

Welcome to God's Family!

Infant Baptism Guidelines for the Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa

Just as you were excited to celebrate the birth of your baby, we are excited to celebrate your baby's new birth by water and the Holy Spirit into the family of God! The day of our baptism is the most important day in our lives as Christians. Baptism unites us to Christ, makes us members of the Church, and opens for us the sacramental life of grace.

These guidelines are intended to help you and your family prepare for this most special occasion and to experience the richness of the sacrament. It is our hope that the sacrament will mean more to you and your child with the passing of each day as each of you embrace more fully your dignity as Christians and the demands of discipleship.

1. Generally, children should be baptized within the first few months after birth.
2. The parents should be registered and *active* members of the parish.
3. Infant Baptisms are scheduled on Saturday mornings at 9 am and 9:30 am and four times a year during Mass (Baptism of the Lord, Second Sunday of Easter, Trinity Sunday, and All Saints).
4. Baptism Preparation includes a parent interview and a parent class. The interview lasts about 30 minutes and the class is an hour and a half. These are conducted each month and the baptism can be scheduled upon completion of the preparation. Godparents are encouraged to attend the class, but it is not required.
5. The preparation dates for the remainder of 2011 are as follows:

June 2011	Parent Interviews	Wednesday, June 1
	Parent Class	Wednesday, June 8
July 2011	Parent Interviews	Wednesday, July 6
	Parent Class	Wednesday, July 13
August 2011	Parent Interviews	Wednesday, August 3
	Parent Class	Wednesday, August 10
Sept. 2011	Parent Interviews	Wednesday, September 7
	Parent Class	Wednesday, September 14
Oct. 2011	Parent Interviews	Wednesday, October 5
	Parent Class	Wednesday, October 12
Nov. 2011	Parent Interviews	Wednesday, November 9
	Parent Class	Wednesday, November 16

Dec. 2011 Parent Interviews Wednesday, December 7
 Parent Class Wednesday, December 14

6. Godparents are limited to two – one male and one female. Godparents are to be chosen by the parents, must be Catholics who have already received Confirmation and Eucharist, be at least 16 years of age, practicing their faith, and in good standing with the church. Non-Catholic Christians may serve as witnesses to the Baptism. If a godparent is not able to be present, they may send a letter to the Co-Cathedral designating their proxy.
7. **Please bring a copy of the child's birth certificate to the parent interview.**

Revised May 10, 2011