

BAPTISM SCHEDULE

All baptisms are held on the fourth Sunday of most months. No baptisms are held during Lent or on Holy Days such as Christmas. Call the parish office at 867-1525 to schedule a baptism.

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PARISH

To live our Parish Mission Statement, which is:
To create a Catholic Evangelical Community which transforms the world around us, by modeling the Gospel call to continuous personal and communal conversion.

*“Evangelize, Convert,
Transform”*

We pledge to support you in the responsibility of Christian parenting by providing various programs for parents and children.



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THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM



POLICY FOR THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM



Since it is the parents who have given life to their children, on them lies the gravest obligation of educating their

family. They must therefore be accepted as primarily and principally responsible for their education. The role of parents in education is of such importance that it is almost impossible to provide an adequate substitute. It is therefore the duty of parents to create a family atmosphere inspired by love and devotion to God and humanity which will promote an integrated, personal and social education of their children. (Vatican Council 11, 1965, Declaration on Christian Education 3).

Sacraments are central to the spiritual growth of Catholics. Church teaching holds that parents are the primary educators of their children, that marriage and family life are a path to holiness, and that all parish ministries should attempt to strengthen families. Because of this, it is

PURPOSE

Our purpose for this policy is to provide the framework and supportive environment in which parents may reflect and carry out the awesome privilege and the responsibility of the reception of Baptism.

PROGRAM

You will be paired with a couple from the Baptism Preparation Team. A session will be scheduled between you and them and may take place in the home or church or in a mutually agreed upon place. They will cover the Sacrament of Baptism, the parental responsibilities and the implementation of the “Domestic Church” in the family. A short DVD will be presented.

REQUIREMENTS

Pre-registration is required prior to the Baptism Prep Session by calling the parish office at 867-1525. Parents must attend this class before the Baptism of their child. It is recommended that the parents attend before the birth of the baby. Godparents are also encouraged to attend this class if possible.



GODPARENTS

There must be a male and a female. At least one person must be a Catholic in

good standing: this means they are registered in a parish and attending mass on a regular basis, not less than 16 years of age, fully initiated (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation), valid marriage (if married), and living a life of faith which befits the role undertaken. When the other sponsor does not meet the above criteria, he/she may be designated as a Christian Witness. Catholic sponsors must obtain a sponsor certificate from their parish of registration (including our own St. Paul the Apostle parishioners), stating that he/she is a member in good standing and eligible to serve as a sponsor. The certificates should be provided to the parish office at least two weeks prior to the Baptism date. If a godparent is unable to attend the Baptism ceremony, a proxy may stand in for them. The rules above apply to all proxies.
