



Preparing for Baptism

Thoughts for Parents

As you ask for your child to be baptized, you, as parent, are taking on the responsibility of safeguarding the flame of faith for your child.

Parents, then, are to be the first witnesses and teachers of the faith for their children.

To do this, parents need to:

- Attend Mass every Sunday
- Receive Holy Communion and Confession regularly
- Pray daily and live a life that is modeled on the life of Jesus

Sometimes Catholic parents were married without the proper dispensations from the Church. If you happen to be in this situation, now may be the time to see if this situation can be resolved.

Please read this leaflet carefully and know that our parish is ready to assist you in this wonderful and awesome task of nurturing and nourishing the life of faith of your family.

The Vocation of Parents

Our loving God has given you a great vocation.

As a parent you are called by God to show forth His love and concern.

You have been chosen to establish a family, a domestic church, a place where each person can discover and live his or her true identity as a child of God.

The Catholic Family needs to:

- Be united in prayer
- Be nourished and healed in the sacraments of Holy Communion and Reconciliation
- Attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days
- Give service to each member of the family
- Live a life based on the Ten Commandments and Beatitudes
- Contribute to the support of the Church, spiritually, socially, and financially
- Be married in the Catholic Church
- Be registered and active members of the Church Community
- Read Scripture and spiritual books
- Keep learning about the faith at every stage of their life

The Role of the Sponsor

Being a sponsor carries with it a very precious responsibility.

A sponsor needs to form a spiritual relationship that last a lifetime.

A sponsor should be someone who can share a strong Catholic identity with your child.

This person should pray for your child and assist you in nurturing the faith of your child.

Some suggestions to help develop this relationship:

Celebrate the anniversary of Baptism by sending a card or By calling or visiting the child on this special day.

Remember holidays with religious gifts such as a bible, a rosary, religious jewelry, religious books, etc.

Be a model of fidelity to the precious gift of the Catholic Faith.

Requirements for Sponsors:

**To be a sponsor,
One must be:**

At least 16 years of age

A baptized Catholic who has been confirmed and received Eucharist

A practicing Catholic who is leading a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken

Not the mother or father of the child to be baptized

A Catholic sponsor must obtain a letter of eligibility from his or her home parish.

One sponsor is sufficient, there may be two, one male and one female.

Christian Witness

Along with a qualified Catholic Sponsor, a baptized and believing member of another Christian denomination may stand as a witness to the Baptism. A Christian Witness must provide a copy of their baptismal certificate.

Those not eligible to be a Baptismal Sponsor

Anyone not baptized

Members of non-Christian faiths

Baptized Catholics who have not received either the sacrament of Eucharist or Confirmation

Baptized Catholics who have joined another faith and have not formally returned to the Catholic Faith

Catholics who are not married by the laws of the Church



Registration Form

Are you registered in the Parish? _____

Family Name _____

Phone # H _____ Cell _____

Address _____

Email _____

Name of Child _____

Date of Birth _____ City of Birth _____

Date of Baptism _____

Father's Full Name _____

Mother's First and Maiden Name _____

Place of Marriage _____

Name of Godfather or Christian Witness _____

Parish of Godfather _____

Name of Godmother or Christian Witness _____

Parish of Godmother _____

*****A Letter of Eligibility must be obtained for each Godparent from the Godparent's parish and turned in no later than two weeks prior to the baptism. This is true even if the Godparent is a parishioner at OLG. All Christian Witnesses must give us a copy of their baptism certificate***
Please see the Baptism Packet for a detailed explanation of the difference between a Godparent and a Christian Witness.**