

Baptism Day Reminders

St. Bernard's Church, Levittown, NY, 516-731-4220

www.stbernardchurch.org



- ✦ Please arrive at the church no later than 15 minutes before the liturgy begins (e.g. 1:15 for a 1:30 service). The service will normally last no longer than one hour. If some emergency prevents you from coming to the scheduled baptism, please **call the parish office at 516.731.4220**. Please advise your guests to also leave enough time to find the church, park and be seated in time for the beginning of the liturgy.
- ✦ Strollers or baby carriers are not permitted in the church seating areas due to fire department regulations, as they can interfere with movement through the aisles and pews. Please consider leaving those items in your car, or if you must bring them to the church, you will be directed where to store them during the liturgy. (Please allow enough time to store these items prior to the pre-ceremony instructions at 1:15.)
- ✦ When you and your guests arrive, members of our parish Baptism team will greet you, escort parents and Godparents to the gathering area, and seat your guests. The team and the priest or deacon will guide you through the liturgy. Please note that only parent/s and the one or two official Godparent/s will be seated in the Baptism section. All others sit in the guest area.
- ✦ We want to provide an experience where all in attendance can focus on welcoming and celebrating the presence of the Holy Spirit in your child's life. We welcome small children to the ceremony and do our best to include them, but we ask that your guests assist us by looking after them to see that they don't distract others from the liturgy.
- ✦ You and your guests will be invited to participate appropriately in the baptism liturgy. We ask all present to be thoughtful and reverential in the use of cameras so as not to interfere with the mood and flow of the liturgy. (It would be helpful in accomplishing this to designate ONE of your guests as the photographer during the liturgy.) The priest or deacon will be available for photos after the liturgy. **Professional photographers and videographers are not permitted in the church during the liturgy.**
- ✦ If you have not yet had the opportunity to make a Baptism donation, a basket will be placed in the gathering area for donation envelopes, or you may make a donation online at FaithDirect, our online giving service, by going to this link: <https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/NY272> or using the QR code to the right. Please note that any donation you make will be used to support the parish's ministries of education, outreach, and worship, and for the maintenance and improvement of parish facilities. **The parish relies on your ongoing generous support to fund its mission and ministries.**
- ✦ Your child's Baptism Certificate will be mailed to you. Please keep it in a safe place. You and your child will be asked to produce it at various points in your child's Christian journey. If you misplace it, you may obtain another certificate by contacting St. Bernard's.

