

Baptismal Requirements

The following are mandatory requirements:

- A parent's or legal guardian's consent.
- A person may only have one or two godparents; if two are chosen, they must be male and female.
- A copy of the child's birth certificate.
- Children 6 years of age or older are required to attend CCD classes.
- **Parents and Godparents must attend** the preparation class. Please make the proper arrangements in advance.

Requirements and Eligibility of the Godparents

The church has some very clear guidelines in regards to godparents. In addition to the expectations of the culture and of the families involved, the Catholic church requires the following of godparents:

- The parents must choose them, and they must be willing to help your child lead a Christian life in harmony with baptism and fulfill the obligations connected with it.
- They must be at least sixteen years of age and mature enough to undertake this responsibility.
- They must be Catholics who have received the three sacraments of initiation, namely: Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.
- They must be an actively practicing Catholic, participating at Mass on Sundays and Holy days, and receiving the sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation regularly. If the person you are considering as a godparent is not married according to the laws and practices of the Catholic Church or is cohabitating, that person cannot serve as a sponsor and you will need to consider someone else.
- A non-baptized person cannot be a witness.
 - Please note: A Godparent is a permanent choice. In other words, if you have a falling out with the person or persons you select to be a Godparent, their name cannot be removed from the official record of the child's baptism.

I have read and understand the requirements listed above.

Father's Signature

Mother

If you, the parent(s) of this child, are willing to fulfill these minimal requirements, or to support your Catholic spouse as he/she fulfills them, please sign and place today's date in the spaces below.

Father's signature/date

Mother's signature/date

At this time, is there anything that the pastor or faith formation personnel of this parish can do to help you on your own relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ? For example: clearing up any problems with your marital status in the Church, helping you finish your sacraments of initiation (baptism, confirmation, first Holy Communion).

Parents and godparents will be scheduled for the required pre-baptismal instruction classes **after** the following documentation has been received:

- *Child's birth certificate
- * Baptism Godfather/Godmother Covenant form
- *This form completed including the signature of parents
- *Donation of \$50 materials fee for per child
- * Proof of registration at Ss. Joseph & Michael Parish

The Catholic Church requires the following of Godparents: (canon 874.1)

- * The godparents are to be chosen by the parents or guardians.
- * They are to be at least sixteen years of age.
- * They must be Catholics who have already been Confirmed, and have received the holy Eucharist.
- * They should be leading a life in harmony with the faith; i.e., practicing Catholics (attending Mass), if married, in a valid Catholic Marriage, etc.
- * They may not be the father or mother of the one to be baptized.
- * You may choose one or two godparents. If you choose two, one must be male and the other female.
- * The godparents must have the qualifications for and intention of carrying out this duty.
- ****Non-Catholic Witness** (Can.874.2) A **baptized** person belonging to a non-Catholic ecclesial (church) community may be admitted as a witness to baptism but only along with a Catholic Godparent. This person is not formally called a Godparent, but will be referred to as a Christian Witness.

Please Note: A baptism certificate is a genealogical document. The Church's custom is to list the father's full name and the mother's full maiden name, i.e., the name before marriage, on baptism certificates. This does not cast any judgment upon the marital status of the parents. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. Because the godparent covenants are often turned in separately from this form, please give the name(s) of the godparent(s) here.

Godfather: _____

Godmother: _____

Baptism Godmother Covenant

Baptismal sponsors/godparents are expected to be the first helpers of the godchild's parents in rearing the child in the faith and practice of the Roman Catholic Church. Example is the most powerful teaching tool. If you fulfill the requirements for sponsors listed above and are willing to be actively involved in sharing your faith with this child, please sign and date in the space provided below.

Only one godparent is required, but two may serve as sponsors as long as one is a woman and the other a man. Sponsors are expected to be able to lead by example, to support the child's faith development, and to assist the parents in their task as primary educators of their children in the faith. Therefore, sponsors must be:

*Fully initiated in to the Catholic Church-baptism, confirmation and first communion

*Registered in a parish

*Practicing their faith-regular Mass attendance, Easter Duty, etc.
in the Catholic Church if married

*Married

My godchild's name is: _____

I understand the requirements of being a Baptism godparent and I state that I was

Baptized at _____ Catholic Church

in _____ (City and State) on or about _____ (date)

Confirmed at _____ Catholic Church

in _____ (City and State) on or about _____ (date)

Married in the Catholic Church at _____

in _____ (City and State) on or about _____ (date)

Name of parish and city where the baptism is to take place:

I am active in the Catholic Church, regularly attend Mass on Sunday and strive to live my faith.

Godmother's signature/date

Godmother's printed name

_____ *Phone #*

Baptism Godfather Covenant

Baptismal sponsors/godparents are expected to be the first helpers of the godchild's parents in rearing the child in the faith and practice of the Roman Catholic Church. Example is the most powerful teaching tool. If you fulfill the requirements for sponsors listed above and are willing to be actively involved in sharing your faith with this child, please sign and date in the space provided below.

Only one godparent is required, but two may serve as sponsors as long as one is a woman and the other a man. Sponsors are expected to be able to lead by example, to support the child's faith development, and to assist the parents in their task as primary educators of their children in the faith. Therefore, sponsors must be:

*Fully initiated in to the Catholic Church-baptism, confirmation and first communion

*Registered in a parish

*Practicing their faith-regular Mass attendance, Easter Duty, etc.
in the Catholic Church if married

*Married

My godchild's name is: _____

I understand the requirements of being a Baptism godparent and I state that I was

Baptized at _____ Catholic Church

in _____ (City and State) on or about _____ (date)

Confirmed at _____ Catholic Church

in _____ (City and State) on or about _____ (date)

Married in the Catholic Church at _____

in _____ (City and State) on or about _____ (date)

Name of parish and city where the baptism is to take place:

I am active in the Catholic Church, regularly attend Mass on Sunday and strive to live my faith.

Godfather's signature/date

Godfather's printed name

Phone #