

ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

Baptism Preparation and Requirements

Dear Parishioners:

The staff of St. Mark the Evangelist congratulates you on your newest family addition and welcomes you to our Baptism preparation. We encourage you to complete the necessary steps before the birth or adoption of your child. To begin the process, please follow the instructions listed below:

Complete as much information as possible on the **Baptism Information form** (found online or available in the Faith Formation Office) and return it to Rita Cabello before scheduling your Baptism date, interview, and attending the class.

- ❖ *Dates available for Baptism Masses, Rites, Interviews, and Classes are posted on the Baptism Calendar found online.*
- ❖ *If you are not a registered parishioner at St. Mark's, please provide a **Letter of Good Standing and Permission** from your Church; if you are newly registered (within last 6 months) at St. Mark's, provide a **Letter of Good Standing** from your previous Church of registration.*

A copy of your **child's state birth certificate** must be submitted prior to the Baptism.

An **interview for both parents** is held in the Pastoral Office on designated Sundays and is scheduled by appointment only (see Baptism Calendar). Call Rita Cabello to set up an appointment.

Classes for parents, Godparents, and witnesses is held once per month on Sunday from 12:00–2:00pm and *do not require pre-registration*. The class is held in Shalom in the Community Center Building (see Baptism Calendar for dates). There is a \$5 fee per person.

Godparent minimum requirements by Canon Law (872-874): They must be at least 16 years of age, must have documentation for the validity of receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, and who lives a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken. There must only be one male sponsor or one female sponsor or one of each.

- ❖ *If a Godparent is married*, they must have documentation for the Sacrament of Marriage performed in the Catholic Church.
- ❖ *If the Godparent is not a registered parishioner at St. Mark's, or if he/she is newly registered (within last 6 months), a **Letter of Good Standing and Permission** is required from his/her Church.*
- ❖ *Godparent must attend weekly Mass.*

The Baptism Mass is limited to four children per scheduled Mass times listed on the baptism ministry calendar.

The Baptismal Rite is a ceremony complete with scripture readings and hymns.

Childcare for ages 1-5 years will be provided during the Baptism Class on a reservation basis only. Please call 494-7434, ext. 325 a minimum of 1 week in advance to schedule.

For any questions not answered above, or for additional information, contact:

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