

# Baptisms at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church

Congratulations on the birth or the anticipated birth of your child. In order to prepare for your child's Baptism, please read or download all of the below information.

Parents desiring the Sacrament of Baptism for their children at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church are required to attend a preparation class for their child's Baptism. Once all paperwork has been submitted and completed, you will be asked to select the date of the Mass/Class and Baptism.

## 2020 Baptism Classes 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday @ 7:30pm in Parish Hall

March 18, 2020      May 20, 2020      July 15, 2020      Sept 16, 2020  
November 18, 2020

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## 2020 Baptism Dates - Sundays at 12:30pm

January 19, 2020      February 16, 2020      March 15, 2020      April 19, 2020  
May 17, 2020      June 21, 2020      July 19, 2020      August 16, 2020  
Sept 20, 2020      October 18, 2020      November 15, 2020      December 20, 2020

## Godparent/Sponsor Choices

This is an important decision that parents are asked to make for their child. Please be aware of the tradition of the Catholic Church regarding these choices. Canon Law states the following:

- There may be one or two godparents (sponsors) to assist the child in leading a good Christian life. There can be no more than two godparents. (Canon 872)
- If there is to be only one godparents, the person may be either male or female.
- If there are two godparents, one *must* be male and the other must be female. Two godparents of the same sex are not permitted in church law. **There are no exceptions to this law.** (Canon 873)
- A godparent must be a Catholic, and must:
  - Be at least sixteen years of age;
  - Have received Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation;
  - Be living an upright life;
  - Not have left the Catholic Church and joined another Church;
  - Not be either parent. (Canon 874)

- A baptized non-Catholic may be admitted only in company with a Catholic sponsor, and then simply as a witness to the baptism.
- An unbaptized person (i.e. one who is Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, etc.) may not be a Godparent or a Christian Witness. The reason for this is that at the baptism a godparent or witness is required to renew the promises made at their own baptism and profess their belief in Jesus Christ. For obvious reasons, non-Christians cannot make this statement of belief, and so may not be Godparents or Christian Witnesses. **There are no exceptions to this law.** (Canon 874)
- If there are two godparents, one must be male and the other must be female.
- Once the baptism has been celebrated, the names of the godparents may not be changed for any reason whatsoever.

**Each godparent must obtain a document from their current parish attesting to their qualifications to act as a godparent. Since Baptism and Confirmation certificates do not indicate a person's current practice of the Catholic faith, they do not fulfill this requirement.**

### **Emergency Baptisms**

Sometimes due to medical complications at or shortly after birth, children may be baptized under emergency circumstances. That emergency baptism is valid, and is all that is necessary for the child's salvation. However, after the child recovers, the Church can supply those parts of the baptismal not performed during the emergency baptism.

### **Miscellaneous:**

- Donation: It is customary to present an offering at the time of the Baptism.
- Parents are encouraged to make arrangements during the pregnancy, if possible.
- Directions to the Church are available on the web site, if you need to supply them for family members.

Once again, we offer our congratulations and blessings to you and your family.

May God bless you,

Father Sikorski  
Pastor

The next page is the Inquiry Form.

# BAPTISM INQUIRY FORM (Please bring to parish office)

## Child

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

## Parents

Mother(Maiden Name) \_\_\_\_\_

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

Circle Sacraments received: Baptism Eucharist Confirmation

Father \_\_\_\_\_

Religion \_\_\_\_\_

Circle Sacraments received: Baptism Eucharist Confirmation

Are the parents married?

Were the parents married by a priest or deacon?

## Godparents:

One godparent is sufficient, two godparents are permitted. A godparent must be a practicing Roman Catholic in the state of grace having received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation and be at least 16 years old. A baptized, non-Catholic Christian may act as a witness to the baptism, but not as a godparent.

Documentation attesting to the suitability of a person to act as godparent must be obtained from the current parish.

Godmother \_\_\_\_\_

Godmother's Religion \_\_\_\_\_

Current Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Circle Sacraments received: Baptism/Eucharist./Confirmation

Godfather \_\_\_\_\_

Godfather's Religion \_\_\_\_\_

Current Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Circle Sacraments received: Baptism/Eucharist./Confirmation

Is either godparent represented by Proxy?

Was the child previously baptized?

Is the child adopted?

For office use only

Date for: Parent Preparation Class \_\_\_\_\_ Baptism \_\_\_\_\_