

# St. Michael Parish ~ Sacrament of Baptism

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Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19

Your baby's baptism is a time for celebration and joy! Here at St. Michael we would like to help you prepare for the special event. Please see the following guidelines for celebrating this sacrament of initiation and fully welcoming your child into our community.

**Parents (guardians)** are responsible for requesting the sacrament of baptism for their infant/child (under age 7). The family should be **registered & participating** members of our Parish, and at least one parent, a practicing Catholic who agrees to raise the child in the practice of the Catholic faith.

**Classes** – A baptism preparation class is required for the parents and godparents of those preparing for the baptism of infants and children (under age 7). Please call the office and talk with Leticia Alexander to register for a baptism class. If it has been more than 2 years since your last baptism preparation class, we will ask you to participate in a class again.

**Godparents** – A godparent or sponsor is a person who takes on the role of being a symbol of the entire Catholic Church during the celebration of a sacrament, bringing your child to Jesus and promising to support your child in living life as a faithful, practicing Christian. For this reason a godparent/sponsor needs to show signs that they have welcomed Jesus into every part of their life and be faithful, practicing Catholics. There can be either one (single) or two godparents; if there are two, one must be female and one must be male. They must be at least 16 years of age. They need to have received the sacraments of initiation: baptism, confirmation, and first communion. If they are married, they need to be validly married in the Catholic Church. The required proof for this is a current sacramental record certificate (or baptism certificate, which contains all the same information), to be obtained from the parish where they were baptized, dated to within the previous six months.

**After bringing the documentation needed and participating in a baptism preparation class, you are ready to schedule a baptism date.** Please call the church office for availability and to schedule your child's baptism.

The requested donation amount for a baptism is \$50.00 and can be paid in the church office with the requested documents listed below:

- **Baptism Information Sheet (other side)**
- **Child's Birth Certificate (must be a legal copy from the state, not a certificate from the hospital)**
- **God parents' Catholic Church Marriage Certificate.**
- **If there is only one Godparent, he or she needs to be single be an active catholic, and needs to provide a copy of his or her Confirmation Certificate and fill up the godparent questionnaire.**

With the information provided, your baby's baptism will be recorded in the parish Baptismal register. In the years ahead proof of baptism may be obtained in the form of a certificate issued on the basis of this registration. Your child's First Eucharist, Confirmation, and marriage or ordination will also be noted in this register.

**Baptism Information Sheet**

Requested date of Baptism \_\_\_\_\_

Baptism requirements revised 9/06/2022