



Forming the saints God is calling us to be by providing faithful teaching, authentic worship, and compassionate service. Our faith and actions nourish engaged Catholics, inspire unengaged Catholics, and invite all to Christ's Church.

Dear Expectant Parent(s),

I am thrilled to hear of the gift of life that God has given you. Life is a blessing, and we need to celebrate it! As you prepare for this gift and treasure, I wanted to bring your attention to a few common questions that we get as the joy of a new child is approaching:

How long do I wait to have my child baptized?

It is best to have the child baptized sooner rather than later. A good time range is between two weeks and one month of age. However, if your child becomes ill or is in danger of death while in the hospital, it is best to have the child baptized as soon as possible~ call the priest or deacon right away. If your child is baptized in the hospital, a rite of welcoming (which involves the normal external signs - white garment, candle, anointings, blessings, etc.) can take place in the church at a later date.

How do I select a date for the baptism? What about the location?

You can contact the Parish Office to select a date (812-576-4302). Baptisms can be done during Holy Mass by Fr. Meyer or outside of Holy Mass by Deacon Bob. Baptisms taking place during Holy Mass can be done at the following locations and times.

St. Martin Campus: 4:30PM Vigil Mass

St. Paul Campus: 7:30AM Sunday Mass

St. John Campus: 9:15am Sunday Mass

St. Joseph Campus: 11am Sunday Mass but only the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month

Please note baptisms cannot take place on Easter Sunday and other major liturgical celebrations.

Does my house need to be blessed prior to the baptism, and is there a baptismal preparation class?

Part of the preparation needed for welcoming a Christian child into this world is the blessing of your home. Here in Dearborn County, we incorporate a home blessing with your pre-baptismal instruction. There is not a class that needs to be taken or attended - we come to you! Please contact the office to schedule a time for the priest to visit your home. It is best to do this prior to the birth of your child.

Do I need to be a member of a parish to have my child baptized?

Yes! The registration process is really easy- just contact the Parish Office.

What do I need to consider when choosing a godparent?

Please pray about your selection of a godparent; it is a great blessing to surround your children with authentic witnesses to the faith. You must choose at least one (1) godparent who is a practicing Roman Catholic living an exemplary life and who meets all of the following criteria:

- has been baptized, confirmed and receives Holy Communion on a regular basis.
- is age 16 or older (*there may be exceptions to this rule with permission of the pastor*)
- must be living a life consistent with their own baptismal vows (*at a bare minimum – attends weekly Mass and is involved in the life of the church*).

It is customary for children to have two (2) godparents (one male and one female). If both godparents are Roman Catholic, they must both meet all of the above criteria. As stated above, you only need to have one “Catholic” godparent. For your second godparent, you may choose a “Christian witness,” to support your child in the ways of the faith. This “Christian witness” must be a baptized Christian (at least 16 years of age) who is an active, participating member in the church which they attend.

Can I rent a room for a post-baptismal party?

Yes! This can be done through the Parish Office.

Please complete the ASP Baptism Registration Form prior to your child’s baptism which you will find on the next page.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at (812) 576-4302.

In His service,

Rev. Jonathan P. Meyer

Data for Baptism Registration

Date of Baptism_____

Location & Time of Baptism_____

Full Name of Child_____

Home Address_____

Mailing Address_____

Phone Number_____ Date of Birth_____

City and State of Birth_____

Father's Full Name_____

Religion of Father_____

Mother's First, Middle & Maiden Name_____

Religion of Mother_____

In what church were parents married?_____

Godfather's full name_____

Is Godfather Catholic?_____

Godmother's full name_____

Is Godmother Catholic?_____

Is either Godparent represented by proxy?_____

Was the child privately baptized?_____ Was the child adopted?_____

Remarks:

Signature of Priest/Deacon_____

For Office Use:

Recorded in PDS_____ Certificate Generated_____ Sacramental Records_____ Notice in Bulletin_____