

Important Information regarding Baptism

from St. Andrew Parish Office

For the baptism of a child, at least one parent must be Catholic. Both parents must sign the Baptism Registration form.

When choosing Godparents, please choose someone who is of Sacramental and Lifestyle example to your child. Godparents must be at least 16 years of age and may not be the parents of the child to be baptized. Only one godparent is required; if two godparents are chosen, one must be male and the other female.

When all of these documents are received in our office, we will set a Baptism date with you.

1. A copy of the birth certificate of the child along with the completed Baptism Registration form.

2. For the godparents – a letter from the parish where they are registered saying they are practicing Catholics and eligible to be a godparent OR at least a copy of the godparent' s Confirmation certificate. At least one godparent must meet this requirement.

3. If the second godparent has not received the Sacrament of Confirmation, he/she must provide a copy of his/her Baptism certificate from a Catholic or Christian church. He/she can then be a godparent along with the Confirmed Catholic godparent.

* Both parents and both godparents must attend baptism classes. If a baptism class is taken at another Catholic Church, proof of attendance from that Church is required.

At St. Andrew Church, baptism classes are scheduled once a month from 10:15 11:45am at the school. Classes are also available in Spanish. Call the parish office to register for a baptism class.

Please call the Church Office if you have any questions or need help with this procedure:
574-4545

VERY IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ BEFORE YOU SIGN!!!!

Baptismal Certificate is a legal document and the registration for such a document must be treated with the same level of importance. As regards the information of the child's name, it must be the same name as that of the Birth Certificate issued by the state of the child's birth. **A copy of the child's birth certificate** is also required.

Can. 872 A person being baptized is to be assigned a sponsor/godparent. In the case of an infant baptism, the role (of a sponsor/godparent) is together with the parents to present the child for baptism, and to help it to live a Christian life befitting the baptized and faithfully to fulfill the duties inherent in baptism.

Can. 873 One sponsor(godparent), male or female, is sufficient; but there may be two, one of each sex.

Can. 874 To be admitted or to undertake the office of sponsor, a person must:

1. Be suitable for this role and have the intention of fulfilling it;
2. Be not less than sixteen years
3. Be a (practicing) catholic who has been Confirmed and has received the blessed Eucharist, and who lives a life of faith which benefits the role to be undertaken.
4. Not be either the father or the mother of person to be baptized.
5. A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community may be admitted only in company with a Catholic sponsor, and then simply as a witness to the baptism. He or she will only be recorded as a Christian Witness and also required to take the baptismal class, if he/she lives in town. Proof of Christian baptism must be presented.

If the Godparents are not present at the Baptism then the parents will be required to obtain Proxies for the Baptism. **If the Godparents (or) the proxies do not show up for the Baptism - The Baptism will not take place.**

*** PARENTS AS WELL AS GODPARENTS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE A BAPTISMAL CLASS ***

Godparents are also required to submit a sponsor certification form before scheduling the Baptismal date - if they attend another parish. The sponsor certification must state that they are practicing Catholics eligible to be godparents (Confirmed Catholics) and that they have attended a Baptism Class (within two years).

Godparents, if they are not registered in a parish, must provide a copy of their Confirmation certificate and must also attend a Baptism class.

When all information is completed and turned in, the baptismal date can then be scheduled. If any information is not complete, we cannot schedule the Baptism.