

# Church of the Holy Family

## Sacrament of Baptism (Infant to 7 years) Overview

We are happy to support your family during this special time of preparation for the Baptism of your child. Sacraments are visible signs of God's love and through them and by the actions of the Holy Spirit, Jesus fills us with his grace, heals and strengthens us. Baptism is the beginning of a faith journey, and we congratulate you for choosing this beautiful gift for your child. As the child grows and matures, parents are the first and most important teachers of the faith, as you lead your child into a deeper relationship with Christ by your words and your example. As a parish, we are blessed and privileged to help you in this endeavor.

### Parents:

In having a child baptized, parents are making a commitment of faith and committing themselves to regular and active participation in the life of the Church so that the passing on of the faith to their child will become a reality.

1. **Read, Sign & Return Baptism Overview**
2. **Choose Godparents:** To be a Catholic godparent he/she is required to have completed the sacraments of Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation **and** if married, validly sacramentally married in the Catholic Church. Baptized Christians of other faith traditions can stand with the Catholic godparent as a Christian witness to the baptism but cannot be one of the godparents. As an additional note, there may be one godfather, one godmother, or one of each. You cannot have two godfathers or two godmothers.
3. **Complete the Baptism Request Form**
4. **Complete a Baptism Prep Course:** Parents are required to complete a Baptism Prep Course. If you have already completed a course previously, please provide a certificate of completion or a letter from the pastor verifying your participation. Currently, we use an online course.
5. **Proof of Parish Registration:** If you are not a registered member of Church of the Holy Family, complete the parish registration form. If you are a registered member of another Catholic church, please submit a letter from your parish pastor granting permission for your child to be baptized at Church of the Holy Family.

### Godparents:

1. **Complete the Godparent Form:** Godparents are required to be 16 years old on the day of the baptism, be a fully initiated Catholic, participate regularly in Sunday Mass and receive Holy Communion as a practicing Catholic, and their current marital status/living arrangements conform to all laws, norms and principles of the Roman Catholic Church. All Godparent forms must be signed by the pastor of the Godparent's parish.
2. **Baptism Prep Course:** Godparents are not required to complete a Baptism Prep Course but may attend if desired.

Once all forms are completed and submitted, a date may be scheduled one month prior to your potential liturgy date. It is customary to give an honorarium of \$100 to the priest officiating the baptism. **Baptisms are held at 1:00 PM on the second Sunday of each month.**

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_