



CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

751 MAIN AVENUE

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BAPTISMAL INFORMATION

Congratulations and best wishes as you celebrate the gift of new life. It is with joy that the Church receives your child as a candidate into the Sacrament of Baptism. Baptism is the great Sacrament of Initiation which makes us children of God and children of the Church. Baptism is the beginning of your child's faith life. A life that will be filled with the love of God. In presenting your child for Baptism, you assume the duty of training your child by word and example to love God and neighbor, and to be faithful members of the Church.

Please make note of the following guidelines for Baptism:

- Baptisms are celebrated on the First and Third Sunday of each month at 12:15 p.m. Please contact the rectory office to arrange a date for Baptism.
- Because Baptism brings your child into membership of the Parish Community, parents must be registered parishioners of Sacred Heart Church.
- The Church gives specific guidelines for God-parents. All Catholics acting as God-parents must be sixteen (16) years of age or older. They must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation and if married, the marriage must have been celebrated by a Catholic Priest in a Catholic Church. They are to be Catholics in good standing – practicing their faith. They must present a Certificate of Eligibility issued from the Church where they are registered. This Certificate is to be brought to the rectory office **before** the Baptism. There are **NO** exceptions to these requirements for Catholics. If you request a non-Catholic to act as a God-Parent, they must be baptized Christians. They should be faithful in the practice of their faith. The Church views God-parents as a religious responsibility and not as a social role. So please be conscious of these guidelines as you choose God-parents for your child. Non-Catholic God-parents are called Christian Witnesses.
- Feel free to bring whatever is necessary to make your child comfortable during the Baptism ceremony. The Priest or Deacon will instruct you as to the use of cameras. Posing for photos is permitted after the Baptism. Family members and guests are cordially invited.
- Because we try to keep the Baptism ceremony orderly, the number of Baptisms is limited for a given Sunday. Please arrange your date as soon as possible.
- The Church offering is \$50.00. Please submit your offering with the Sponsor Eligibility Certificates **before** the Baptism date.

Thank you and God bless you as you plan this memorable day in the life of your child and family.