



**GODPARENT/SPONSOR APPROVAL**

**Dear Pastor or Delegate:**

**The following person(s) have been asked by a member of our parish family to serve in the important role of godparent for an upcoming baptism of a child. Please help us be assured that the godparents of the baptized child will be exemplars of Catholic living to help as well as challenge the newly baptized to be committed Christians now and as they grow up.**

**Father Tony Neusch, Rector**

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**To be completed by the godparent or godparents:**

(Both St. Mary's Parishioners as well as Parishioners of other Parishes must have signed letter)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

*I/We hereby attest that we meet the following expectations of the Catholic Church to serve as baptismal godparents:*

- *Be a practicing Catholic: registered in a parish, attending Mass on Sundays and holy days, etc.*
- *Have been baptized, confirmed, and receiving communion*
- *Be 16 years of age or older*
- *Living a life consistent with their own baptismal vows*
- *Practicing the faith, not be engaging in notorious sin, and cannot have taken public positions in opposition to Catholic faith or morals*
- *If married, the marriage must be recognized by the Church*
- *Not living together in a spousal relationship outside of marriage*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature and Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature and Date**

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**To be completed by parish pastor or his delegated representative:**

*As the pastor or delegate of this person(s), I assure that the above godparent(s) meet the expectations of the Catholic Church to assume the important role of godparent(s) for an upcoming baptism in your parish.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Pastor/Delegate and Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name and Location of Parish**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Diocese of Parish**

*Parish Seal*



## **BAPTISM INFORMATION – GODPARENTS**

**Dear Faithful Catholic:**

***Congratulations! If you are receiving this letter, you have been asked to represent the universal community of believers, the Church, to assist the parents of a child in raising them in the light of Christ Jesus as a godparent. Some people are surprised to learn that the requirements of the Church are stricter for godparents than for parents who desire that their child be baptized. While parents may not yet be at a place in their lives where their Christian living is as strong as it is hoped it will be, godparents serve to assure that a baptized child will have exemplars of Catholic living to help them and challenge them to be committed Christians as they grow up. Because a child cannot fully choose to belong to the household of God, strong parents, and especially strong godparents, serve as heroes and heroines of the Christian life which the formed and inspired child will choose as he/she matures., Please see the back of this letter to honestly consider whether or not you meet the expectations of a Catholic godparent and be honest with the parents who have chosen you. While not perfect, godparents should at least model a commitment and discipline of an actively practicing Catholic Christian. Blessings.***

**Father Tony Neusch  
Rector**

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1. Members of St. Mary's Cathedral Parish should come to the Parish Office or find the Godparent request form on our website (stmarysamarillo.com), complete it and turn it in. See the reverse for godparent requirements.
2. Membership at St. Mary's is affirmed by being recognizable by an up-to-date parish registration card, weekly attendance at Mass, and involvement in the parish by regular financial, time and talent contributions to the life of our community of faith.
3. Members of other parishes, whether in Amarillo or from out of town, must sign and then present the attached "Godparent Approval Form" to their parish pastor or his designee for their signature. These signed and sealed forms must be received at St. Mary's by mail or by drop in at least three weeks before the scheduled baptism.
4. Upon baptism preparation registration, please make an appointment at the Parish Office to receive instructions for baptism preparation by the Baptism Office.
5. You will watch the REBORN video concerning godparents: ***(Gift of Godparents)***
  - A. Go to the website: [formed.org](http://formed.org)
  - B. Use the St. Mary's parish code (6K26CJ) and create your own profile. See the insert about the opportunity to continue to learn on the FORMED website.
  - C. Click onto <STUDY>, <SACRAMENTAL PREP>, and then <REBORN>.
  - D. Watch "Gift of Godparents".
  - E. After the video, complete the related participant's pages in your book.
6. Call for an appointment to bring your completed ***Reborn*** packet and signed approval letters to the Office of Baptism Preparation.

***Live passionately your own Baptism and be faithful to the promises you make at the Baptism!!***

**BAPTISM REGISTRATION FORM**



**Family Information:**

Child's Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Child's Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Was the child adopted? \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Father's Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Religion of Father \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Mother's Full **Maiden** Name \_\_\_\_\_

Religion of Mother \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Are parents married to each other? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

If yes, are parents married by the Catholic Church? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

What Mass does the household attend? \_\_\_\_\_

Is household current on their Membership/Stewardship card? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

How long has household been registered members of St. Mary's? \_\_\_\_\_

**IF** the adult/s seeking Baptism, is/are **NOT** the child's biological parent/s, what is the guardianship/custody status of the child? \_\_\_\_\_

**( you must be able to provide legal documentation of such status )**

**Godparent Information:**

Potential **Godfather's** Name \_\_\_\_\_

Is Godfather at least 16 years of age, Baptized, Confirmed, and a practicing Catholic? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

If married, is he married in the Church? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No Is he cohabitating with anyone outside of marriage? Please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Is Godfather a parishioner at St. Mary's? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No If no, where? \_\_\_\_\_

Potential **Godmother's** Name \_\_\_\_\_

Is Godmother at least 16 years of age, Baptized, Confirmed and a practicing Catholic? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

If married, is she married in the Church? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No Is she cohabitating with anyone outside of Marriage? Please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Is Godmother a parishioner at St. Mary's? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No If no, where? \_\_\_\_\_



## ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL

*Being a godparent is more than a cultural or symbolic role played out on the day of Baptism. Lucas Pollice dismantles the myths and answers these practical questions:*

- *What roles do godparents play on the day of Baptism?*
- *How are godparents called to impact the spiritual growth and well-being of the one being baptized?*
- *What kinds of things can godparents do for the baptized, beyond the occasional card or gift?*
- *Why doesn't the Church allow just anyone to be a godparent?*
- *How can parents discern the best godparents' fit within the community of faith?*
- *How do both the parents and godparents fit within the community of faith?*

*By the end, godparents will understand the necessity and responsibilities of their role for teaching, living, and protecting the faith of the baptized.*