

In our Diocese, parents are asked to attend a baptismal preparation class prior to having their child baptized. Baptism preparation classes are held at the Church of the Resurrection, 3501 Cedar Lane, Portsmouth, VA 23703, usually on the **first Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.** Participants should meet in the office (to the left of the main doors). We encourage godparents to attend as well, if possible, though it is not mandatory for godparents. There is no registration fee for the baptismal prep class and there is **NO REQUIREMENT** to be registered at one of our parishes.

Baptisms at Holy Angels are conducted during the 11:00AM Sunday Mass in English and 1:00 PM Sunday Mass in Spanish. Baptisms at Resurrection are conducted during the 11:30 AM Sunday Mass. Baptisms at Saint Mary are conducted during the 9:00 AM Sunday Mass. Baptisms at St. Paul are conducted during the 4:00 PM Saturday Evening Mass. To request baptisms at other Masses or other times, please discuss your request with Deacon Kevin.

Some general information - on the day of the baptism, plan to arrive at least 30 minutes before the scheduled Mass time. We will have reserved seating at mass for the family and friends of the child(ren) to be baptized. Your child's godparents (or proxies) should also arrive early. One of the godparents must be an actively-practicing Catholic.

**Godparents** will need to complete and sign a godparent/sponsor attestation form affirming that they meet the requirements of a Catholic godparent. The parent of the child cannot be the Godparent of the child. A minimum of one Catholic Godparent is required. If there are two Godparents, one must be male and one must be female. A baptized non-Catholic Christian may be a "Christian Witness" to the baptism, but at least one Catholic Godparent is required. This form and the role of the godparent should be taken very seriously, as next to the parents, the godparents should be the role model in the faith for the child throughout his/her life. The signed form should be sent in at least two weeks before the baptism and may be mailed to attention of Deacon Kevin Morrison, care of Church of the Resurrection, 3501 Cedar Lane, Portsmouth, VA 23703 or emailed to [kmorrison@clusterparishes.com](mailto:kmorrison@clusterparishes.com).

We also need to have a completed **Data for Baptismal Registry form**. Once you have determined at which parish you would like to have your child baptized, please notify Deacon Kevin and he will send you the correct form for that parish. When filling out the form, please be sure to include all middle names and maiden names, as they're part of the baptismal record. Once you've filled out the form, you may mail it to Deacon Kevin Morrison, care of Church of the Resurrection, 3501 Cedar Lane, Portsmouth, VA 23703, or email it to [kmorrison@clusterparishes.com](mailto:kmorrison@clusterparishes.com). All paperwork must be returned two weeks prior to the baptism, or the baptism may have to be rescheduled.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Contact information:

Deacon Kevin Morrison  
Cluster Parishes of Portsmouth and Chesapeake  
3501 Cedar Lane  
Portsmouth, VA 23707  
(757) 484-7335  
[kmorrison@clusterparishes.com](mailto:kmorrison@clusterparishes.com)