

INFANT BAPTISM
APPLICATION

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CHILD'S LAST NAME

CHILD'S FIRST NAME MIDDLE NAME

DATE OF BIRTH PLACE OF BIRTH

MALE/BOY FEMALE/GIRL

BIRTH CERTIFICATE NUMBER (PHOTOCOPY OF BIRTH CERTIFICATE MUST BE ATTACHED)

FATHER/PARENT 1 FIRST NAME LAST NAME RELIGION

MOTHER/PARENT 2 FIRST NAME MAIDEN NAME RELIGION

Catholic

GODPARENT 1 FIRST NAME LAST NAME RELIGION

HOME PARISH CONFIRMED?

GODPARENT 2 FIRST NAME LAST NAME CHRISTIAN DENOMINATION

HOME PARISH CONFIRMED?

PARENT(S) ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER(S) EMAIL

PRE-BAPTISM MEETING DATE

BAPTISM DATE DAY TIME

BAPTISM PERFORMED BY POSTPONED TO CERTIFICATE MAILED ON

INFANT BAPTISM

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Here at St. Joseph's Church we are celebrating individual baptisms outside of Mass all year long **except for the time of Lent**. It is our practice to celebrate Baptism for one child at a time, unless there are siblings or otherwise requested. The Sacrament of Infant Baptism will be celebrated **at the request of at least one parent who is a registered parishioner of St. Joseph Church**. No Baptisms will be taken if requested by grandparents or other relatives. Requests from outside of St. Joseph's Community will be taken once a permission is granted by the Pastor of either one of the parents' home parish. In order to request this Sacrament, one of the parents/guardians should call the Rectory Office at (718) 739-4781. If the pastor is not available at the time of the call, he will call you back and discuss with you a convenient date and time for the baptism and for a pre-baptismal meeting with him. This meeting is to take place only when the required paperwork is completed.

Paperwork

As practiced everywhere, **we require a copy of the child's birth certificate**. Please, bring this form filled out (the other side) along with the birth certificate to the Parish Office.

Godparents

Ideally, the newly baptized child should have two godparents: godmother and godfather. Their task is to help the parents in the process of RAISING THEIR CHILDREN IN FAITH. If for some reason the parents are unable to fulfill their obligation, **the godparents become responsible for that task**. As stated in the Canon Law, **at least one godparent is required who is Catholic and fully initiated in the sacramental life of the Church** (who is baptized, received first communion and confirmation). The other godparent can be a baptized Christian of other denomination; however non-Christians are not allowed to become godparents due to the fact that they can't fulfill an obligation of raising a child in the Catholic faith.

We, at St. Joseph's, do not require a letter from a respectful pastor (as required elsewhere) who would certify a person's ability to become a godparent. In our view **it is a matter of conscience and personal responsibility to God, to the parents of the child and the child itself**, that one accepts this important role of a godparent.

Donation

A donation to St. Joseph's church, prior to or after the baptism, is much appreciated. Please, insert your donation (cash or check) into a plain envelope, and write on it the name of the baptized child. The amount of donation is at your discretion.

Certificate

After the Baptism has taken place the record of the Sacrament will be entered in the Baptismal Register of St. Joseph church. In the future you will be asked to produce your child's Baptismal Certificate for the First Communion and Confirmation purposes. You will be able to obtain it from our office. Also, after the Baptism a proper Certificate of Baptism will be mailed to you at the listed address.

We congratulate you the fact that you have a child and we welcome your child as a fellow Catholic Christian here at St. Joseph's.