

BAPTISM PREPARATION INFORMATION

This sheet is to be brought to the Church Office prior to your Baptismal preparation class. Please fill out the form entirely and attach a copy of your child's birth certificate. **BOTH** parents and godparents must attend this one-hour Baptism Preparation Class normally held on the 1st Sunday of every other month, at 9:30 am in the Auditorium in Knight Hall. Please be attentive to the requirements below, and do not ask for exceptions to them. Thank you.

REMINDER: If you are not a member of Our Lady of Fatima Roman Catholic Church, Father/Deacon cannot baptize your child without **written permission** from the Pastor of the Church you attend. This is in accordance with Church law. The written permission is to be presented to Father/Deacon at the time of your preparation class.

IMPORTANT: Please place a check by one of the following as they apply to your situation. For this form to be completed, you **MUST** check off one of the following:

- We (I) attend Mass every Sunday.
- We (I) go to Mass regularly, but not every Sunday.
- We (I) have not been going to Mass on Sunday.
- We are married, but not by a priest/Deacon
- We are not married; we are living together.

If you placed a check for any of the above, except "we attend Mass every Sunday", there are concerns that must be addressed and you are required to meet with Father/Deacon to discuss ways in which the Church can be of assistance. If the Church is to be completely honest with you, it must teach and instruct that you are living contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church, the Church in which you want your child to be baptized. Can a parent genuinely teach to a child the way of life that being a member of the Catholic Church entails, if they themselves are not living this "way of life"? This is an honest and fair question.

The Baptism certificate will be completed using the information on this form. Please PRINT all names correctly! Please check with each person for the correct spelling of his/her name. Please attach a copy of child's birth certificate (or similar paperwork from the hospital if birth certificate is not available) to this form.

Child's Name (First, Middle, Last) Child's Place of Birth (City, State)

Child's Date of Birth Sex of Child

Father's Name (First, Middle, Last) Religion Baptized? Confirmed?

Mother's Name (First, Middle, **MAIDEN**) Religion Baptized? Confirmed?

Address City, State Zip Home Phone Work Cell or other

Church Parish - City, State Place of Marriage (City, State) Church/Other

Date of Marriage Name of Officiate of Marriage

Office Use Only: Date of Preparation Class: _____
Office Use Only: Date of Baptism: _____ *Name of Priest/Deacon* _____

(Over)

MORE DETAILED INFORMATION FOR GODPARENTS

Choice of godparents:

Godparents must attend Our Lady of Fatima’s baptismal preparation class as is the norm in other Catholic Church policies here in Lafayette, LA.

Your godparents must have an active faith practice – Mass **every** Sunday (not just sometimes). They are to be confirmed Catholics, able to receive Holy Communion (that is living in a state of grace) If the godparent is married, he/she must be in a valid sacramental marriage blessed by a Priest/Deacon. Only one godparent is required by the Church, but most couples choose a second godparent. The Church does not allow two godparents of the same sex, nor more than two godparents. This is a universal norm that must always be followed. Please do not ask for an exception since it is not permissible to grant it. For serious reason, a non-Catholic baptized in another faith can serve as a second “sponsor”. While not the ideal, this person is listed as a Christian Witness on the baptismal certificate, but the other “sponsor” must be Catholic and meet the above requirements for choice of godparents.

NOTE: At times, a couple will often say that they don’t have family members who practice their faith. If this is the case, then try looking for good friends or acquaintances. Certainly we all know someone who has an exemplary faith practice. If it is discovered that your choice of godparents does not meet ALL of the requirements outlined above (Sunday Mass every week, etc.), then the baptismal date of the child will be postponed until the requirements are met.

_____ Religion Baptized? Confirmed?
Print Godfather’s Name (First, Middle, Last)

Will the godfather be present at the ceremony? _____ Yes _____ No
If not present for the ceremony, who will be the proxy? _____
Name (First, Middle, Last)

_____ Religion Baptized? Confirmed?
Print Godmother’s Name (First, Middle, Last)

Will the godmother be present at the ceremony? _____ Yes _____ No
If not present for the ceremony, who will be the proxy? _____
Name (First, Middle, Last)

PROMISE OF GODPARENTS: We (I) promise to God and to His Holy Catholic Church, that we (I) meet all the requirements regarding the role and duty of the godparent, so help us (me) God.

_____ Signature of godfather Signature of godmother

If your godparent(s) live(s) out of town, do your best to get their signatures before the class.

Office Use Only: Date of Preparation Class: _____

Office Use Only: Date of Baptism: _____