially pretty when decorated for Christmas. Elizabeth always has an idea for the next mini-project and loves choosing paint colors, wallpaper, and vintage pieces to add character around the house.

There are three bedrooms upstairs, and downstairs there is an additional room that could be used as a bedroom if needed. Right now, we have it set up as a playroom. It's the perfect space for Beatrice and Teddy to get deep into their play, make forts, and generally use their imaginations however they'd like.

We also added a back porch for some extra space outside. Watching the kids play on the swingset while we relax on the porch is one of our favorite things. We have a small garden as well, but the deer, rabbits, and weeds have kept us humble about our gardening skills.



Daisy and Badger

Daisy is our sweet 9-year-old calico cat. She is very affectionate and while she can be shy with strangers, surprisingly, she seems to enjoy the attention from the kids, even when they get loud and silly. She is a beautiful calico who can be found sleeping at the foot of our bed or in her favorite spot on the top of the couch cushions.

Badger is a brand-new addition to our family! He is a black and white kitten we recently brought home. It's been such a joy to have him around, entertaining us with all his crazy energy. Beatrice and Teddy love to play with him and he in turn will snuggle up to Beatrice when she's watching a show.





Community

We live in a suburban town in New England. It has a beautiful town green and lovely historic homes. We especially enjoy how walkable it is. From our house, we can easily walk to parks, the library, church, coffee shops, and more. Jack grew up here and the insurance business that he owns is located in town, so we feel very connected to the community.

Our home is located on the same street that Jack grew up on, and it's so special to us to be able to raise our children in the same family-friendly neighborhood. Several of our neighbors have known him since he was a little boy. In the warmer months, many families take walks after dinner, and we enjoy catching up with neighbors as the kids play and ride their bikes.

Beatrice is always asking to walk to the bakery down the street to pick out a cupcake or cookie and we have a hard time resisting her requests! The school she attends is right around the corner, an easy bike ride or walk that we enjoy each day.

Although we live in a small town, we are within driving distance of big cities, beaches, and mountains. We absolutely love living in New England, despite the cold winters. The beautiful summers and the gorgeous autumn foliage make up for it!

Time spent together

Jack is usually up early to exercise, heading to the basement to work out or, in the warmer months, out to the river where he has a rowing shell. Elizabeth tries to wake up a little bit before the children, mainly to enjoy her morning coffee and prayer time before the day gets going.

Jack heads off to work, but most days he is home for lunch, which is nice for all of us. Elizabeth and the kids spend the day together at home or head out for an activity - it might be as simple as a walk to the library, or we might spend time with cousins. Even going out for coffee and treats is fun! We are lucky to have not only family nearby, but a mom's group we have gotten to know through our church and always have lots of social activities to choose from during the week.





Our Saturdays are mostly spent at home doing chores and projects or running errands. Jack and Beatrice have had a sweet tradition of going out for pancakes together on Saturday mornings, too.

We strive to keep Sundays as a family day of rest. We go to church in the morning and stay for coffee and donuts or a potluck, depending on the week. We might choose an outing in the afternoon like a family walk to the park, a picnic, or a local museum. One of our favorite spots is a small zoo where we are members. It's the perfect size for a short walk with the little ones and of course, we have to stop at the snack bar for ice cream afterwards. We prioritize family dinners every night of the week but like to make Sunday dinners special by cooking a different meal and adding candles and flowers to the table.

Weekends

≡ *Our close knit family* ≡

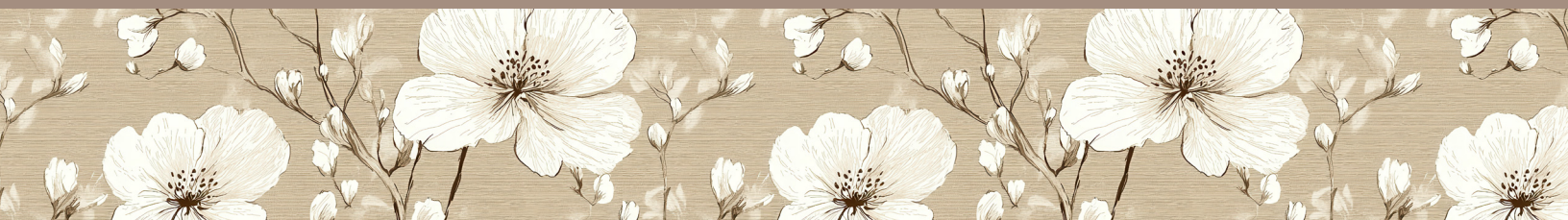
We both feel lucky to have grown up with loving parents who provided us with excellent examples of commitment and loving parenting. We're very blessed that they all have a close relationship with Beatrice and Teddy, as well. Our parents and siblings welcomed our children with open arms from the moment they came home.

Jack's mother lives in the same town as us and is a part of our daily life, joining us for dinner often and spending lots of time with Beatrice and Teddy. Jack's father unfortunately passed away 2 years ago. We have so many happy memories and are grateful for his lasting legacy in our family.

Although Jack's sister and her family don't live close by, we still see them several times a year and we enjoy visiting their home near Washington, DC. We especially love it when his whole family is together at their summer home on the coast here in New England. It's so fun to come home from the beach there and spend the evening cooking an amazing seafood meal together (Jack's sister is a great cook and always has a new recipe to try)! Beatrice and Teddy have the best time with our nephew and two nieces, who absolutely dote on them.

Elizabeth's four younger sisters and her parents all live within an easy drive of our home. With 13 young (ages 14 years down to 1 year old) grandchildren on her side of the family, there is never a quiet moment at our frequent family gatherings. Three of her sisters have children and they have been a great source of support, advice, and encouragement to Elizabeth as a mom.

We're so happy that our children will always be surrounded by a large, close-knit family and many cousins of the same age.



Holidays and Traditions

With a large extended family living nearby, our holidays are always busy, loud, and fun. We usually rotate who hosts each holiday, so each family has a chance to put their own spin on the celebrations.



Our family has some traditions of our own. When Beatrice was a baby, we began visiting a local historic inn for a festive lunch at Christmastime. We've continued the tradition each year since then, and it's a fun family day when Jack takes the day off of work, we get dressed up and have delicious lunch, then enjoy some shopping in the cute town where the inn is located. Other Christmas traditions include attending midnight Mass (yes, even with little ones!) and cutting down our own Christmas tree. We tend to have different opinions on which tree to choose, but somehow whichever one we finally agree on always ends up looking perfect in our home.





Since we moved to our neighborhood, Halloween has been a big deal. Our street is known for being a destination for trick-or-treaters and we have gotten up to 1500 of them some years. We start stocking up on candy months in advance and we recruit family and friends to help us give out candy and make a few pots of soup to repay them for their efforts. Although we've never been too enthusiastic about dressing up, it's a really fun and festive night in our neighborhood and we're glad so many kids enjoy it.



We also spend each 4th of July in the beach town where Jack's family has had a house for almost 40 years. It's a very special place to us and we always look forward to the local 4th of July parade there. It's a true small-town experience! While we're at the house, we usually head to the beach in the late afternoon. The beach is gorgeous in the evening light, and Beatrice and Teddy have a wonderful time splashing in the waves and digging in the sand. We often stop in town on the way home to pick up fresh fish for dinner.



A close-up photograph of several clusters of pink hydrangea flowers with green leaves. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some showing yellow centers. The background is softly blurred, creating a shallow depth of field.

Why Adoption

Even on our first few dates, we talked about how we both hoped to have (several!) children. We looked forward to continuing our family traditions and to creating our own when we got married. Our siblings' and friends' families were growing all the time and we were so excited to become parents ourselves. However, God had other plans for us and we struggled with infertility for several years without conceiving.

Adoption had been in the back of our minds throughout the years, especially because we had many adopted family members as well as some friends who were themselves adopted. We researched and prayed about it. Once we made the decision to begin the adoption process, we felt an immense sense of peace, knowing that this would be our path.

The core values we share in our family are faith, kindness and charity.

Faith has naturally been at the center of our lives, and we work to grow in our knowledge and prayer life. Since we've been married and created our own home culture, we do things like live out the liturgical year with traditions like Stations of the Cross during Lent, and celebrating St. Nicholas Day in December, to name a few. We attend church every Sunday and more often if we can and hope to instill a love of God in Beatrice and Teddy with daily prayer and Bible reading.

Kindness is another value we work to foster in our family. One way is doing your best to give others the benefit of the doubt in a difficult situation. We want our kids to learn that you can never know what another person is going through and patiently listening to them can often give them a boost. We emphasize politeness as a sign of respect for others, starting at home with our family.

This flows into charity. In our home, we try to model charity by, for example, doing a helpful task without being asked, especially one we know the other person really doesn't enjoy doing (for Elizabeth, there this means Jack volunteering to clean out the fridge, a task she really dreads!). We might take a turn doing baths and bedtimes with the kids when the other needs a rest or take a meal to a friend who needs it. We hope our children see giving to others freely with your time, talent, and treasure as a true expression of love.





Thank You

for taking the time to learn more about our family. We hope you've gotten to know us a little bit and that we might get to know you someday, too. Although we would never claim to be perfect, we strive to be a family that models love, responsibility, and acceptance to our children. We want them to see us as a safe place where they can be themselves and always be able to come to us with any problem, question, or tricky situation they may face in life.

We will offer your child unconditional love, guidance, and support as he or she grows up. We and our whole extended family will welcome him or her with love and joy.

We promise to provide:

- A warm, loving home
- A good education that meets in the individual needs of your child
- Lots of time together as a family at home
- Time outside to play and be a kid

We will:

- Build and maintain a relationship with you, to the extent you are comfortable
- Raise your child in faith and attend church regularly
- Enjoy family dinners together as much as possible
- Celebrate birthdays and holidays with joy and laughter
- Explore the country and world through travel, art, and food
- Respect the unique personality and interests of your child, encouraging him or her to meet his or her full potential

With love and Prayers
Jack & Elizabeth



Cradled
in
Grace
ADOPTION CONSULTANTS