

BAPTISM CHECKLIST

Parents

- Be registered parishioners at St. Philip's Parish (minimum three months)
- Attend Baptism Class
- Attend Mass regularly
- Complete Baptism Registration form
- Provide copy of child's Birth Certificate

NOTE: If you are completely unable to meet these guidelines, please call the parish office at 991-5146.

Answers to Frequently-Asked Questions:

Sometimes grown children of parish members wish to come home to baptize their new baby. This practice is welcomed. The new parents need to:

- ❖ Take the Baptism Classes as offered in their present parish, or take the classes here at St. Philip.
- ❖ Bring (or mail to the parish office in advance) a copy of a letter from their present parish which says that they are members there, and that they have taken the Baptism Classes at their present parish (unless classes have been taken elsewhere.)
- ❖ Complete a Baptism Registration Form for St. Philip's Parish so that Father will be expecting you, and so we will have all the information needed for our Sacramental files.

Sometimes people ask if their baby can be baptized at some time other than during the 9:00am, 11:30am or 6:00pm Sunday on the first Sunday of the month.

- ❖ If extreme circumstances arise, this request can sometimes be accommodated. However, the Pastor requests that exceptions to the usual schedule be kept to an absolute minimum, and avoided whenever possible.
- ❖ Parents do not have to be married in the Catholic Church in order to baptize a baby in the Catholic Church, however a meeting with the Pastor is then required.
- ❖ If you are taking the classes here in order to be eligible either to baptize your child at another parish, or in order to be eligible to serve as a Godparent at another parish, please notify the Class Instructor and request that a Certificate be prepared for you.

BAPTISM CHECLIST

Godparents

- Provide documentation of registration at a Catholic Church
- Be married in the Catholic Church (if married at all), even if not married to each other.
- Attend Baptism Class **OR** take the Baptism Classes as offered in their present parish.
- If the prospective Godparents are not registered parishioners at St. Philip's parish (minimum three months), they should bring (or mail to the parish office in advance) a copy of a letter from their present parish which states:
 1. That they are active, registered members there;
 2. That they are married in the Catholic Church (if married at all), even if the Godparents are not married to each other; alternately, a copy of the Marriage Certificate from the church of marriage is perfectly acceptable;
 3. That they have attended the Baptism Classes as offered by their parish, (unless they have attended classes here at St. Philip's.)

NOTE: If you are completely unable to meet these guidelines, please call the parish office at 991-5146.

Answers to Frequently-Asked Questions:

- ❖ Godparents should be at least 16 years of age, and should have received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation.
- ❖ It is preferable to have two Godparents, but only one is required, or one Godparent and one Christian Witness. A Christian Witness is someone who is not Catholic, but who belongs to another Christian denomination. It is highly recommended that Christian Witnesses attend Baptism instruction at a Catholic or other Christian church.
- ❖ If the prospective Godparents live out of town and are unable to travel here to attend the Baptism, Proxies may stand in for them. Since Proxies are only representatives, or stand-ins, they do not have to take any classes.
- ❖ The Godparents-to-be, however, will need to: Write a letter to the Parish office stating that they are willing to serve as Godparents for your child; that they will not be able to attend the baptism; that they designate certain persons by name to stand in for them as Proxies.
- ❖ Send all the documents/information mentioned to the Parish Office, or give them to the Baptism Class instructor.
- ❖ Divorced persons may serve as godparents as long as they were married in the Catholic Church, have not remarried outside the Catholic Church, and are not living with a member of the opposite sex (other than a member of one's immediate family.)
- ❖ If you are taking the classes here in order to be eligible either to baptize your child at another parish, or in order to be eligible to serve as a Godparent at another parish, please notify the Class Instructor and request that a Certificate be prepared for you.