



Preparing for Your Child's Baptism

- 1) **Baptism Parents must be registered parishioners**
- 2) **Attend a Baptism Preparation Session if this is your first child**
 - a. Call Mary Kral to schedule this time
- 3) **Choose your Godparents**
 - a. At least one person, selected by parents, must meet the following qualifications:
 - i. Baptized and Confirmed in the Catholic Church, at least age 16
 - ii. Practices their faith including regular Mass attendance and, if married, are living in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church.
 - b. In addition to at least one Catholic Godparent, a "Christian witness" – (a non-Catholic Christian) may be chosen.
 - c. The two Godparents chosen are to be of opposite gender
- 4) **Choose your Baptism date**
 - a. Baptisms are offered at any Saturday/Sunday Mass during Ordinary Time or the Easter and Christmas Season. Due to the penitential nature of Lent, Baptisms are not performed during Lent.
 - b. No more than one baptism is allowed during each Mass, due to time restrictions
 - c. Baptisms can be celebrated after mass, generally on the first and third Sundays of the month based on availability of the Deacon.
 - d. To check the availability of a date, call or e-mail Mary Kral
- 5) **Preparing for the big day**
 - a. Invite family and friends to celebrate this special day in your child's life
 - b. Read through the liturgy guide which will walk you through the Rite of Baptism
 - c. Dress your child in white. He/she does not need to be dressed in a formal, or expensive baptismal gown, but they should be dressed in a white outfit.
 - d. When to arrive at the Church:
 - i. If Baptism is during Mass, arrive 20-30 minutes early and check in with our pastor, Fr. Dan Volkert, so he knows you are there. Please have your family seated in the reserved pews (near the back, close to the Baptismal Font) prior to the beginning of mass.
 - ii. If the Baptism is taking place after Mass, please attend the Mass and let the Deacon know beforehand that you are there. Please wait a few minutes in the pews after mass until the Deacon has finished meeting with any parishioners.

Questions? Contact me. **Our parish family is so happy to celebrate the Baptism of your child!**