

St. Joseph Crescent Springs General Baptism Information Sheet

BAPTISM – *Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God. We become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers of her mission: “Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word.” (CCC1213)*

Children

Preparing for a Baptism

In order to schedule a baptism at St. Joseph, parents must be registered members of the parish or provide written consent from the parish in which they are currently registered. Parents must complete one of the following:

- ❖ Participate in the Baptismal Preparation Program class at St. Joseph Parish. -OR-
- ❖ Provide documentation indicating that they have participated in a similar program in another parish.

Baptism preparation classes are usually held on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays of each month from 11:00 am until noon, but can also be scheduled on an individual basis. Baptismal godparents are welcome and encouraged to attend the baptismal preparation class with the child's parents.

Choosing Godparents

Please remember that baptismal godparents should be carefully chosen. The role of these persons is to support the parents in bringing up the young Catholic in the practice of the faith. Godparents should be persons with whom these children will have a relationship as they grow. The godparent is someone to whom the maturing Catholic can look to as a role model and for ongoing guidance.

In accordance with the Rite of Baptism and the Code of Canon Law godparents should be at least 16 years old, have received the Sacrament of Confirmation, be a practicing Catholic in good standing, and a registered parishioner at a Catholic Church. Please see the document [Guidelines for Selecting Sponsors](#) for additional detailed information.

Baptismal Ceremonies

The baptism of your child is a joy-filled event, one in which the entire community has a stake. Baptisms are usually scheduled for 12:30 pm on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month (dependent on clergy availability) or during Mass. Baptisms can also be scheduled for alternative days and times on an individual basis.

Contact the Parish Office to schedule ~ 859-341-6609 x 4010

Even though a baptismal date may be tentatively scheduled with the parish, all requirements must be completed, and all paperwork must be returned to the parish for review by clergy before that date is considered firm. If requirements are not met or paperwork is not completed in a timely manner, then it may be necessary to reschedule the baptism for a later date.

Adults

The process of welcoming adults into the Church is known as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults; more commonly referred to as RCIA. This program was created for people who want to explore the teachings of the Catholic Church. Within this program, those who are not of the Catholic faith will learn about a variety of topics that can guide them in their decision to become full members of the Catholic faith.

Contact **Deacon Hudson Henry** for RCIA Program questions or registration ~ 859-341-6609 x 4022