

BAPTISM GUIDELINES

1. Parents must be **registered members** of the parish for **at least six months** before they can apply for the baptism of their child. They must attend Saturday Vigil or Sunday liturgy regularly and be involved in activities of the parish or engage in a ministry. They should support the needs of the parish in the spirit of joyful giving.
2. Baptismal class registration takes place at the Parish office.
3. Please return the Baptism Registration form to the office at least one week before the scheduled class.
4. Please print all information clearly, as it will be entered into the church Sacrament book for later use by your child.
5. Two sponsors—a man and a woman who are practicing Catholics—are required. With the Pastor's permission, a non-Catholic Christian may stand as a sponsor. The sponsors/godparents will need to present a letter from their parish church stating they are practicing Catholics.
6. If you need to change any information on the Baptism Registration form or need other information, contact the Parish office.
7. **We must insist that all Baptisms take place on the scheduled dates we have provided for you. Baptisms at St. Matthew's are celebrated within the liturgies of the 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass or at 11:45 a.m. Mass on Sunday.**
8. Only the child being baptized the parents and the sponsors should go up to the Baptismal Font for the ceremony.
9. If the child being baptized will not be wearing white, then a Baptismal garment may be purchased at the Parish office for five dollars.
10. The donation for Baptism is \$35.00. This should be paid at the Parish office at least one week **before the Baptism takes place.**

