



Founded 1843

Saint Paul Parish

“Two beautiful churches, One great parish.”



St. Mary Magdalen De Pazzi
First Italian Catholic Parish
in U.S.A. - Founded in 1840

Thank you for calling and inquiring about having your child baptized at Saint Paul Parish. This is what we request from the parents:

1. At least one parent or guardian in the family **MUST** be Catholic, registered and active in the parish.
2. That one of the godparents be a Catholic who has received the sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation. If the Catholic sponsor is married, he or she must have been married in the Catholic Church. If the other godparent is not a Catholic, he or she must be a Christian and supply a Baptismal Certificate.
3. That the Catholic godparents must obtain a letter of eligibility from the parish where they worship and do their ministry and give it to the child's parents.
4. When the parents have the eligibility forms, they can call the rectory (215-923-0355) to schedule an appointment with the priest and arrange to attend the **Pre-Jordan Baptismal Class** prior to the baptism. Classes will be held once a month; date and time will be in the parish bulletin.

At this meeting we will also:

- A. Fill out the necessary information for the records, and
 - B. Set a date and time for your child's Baptism
5. That one and, hopefully, both parents go to Church every week. This is a request of the parishioners because they worship and minister week after week and don't want people to just use the church for their convenience and needs. No one can be a practicing Catholic unless they practice worship and ministry.

Respectfully yours,

Reverend Daniel J. Dwyer



Founded 1843

Saint Paul Parish

“Two beautiful churches, One great parish.”



St. Mary Magdalen De Pazzi
First Italian Catholic Parish
in USA - Founded in 1802

What is a Godparent **eligibility** Form?

An eligibility form or certificate is obtained from the parish where the Godparent is registered and goes to Mass every Sunday and hopefully does some ministry every week or month. The Godparent should call the parish where he or she is registered and state they have been asked to be a Godparent and need a letter of eligibility stating they are a practicing Catholic.

What is a **practicing** Catholic?

This is a Catholic who is not perfect or sinless and needs God in his or her life through worship (going to Mass on Sunday) and serves others in their lives through a ministry. Worship and ministry are two ways of getting outside of ourselves by loving God and our neighbor according to the Catholic Tradition.

Sometimes parents want certain people to be Godparents, but they do not go to Mass on Sundays or do ministry during the week. They cannot get an eligibility form. If it's important to the family to have to have them there, they can go through all the motions at the ceremony, but their name will not go in the Baptismal book or on the Baptismal certificate. Please let them know that ahead of time.

Parents who are **not** from St. Paul Church

If a parent wishes to have his or her child baptized at St. Paul, and are registered at another parish, they must go to their parish and ask for a letter of permission stating that the parish knows that you are getting your child baptized at St. Paul. This letter must be printed on that Parish Stationary and handed to the priest who is doing the Baptism when the parents come in for instructions.