

GUIDELINES FOR THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism will be administered at St. Anthony by appointment only. To arrange for Baptism, PARENTS must bring the child's Birth Certificate to the Parish Office, make an appointment for the Baptism. There is no set fee, but you may make a donation. Church Law requires that "children are to be baptized in the parish of the parents", therefore PARENTS must be registered at least for 4 months and participating members St. Anthony parish. Any exceptions to this rule must have the written consent and recommendation of the pastor of the parish to which they belong.

Parents do not necessarily have to be married according to the laws of the Church, however, Church Law requires "that there be a well-founded hope that the child will be brought up in the Catholic faith". If the parents are not practicing their faith and receiving the sacraments, how can they teach their child(ren) to be good Catholic(s) and give him/her/them good example? Therefore, we require that if the parents are not practicing the Catholic faith, they should at least be willing to begin to do what is necessary to correct that problem – that is, begin practicing their faith and be willing to have their marriage validated by the Church, go to confession and receive the sacraments!

God-parents must be at least sixteen years of age, Baptized, Confirmed and have made their First Communion. If married (live under the same roof), they must have been married according to the laws of the Catholic Church (they **must** present a **marriage certificate** as a proof) and be practicing their faith in order to fulfill their responsibilities as God-parents.

When the God-parents are members of another parish, they must bring a certificate from their pastor to show that they have received Baptismal instructions and that they are suitable God-parents. If they cannot be present for the Baptism, they must send a letter in advance to the Parish Office stating that they accept responsibility as God-parents for the child to be baptized. We must have the names of both the God-parents and the proxies who stand in for them at the ceremony.

*Non-Catholics can only be Witnesses, not God-parents, and their names are NOT recorded in the Book of Baptisms.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

"As a Catholic family prepares for the birth of their child, the parents/guardians and prospective God-parents are to participate in preparation sessions. Sessions before the Sacrament will explain the meaning and responsibilities of Baptism, Jesus Christ as Our Lord and Savior, the Church as the people of God and Catholic parenting."

Diocesan Sacramental Guidelines, September 11, 1991

In our parish we have no scheduled classes, but the classes be offered according to the needs. Contact Fr. Tomasz to schedule a class. Parents and/or God-parents have the freedom to participate in necessary preparation at another parish or other parishes.

REGISTER FOR BAPTISM – ST. ANTHONY, VIOLET

Name of Child: _____

Residence & Mailing Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Father's Name: _____

Religion of Father: _____

Mother's Full **Maiden** Name: _____

Religion of Mother: _____

Are Parents Married in Catholic Church: _____

Sponsor(s)

Name of Godfather: _____

Name of Godmother: _____

Is either God-Parent represented by Proxy: _____

Name of Proxy: _____

Was the Child Privately Baptized: _____ Where: _____

Was the Child Adopted: _____

Name of Priest: _____

Date of Baptism: _____

Registration Date: _____ Administrative Fee: _____

Recorded in Sacramental Book: _____