

## BAPTISM CHECKLIST

### Parents

- Be registered parishioners at St. Philip's Parish.
- Attend Baptism Class (offered selected Thursdays 6:30pm once a month).
- 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 offered after 9:00 Mass of the last Sunday of each month here, or take the Baptism Classes as offered in their present parish.
- If the prospective Godparents are not registered parishioners at St. Philip's parish, 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.