

## INFANT BAPTISM INFORMATION

All Sacraments require preparation. Below are the guidelines that our Pastoral Coordinator has laid out for the Sacrament of Baptism. Please read them carefully and, if you have questions, call the Religious Education Office.

### Infant baptism:

Is for children 6 years of age and younger. **(Copy of Birth Certificate is required)**  
If your child is 7 years or older, please contact the Religious Education Office for RCIA adapted for Children.

### Parents:

Must be registered parishioners of St. Peter & St. Paul Church for *at least 3 months* prior to scheduling a baptism, or provide a letter of permission to baptize from their registered parish.

### Godparents:

It is strongly recommended that all the newly baptized have at least 2 godparents, one godmother & one godfather. A godparent solemnly promises to help parents nurture the Catholic faith of their child. A godparent shares their own faith with their godchild & helps teach the child how Catholics express their faith. And they yow to do so whether the parents do so or not!  
Being asked to be a godparent is an honor & a great responsibility. Because of this, the law of the UNIVERSAL Church requires that a Catholic godparent is a person who is:

- At least 16 years old
- Baptized and Confirmed in the Roman Catholic Faith
- If married, must be married in the Roman Catholic Church
- Practicing Catholics and living in good standing with the Church.

This means they have received Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation (Godparents must provide copies of their Sacramental Certificates), AND are registered & active parishioners with a Catholic church and attending Mass weekly, and living in communion with Church teaching. Any additional godparents must be baptized in a Christian faith (and also must provide Baptism Certificate).

Both parents and all godparents **MUST** complete a pre-baptism class prior to the setting of the date of baptism. We offer pre-baptism classes at the dates and times listed below. If our schedule isn't convenient for you, or you have already attended a class, we will accept any pre-baptism class from any Catholic Church within the last 2 years, with a certificate/letter of completion from that parish.

ALL FORMS, including proof of pre-baptism class, must be submitted BEFORE a baptism date can be chosen.

In order to provide an intimate atmosphere for the baptism liturgy we limit the number of families at each liturgy.

The suggested donation for baptism is \$100.00 and is given at the time of baptism.

All faithful Catholics should attend Mass on a weekly basis.

### **Pre- Baptism Classes**

Held on the **first Saturday** of the month  
10:00 am – 12:00 pm in the Religious Ed Office- Room 7

### **Class dates for 2014:**

**Jan 4, Feb 1, Mar 1, Apr 5, May 3, Jun 7,  
Aug 2, Sept 6, Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6**  
(No class in July)

### **Baptisms**

Held on the **second Saturday** of the month  
9:00 am or 10:30 am Liturgies in the Church

### **Baptism dates for 2014:**

**Jan 11, Feb 8, May 3\*, Jun 14, Jul 12,  
Aug 9, Sept 13, Oct 11, Nov 8, Dec 13**  
(No baptisms in March/April due to Lent)  
\*held on 1<sup>st</sup> Sat due to conflicting First Communion date

# Baptism FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

We want to baptize our baby. What do we do?

- Before reserving a baptism date, *ALL* paperwork must be completed and submitted.
- Parents and godparents must have completed a baptism preparation class at any Catholic Church within two years of prospective baptism date.

Where can we get the necessary paperwork?

- Paperwork is available in the Religious Education Office, and includes: *Baptism Registration Sheet* and *Godparent Form* for each Godparent.
- Other forms needed: **Copy of Birth Certificate** of child being baptized, **Letter of Permission** to baptize if you or godparents are registered with another parish, **proof of Baptism & Confirmation** for Godparents, and **Certificate of Pre-Baptism Class for both parents and godparents.**

Do we have to take a pre-baptism class?

- Under Canon law both parents and all godparents/Christian Witness must attend a pre-baptism class within two years of the baptism.
- We offer pre-baptism classes the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of every month, except during the season of Lent. Please call (909)980-9423 to schedule a class.

How soon can we baptize our baby?

- When all paperwork has been turned in, verified, AND pre-baptism class requirements have been met by parents & godparents, the next available date will be given.
- Baptism's are held 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month except during the season of Lent.
- **PLEASE DO NOT** send out invitations, reserve reception sites, or make travel arrangements until we have confirmed a baptism date and time with you.

Do the godparents have to be Catholic?

- Under Canon law (Church law), a godparent is only a person who is a practicing Catholic with all Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, First Communion, & Confirmation)
- Those who are not Catholic but have chosen to practice another Christian faith cannot make a profession of faith to the Catholic Church which is part of the Rite of Baptism. However, since we are one in Baptism with most Christian churches, Church law welcomes non-Catholics, who are baptized in a Christian faith to be a *Christian Witness*, as long as another Catholic of good standing is the Godparent.
- The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 1255) states: *“For the grace of Baptism to unfold, the parents’ help is important. So, too, is the role of the godfather and godmother, who must be firm believers, able and ready to help the newly baptized child on the road of Christian life. Their task is a truly ecclesial (church) function. The whole ecclesial community bears some responsibility for the development and safeguarding of the grace given at Baptism.”* The role of godparent is more than an honorary title; it’s an important role in the development of a child’s faith and spiritual journey.

What does it mean to “live in good standing with the Church”?

- A Catholic in good standing lives out his/her faith beliefs. He or she attends Mass weekly and receives Eucharist regularly, supports Church teachings, and actively participates in the parish community.

St. Peter & St. Paul Catholic Church  
9135 Banyan St., Alta Loma, CA 91737  
(909)980-9423\*FAX (909) 980-9404

INFANT BAPTISM REGISTRATION (PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION)

TODAY'S DATE \_\_\_\_\_ FAMILY REGISTRATION # \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD'S FULL LEGAL NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Last

MALE  FEMALE DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

CITY & STATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ Is child adopted? Yes/No

BIRTH FATHER'S FULL LEGAL NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Last

Is father confirmed & practicing Catholic? Yes/ NO

BIRTH MOTHER'S FULL LEGAL NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Last

Is mother confirmed & practicing Catholic? Yes/ NO

BIRTH MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number/Street/Apt. # City/State Zip

Are birth parents married to one another in the Catholic Church? YES/NO

Do you consider yourself a practicing Catholic? YES / NO

How often do you attend Mass:  Daily  Weekly  Occasionally  Never

Have you previously attended a pre-baptism class? YES / NO

If Yes, When? \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

**Cannon Law Requirements for Godparents:**

1. Only one Godparent is needed, however, if there are two, one must be male and one must be female.
2. Godparent(s) must be **practicing Catholics with their sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation completed, and must provide us with a copy of their certificates.**
3. If the Godparent(s) is married, **he/she must be validly Married in the Roman Catholic Church.**
4. Godparent(s) must be 16 years or older.

GODFATHER'S/WITNESS'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Is Godfather confirmed & practicing Catholic? YES/ NO

GODMOTHER'S/WITNESS'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Is Godmother confirmed & practicing Catholic? YES/ NO

We understand & agree to the above requirements for Godparents and that we must demonstrate an active commitment in the practice of our Faith, as a condition for Baptism.

Father's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Godmother/Christian Witness Form for Infant Baptism

Name of child to be baptized: \_\_\_\_\_

Godmother/Christian Witness,

Before signing please read the following church requirements for godparents. In accordance with the laws of the Roman Catholic Church (Canons 872.874.892.893) to be a godparent you:

- Must be living in good standing with the Catholic Church
- Must be at least 16 years of age
- Must have received the sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation
- Must be married in the Catholic Church( if you are married)
- Must not be neither the father or mother of the person to be baptized

The godparent's role, together with the parents, is to present the child for Baptism and to help him/her to live a Christian life within the Catholic Church, faithfully, fulfilling the duties inherent in Baptism.

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM COMPLETELY. PLEASE PRINT.

GODMOTHER'S/CHRISTIAN WITNESS'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

FULL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

DAYTIME TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EVENING TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a practicing Catholic? YES/ NO

Are you a fully initiated Catholic? (Received the Sacrament of Baptism, Eucharist & Confirmation) YES/ NO

If no, have you been baptized in a Catholic/Christian faith? YES/ NO

\*\*\*Please provide copy of certificates or letter from parish where sacraments were received.\*\*\*

Are you married in the Catholic Church? YES / NO

Are you attending Mass: Daily/ Weekly/ Occasionally/ Never

Are you a member of St. Peter & St. Paul Parish? YES/ NO YES-Parish registration number \_\_\_\_\_

NO-Take this form to your parish office for completion (see below) before submitting it to our Baptism Coordinator

Have you attended a pre-baptismal class within the last 2 years? NO/ YES

If YES, Date of class \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Parish where class was taken \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*Please provide proof of class if not taken at St. Peter & St. Paul Parish\*\*\*

I understand the above requirements and I am in good standing with the Church. I declare that I am able to fulfill the requirements of Canon Law to be a Godmother/Christian Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Prospective Godmother/Christian Witness's Signature

TO BE FILLED OUT BY THE GODMOTHER'S PARISH

I certify that the aforementioned person is a registered member of the parish, is a practicing Catholic, and is eligible to act as a godparent for the Sacrament of Baptism.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed (Pastor of prospective godmother's parish)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Parish Name, City, and State \_\_\_\_\_ (Church Seal)

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Godfather/Christian Witness Form for Infant Baptism

Name of child to be baptized: \_\_\_\_\_

Godfather/Christian Witness,

Before signing please read the following church requirements for godparents. In accordance with the laws of the Roman Catholic Church (Canons 872.874.892.893) to be a godparent you:

- Must be living in good standing with the Catholic Church
- Must be at least 16 years of age
- Must have received the sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation
- Must be married in the Catholic Church( if you are married)
- Must not be neither the father or mother of the person to be baptized

The godparent's role, together with the parents, is to present the child for Baptism and to help him/her to live a Christian life within the Catholic Church, faithfully, fulfilling the duties inherent in Baptism.

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM COMPLETELY. PLEASE PRINT.

GODFATHER'S/CHRISTIAN WITNESS'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

FULL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

DAYTIME TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EVENING TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a practicing Catholic? YES/ NO

Are you a fully initiated Catholic? (Received the Sacrament of Baptism, Eucharist & Confirmation) YES/ NO

If you are not fully initiated, have you been baptized in a Catholic/Christian faith? YES/ NO

\*\*\*Please provide copy of certificates or letter from parish where sacraments were received.\*\*\*

Are you married in the Catholic Church? YES / NO

Are you attending Mass: Daily/ Weekly/ Occasionally/ Never

Are you a member of St. Peter & St. Paul Parish? YES/ NO YES-Parish registration number \_\_\_\_\_

NO-Take this form to your parish office for completion (see below) before submitting it to our Baptism Coordinator

Have you attended a pre-baptismal class within the last 2 years? NO/ YES

If YES, Date of class \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Parish where class was taken \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*Please provide proof of class if not taken at St. Peter & St. Paul Parish\*\*\*

I understand the above requirements and I am in good standing with the Church. I declare that I am able to fulfill the requirements of Canon Law to be a Godfather/Christian Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Prospective Godfather/Christian Witness's Signature

TO BE FILLED OUT BY THE GODFATHER'S PARISH

I certify that the aforementioned person is a registered member of the parish, is a practicing Catholic, and is eligible to act as a godparent for the Sacrament of Baptism.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed (Pastor of prospective godfather's parish)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parish Name, City, and State

(Church Seal)