



St. John Fisher Church

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www.sjf.org

Infant Baptism for Those Outside of St. John Fisher Parish

Baptism is a rite of initiation into the Catholic Church, a welcoming of your child into the Christian family. From the baptismal font is born the one People of God of the New Covenant, which transcends all the natural or human limits of nations, cultures, races, and sexes: “For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.” (1 Corinthians 12:13) Through Baptism we receive the grace of God and become sharers in the Church’s mission. It is the first of three sacraments of initiation and is the basis of the whole Christian life.

This information sheet deals ONLY with the baptism of **children less than six years of age**.

The Baptism of your infant child is an expression of your desire to share your faith with your child. Faith is a gift from God, a gift that needs to be nourished. We do this through prayer, Scripture reading, attendance at Mass on Sundays, reception of the Eucharist, and being of service to other people. In the sacrament of Baptism your child is being initiated into the Catholic Church because you, as parents, are promising God and the Church to raise your child in the practice of the Catholic faith. You are taking on a great responsibility of being the first teachers of your child in the ways of faith. May your example of day-to-day living of the Catholic faith make you the very best of teachers.

Baptism is conferred in a communal celebration in the presence of the faithful, relatives, and friends, who are all to take an active part in this action and reflects both the mystery of being incorporated into the Church, the Body of Christ, and the death/resurrection effect of this ritual.

I. Godparents

The selection of the child’s godparents is an important decision and should be made with the child’s growth in faith in mind. You may choose **one** Godfather and/or **one** Godmother. Godparents accept the responsibility, along with you, of providing for the faith formation of your child in the Catholic Church. Their beliefs and lifestyle should reflect the responsibility they are accepting. Consequently, the Church **requires** the following of the Godfather and Godmother:

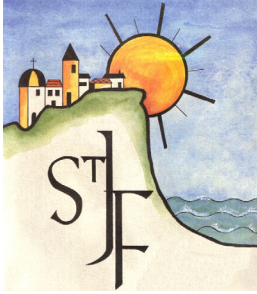
1. They are **practicing Catholics**, i.e., they attend Mass and receive Holy Communion regularly.
2. They are at least **sixteen years of age**.
3. They have received the sacrament of **Confirmation**.
4. If married, they are **married in the Catholic Church**.
5. After considering these qualities, the parents should select the godparents for their child. A non-Catholic Christian may take the place of **one** of the godparents and stand as a Christian witness along with the Catholic godparent. Godparents can provide a recommendation from their pastor by using the form available on the web site. **The selection of your godparents should be reviewed by your pastor.**

II. Recommendation of Your Pastor

1. Fill out the registration form completely including your pastor's permission for your child to be baptized at St. John Fisher Church.
2. Once you have completed your parish's requirements for baptismal preparation and have your pastor's signature on the registration form, you may send it electronically (receptionist@sjf.org), by mail, or personally.
3. Once this parish receives your registration form with your pastor's signature, you will receive a confirmation of the baptismal date.

IV. Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms ordinarily take place on the fourth Sunday of the month at 1:00 p.m. However, if you have a priest from outside the parish that you wish to perform the sacrament, he is most welcome. If the priest is from outside the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, he needs a letter from his bishop concerning his suitability for ministry.



Baptism Registration for Outside the Parish

PARENTS: Please fill all information below prior to your interview with the pastor of your parish. Write the names exactly as you wish them to appear on the baptismal certificate. Circle your choice where indicated. Once the form is filled out, **both** parents are to sign their names on the reverse side.

Name of Child: _____
Please print Last First Middle

Date of Birth: _____ City and state of birth: _____

Was child adopted? Yes No Was child previously baptized? Yes No

Parish of Parents: _____
 Name of Parish City and State

Parents' address: _____
 Street Apt # City Zip Code

Phone: _____
 Home Work or cell? Mother or Father?

Father: _____ Religion: _____
 Last First

E-mail address: _____
 Last First

If baptized Catholic – First Communion? Yes No Confirmation? Yes No

Do you attend Mass: Weekly? Occasionally? Seldom? Never?

Do you receive communion: Weekly? Occasionally? Seldom? Never?

Do you consider yourself a practicing Catholic? Yes No Somewhat

Have you previously attended a pre-baptismal program? Yes No

If yes, when? _____ where? _____

Mother: _____ Religion: _____
 Last First

Maiden Name: _____ E-mail address: _____
 Last First

If baptized Catholic – First Communion? Yes No Confirmation? Yes No

Do you attend Mass: Weekly? Occasionally? Seldom? Never?

Do you receive communion: Weekly? Occasionally? Seldom? Never?

Do you consider yourself a practicing Catholic? Yes No

Have you previously attended a pre-baptismal program? Yes No

If yes, when? _____ where? _____

Marital status of parents: Married Single Divorced

If married, please circle whether:

Married in the Catholic Church Married in other church or chapel Married by Court

8/2021

Godfather _____ Over 16 yrs. of age? Yes No

Baptized Catholic? Yes No Attends Mass weekly? Yes No Confirmed? Yes No

Is he married? Yes No If married, was marriage witnessed by a Catholic priest? Yes No

Does he receive communion regularly? Yes No

To what parish does he belong? _____

If not Catholic, what religion is Christian witness? _____

Will any proxy be used? Yes No

Godmother _____ Over 16 yrs. of age? Yes No

Baptized Catholic? Yes No Attends Mass weekly? Yes No Confirmed? Yes No

Is she married? Yes No If married, was marriage witnessed by a Catholic priest? Yes No

Does she receive communion regularly? Yes No

To what parish does she belong? _____

If not Catholic, what religion is Christian witness? _____

Will any proxy be used? Yes No

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

We are aware that we must commit ourselves to raise our child in the practice of the Catholic faith before our child will be baptized at Saint John Fisher Church.

Signature of Father

Signature of Mother

Date

Parents, please do not write below this line.

Recommendation of the Pastor

I recommend to have my parishioner baptized at St. John Fisher Church.

Signature of Pastor

Name of Pastor

Name of Parish

City and State

Date of Signature

Requested Date of Baptism

Parish Seal



St. John Fisher Church Godparent Form for Infant Baptism

Child's Name: _____
First *Last*

Prospective Godparents: *After you fill out this form completely, please take it to your parish office where the bottom can be completed and the parish seal imprinted.*

Godparent,

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, a person must:

- Be a practicing Catholic (i.e. attends Mass and receives Holy Communion regularly), selected by the candidate's family and with the intention of fulfilling this role
- Be at least 16 years of age
- Have received the sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation
- If married, be married in the Catholic Church
- Be neither the father nor the mother of the person to be baptized.

If you are a St. John Fisher Parishioner, please complete this form and make an appointment for a godparent interview by calling the Parish Office. The bottom part will be completed at that time.

PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

I declare that I am a member of the parish stated below and I fulfill the requirements of canon law to be a godparent.

Prospective godparent's signature

TO BE FILLED OUT BY THE GODPARENT'S PARISH

I certify that _____ is a member of this parish, is a practicing Catholic, and, therefore, I recommend as a godparent for the Sacrament of Baptism.

Pastor of prospective godparent's parish Date: _____

Parish: _____

City/State: _____

(Church Seal)