

Saint Michael Catholic Church

Pre-Requisite for Baptism

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Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door that 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 are made sharers in her mission: “Baptism is the Sacrament of regeneration through water in the word.”
Catechism of the Catholic Church 1213

The following information has been provided to help parents understand how their child is baptized in the Catholic Church. The guidelines below should help prepare for the Sacrament of Baptism at St. Michael. Please read these guidelines carefully and notify the Parish Office with any questions or concerns.

1. Day

- a. Baptisms can be celebrated almost every Saturday or Sunday during or after Mass. Please get in touch with us in the office to schedule your Baptism.
- b. Please call the parish office to ensure that baptisms will be held on the date you wish and that you meet all the requirements before continuing with the plans.

2. Age

- a. Children under seven can be baptized any day we have baptisms.
- b. Children 7 or older must attend the RCIA or RCIC program to receive the three Sacraments of Christian Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion).

3. Required Documents

- a. Fill out the Baptism registration form.
- b. Copy of the child’s birth certificate.
- c. Copy of Marriage Certificate (if the sponsor is married).

4. Requirements for Parents

- a. Attend the pre-baptismal class.
 - This class is required for people without a pre-baptism class within the last three years.
- b. The class can be taken in another parish, but the certificate must be sent from the parish.

- c. Be willing to educate your child in the Catholic faith.

5. People who wish to baptize in another parish

- a. Comply with the requirements established in the parish where the baptism will be celebrated.

6. Emergency

- a. Your child can be baptized at any time and place in an emergency. If the person is in danger of death, contact us immediately.

7. Requirements for sponsor(s)

- a. Must be at least 16 years old.
- b. It can be a single sponsor, two single people, or a married couple.
- c. If you select a couple and one of the spouses is not Catholic, the Catholic party will sponsor the wedding, and the spouse can attend but only as a witness.
- d. Sponsors must have the Sacraments of Christian Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and First Communion). This applies to the Catholic parties.
- e. Two single people can be sponsors; however, if there are two, it must be a woman and a man.
- f. If any of the sponsors are living with someone, they must be married by the Church and practice their faith.

Please present a copy of the marriage license for any married sponsors

- g. Participate in the preparation class required for people without a pre-baptism class within the last three years.
- h. If the classes are taken in another parish, the certificate must be sent from the parish.
- i. The sponsor must fill out the Godparent/Sponsor Affirmation of Faith and Morals form in their parish.
- j. Be members of our parish or another Catholic parish.