

Frequently Asked Questions

1. When should parents contact the Parish Center to schedule Baptism for their child? Parents should contact the Parish Center and submit the Registration Form at least three full months prior to the requested date of Baptism.
2. What are the requirements for Catholic godparents?
 - a. Though it is customary for children to have 2 godparents the child can be baptized with one godparent. If there are two godparents they cannot be of the same gender. - Godparents cannot be the child's parent and are required to be 16 years of age or older and practicing their faith. They must be a fully initiated Catholic (Baptized, received Communion & Confirmation) and live a virtuous life consistent with their own Baptismal vows.
3. Why are there requirements for godparents? - It is important to understand that Baptism is one of the Seven Sacraments and is not a private act but is an official, public liturgy of the Catholic Church. - A godparent is a role of service and example done in the name of the Church to support the parents in the development of the child's Christian life.
4. What is a proxy if a godparent cannot be present at the Baptism ceremony? - A proxy physically represents a godparent who cannot be present at the Baptism. The godparent's name will appear on the official Baptismal Certificate and in the Parish Records. The proxy's name is not recorded in any records.
5. Are non-Catholic Christians permitted to serve as godparents? - A non-Catholic Christian can serve as witness. They must be physically present at the ceremony and their name will be recorded in the Parish records and on the Baptismal Certificate as a 'witness'.
6. Can a person who is a baptized Christian member of a recognized Eastern Church be a godparent at a Catholic baptism? - A person who is fully initiated (Baptism/Communion/Confirmation) in a recognized Eastern Church can be a godparent in a Catholic baptism. A letter of certification from their parish is required in advance of the baptism.
7. How long do the Parent Session and Ceremony last? Each is approximately one hour.