

BAPTISM GUIDELINES

For children and infants age six and under, baptisms take place after parents have attended a baptism preparation class. Children aged seven and above need to prepare for full initiation into the Church (baptism, confirmation, Communion) at the Easter Vigil and need to take part in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Children. Families of these children will be asked to participate in a program of preparation.

To have a child baptized:

1. The parents of the child must be registered members of the parish or registered members of a Catholic church with the written permission of the pastor of that church for the baptism to take place here. If the parents are not yet registered but wish to have their child baptized, the parents must meet with the pastor before registering.
2. The parents of the child must attend a baptism preparation class. For parishioners, the baptism preparation classes are scheduled through the parish office. Attendance at the baptism preparation class is not required for parishioners if the parents have attended a class within the past three years.

SCHEDULING A BAPTISM

To schedule a baptism, call the parish office. Baptisms are scheduled once all requirements are fulfilled and the necessary documentation is received in the parish office. We recommend that you schedule and attend the baptism preparation classes prior to the birth of the child. Classes attended after the birth are valid, but it will delay scheduling the date of the sacrament.

When scheduling a baptism, the following information will be needed:

1. A completed baptism registration form.
2. If the parents are not registered members of the parish, they will need a letter of permission from their pastor before scheduling a baptism date.
3. A copy of the certificate of having completed the baptism preparation class.

It is customary to provide a monetary gift for the clergy member (priest or deacon) who performs the baptism. The donation can be given directly to the clergy member. The gift amount is up to the discretion of the family.