

Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

Guidelines for Baptism of Infants and Children Under the Age of 7

Parents

1. Parents must be registered, practicing members of Most Blessed Sacrament Parish.
2. Parents must complete the enclosed Baptism Data Form. This form is used to identify the child to be baptized, prepare the baptism certificate, and record the baptism in our Sacramental Record Book.
3. Parents registered in another church parish who wish to have their child baptized at MBS must first obtain a letter of permission from the pastor of the church parish in which they are registered.
4. Parents are required to attend a Baptism Seminar. If a seminar was attended within a 3 year period, this requirement is waived.
5. **Baptism date cannot be scheduled until a baptism seminar has been attended and all of the enclosed paperwork is returned to the parish office.**

Godparents

1. Godparents must be practicing Catholics who are at least 16 years of age and must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation. If married, the godparent must be married in the Catholic Church or had their marriage blessed by the Catholic Church.
2. Godparents must have the enclosed Godparent Eligibility Form signed by their pastor indicating that they are registered parishioners, practicing Catholics, and are qualified to serve as a godparent.
3. Godparents are not required to attend a Baptism Seminar, but are encouraged to do so.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. ***How many godparents should there be?*** Church law only requires you to have one godparent; however, it has been tradition to have two.
2. ***Can the same godparents have responsibility for more than one child in the same family?*** Yes, as long as they take seriously their responsibility and intention to help the children grow in faith.

3. ***What sex should the godparent be?*** If you choose only one godparent, you are free to choose a male or a female. However, if you wish to have two godparents, there must be one male and one female.

4. ***Can a non-Catholic serve as a godparent?*** A baptized, non-Catholic may serve as an Official witness to the baptism, only if there is proper Catholic sponsor who fully meets all requirements of a godparent. The non-Catholic who is selected as a witness should be an active and participating member of his/her church community. During the baptism, a Non-Catholic witness may perform all the parts of the ceremony that a godparent does. His or her name will be entered into the Sacrament Record Book as an Official witness, together with the name of the godparent.

5. ***What is the difference between a godparent and a witness?*** Witness is the term that is only mentioned in the Code of Canon Law. Canon Law describes a witness as a baptized person who belongs to a non-catholic ecclesial community. A godparent is a confirmed, practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church.

6. ***Can someone serve as godparent by proxy (stand-in) if the godparent is unable to participate in the baptism ceremony?*** If a godparent cannot attend the baptism ceremony, a proxy can stand in the place of the missing godparent. The name of that person will be entered as a proxy in the Sacramental Record Book, along with the name of the missing godparent.

Baptism Seminar Dates - 2017

Wednesday - 7:00 p.m. - St. Mark Room

January 25	July 26
February 22	August 30
March 29	September 27
April 26	October 25
May 31	November 29
June 28	December None

Baptism Dates - 2017

January 8 - Don	July 9 - Don
January 22 - Mark	July 23 - Mark
February 12 - Don	August 13 - Don
February 26 - Mark	August 27 - Mark
March 12 - Don	September 10 - Don
March 26 - Mark	September 24 - Mark
(Only one in April)	
April 23 - Mark	October 15 - Don
	October 29 - Mark
May 14 - Don	November 12 - Don
May 28 - Mark	November 26 - Mark
June 11 - Don	December 10 - Don
June 25 - Mark	(Only one in December)

MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

DATA FOR BAPTISM

Please print clearly as this information will be used to prepare your child's baptism certificate.

Child's Name: _____
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Male _____ Female _____

Date of Birth: _____ City & State of Birth: _____

Was the Child Adopted? _____ Was the Child Previously Baptized? _____

If "Yes" Please Explain: _

PARENT INFORMATION:

Are you registered members of Most Blessed Sacrament Parish? _____
(Registered members receive by mail the weekly parish bulletin & contribution envelopes)

When completing parent names, please give full names - no initials. Mother's name must be her full maiden name - her given name that is on her birth certificate.

Father's Name: _____ Religion _____
First Middle Last

Mother's Name: _____ Religion _____
First Middle Maiden Last

Are Parents Married? _____

If Not Married, is Father's Name on the Birth Certificate? _____

Address: _____

Daytime Phone Number: _____ Whose Number? _____

Date & Church Parents Attended Seminar: _____

GODPARENT INFORMATION:

Please see attached sheet for Godparent requirements before selecting your Godparents.

Please give full name, not nickname (ex. Benjamin, not Ben).

Godfather's Name: _____

Is He a Confirmed, Practicing Catholic? _____ His Phone Number: _____

If No, What Religion is Godfather? _____

Will Godfather be represented by a Proxy? _____

If Yes, Proxy's Name: _____

Godmother's Name: _____

Is She a Confirmed, Practicing Catholic? _____ Her Phone Number: _____

If No, What Religion is Godmother? _____

Will Godmother be represented by a Proxy? _____

If Yes, Proxy's Name: _____

When space allows, we publish the names of the children baptized and their parents in our Church Bulletin.

_____ OK to Publish

_____ Please DO NOT Publish

Please return this form to:

Most Blessed Sacrament Church
15615 Jefferson Highway
Baton Rouge, LA 70817-6311

Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

15615 Jefferson Highway

Baton Rouge, LA 70817-6311

Phone (225) 752-6230 Fax (225) 756-5014

GODPARENT ELIGIBILITY

Name of Godparent: _____

Godparent's Church Parish: _____

Godparent for _____, the child of

I declare that I am a baptized and confirmed Catholic, and that I am formally registered in the church parish listed above.

I believe all that the Catholic Church believes and teaches, and I truly make a serious effort to live a good and moral life. As a practicing Catholic, I participate at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days, and I receive the Sacraments regularly.

I am Married _____ I am Not Married _____

If married:

_____ I have celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage in the Catholic Church.

_____ I am working with a priest to have my marriage blessed in the Church.

Signature of Godparent

Verification by Church Parish of Godparent

Signature of Priest

Date

Name of Church Parish

Parish Seal

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Signature of Priest

Date

Name of Church Parish

Parish Seal