



Most Blessed Sacrament
Catholic Church

15615 Jefferson Hwy • Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70817

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 OR
2. 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.
3. You 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.
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 the enclosed paperwork is returned to the parish office.

GODPARENTS

1. According to Church Law a godparent “helps the baptized person to lead a Christian life in keeping with baptism and to fulfill faithfully the obligations inherent in it.”
2. Godparents must be practicing Catholics who are at least 16 years of age and must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.
3. “Practicing Catholic” is defined by Church law as one who (1) Attends Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of obligation; (2) goes to Confession at least once a year; (3) Receive Holy Communion Once a year during Easter Season; (4) observes the prescribed days of fasting and abstinence; and (5) supports/provides for the needs of the Church.
4. If married, the godparent must be married in the Catholic Church or had their marriage blessed by the Catholic Church.

5. 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.
6. Godparents are strongly encouraged, but not required, to attend a baptism seminar.

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.

If there will be two godparents, there must only be one biological male and one biological female.

2. **Can the same godparents have responsibility for more than one child in the same family?** Yes, if they take seriously their responsibility mentioned above.
3. **Can a non-Catholic serve as a godparent?** No. See GODPARENTS points 2 and 3 above.

Church law states: “A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community is not to participate except together with a Catholic sponsor [godparent] and then only as a witness of the baptism.” Therefore, a baptized non-Catholic Christian may serve as a witness to the baptism only if there is proper Catholic sponsor who fully meets all requirements of a godparent.

This provision for a non-Catholic Christian witness in the law is not meant for Catholics who do not fulfill the requirements of a godparent. They cannot stand in as a witness.

The name of the non-Catholic witness will be entered into the Sacrament Record Book as an Official witness, together with the name of the godparent.

4. **Can someone serve as godparent by proxy (stand-in) if the godparent is unable to participate in the baptism ceremony?** Yes, an adult proxy can stand in the place of the missing godparent. The name of that person will be entered as proxy in the Sacramental Record Book, along with the name of the absent godparent.
5. **What if I do not know someone who can be a godparent?** Let the parish priest know and we can assist you.

**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: _____
(First) (Middle) (Last)

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

Are Parents Married? _____

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

Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Whose Number? _____

Date and Church Parents Attended Seminar: _____

GODPARENT INFORMATION:

*Please see page 2 for Godparent requirements **before** selecting your Godparents.*

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

Catholic **Godfather's** Full Name: _____

Is he a Confirmed and Practicing Catholic: Yes ☐ No ☐

Is he married? Yes ☐ No ☐ In the Catholic Church? Yes ☐ No ☐

If "no" is checked in any of the above, he cannot act as godfather.

Will Godfather be represented by a Proxy? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, proxy's full name: _____

Catholic **Godmother's** Full Name: _____

Is she a Confirmed and Practicing Catholic: Yes ☐ No ☐

Is she married? Yes ☐ No ☐ In the Catholic Church? Yes ☐ No ☐

If "no" is checked in any of the above, she cannot act as godmother.

Will Godmother be represented by a Proxy? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, proxy's name: _____

CHRISTIAN WITNESS:

Will there be a non-Catholic Christian Witness? Yes ☐ No ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐

Witness's Christian community (e.g. Baptist, Non-denominational, etc.): _____

BULLETIN:

If space allows, may we publish the name of the child baptized and parents in our Church Bulletin?
Yes ☐ No ☐

**Please return this form to: Most Blessed Sacrament Church
15615 Jefferson Highway
Baton Rouge, LA 70817-6311**



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Catholic Church

15615 Jefferson Hwy • Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70817

GODPARENT ELIGIBILITY

Name of Godparent: _____

Godparent's Church Parish: _____

Godparent for the child of: _____

I declare that I am practicing Catholic who has been baptized and confirmed, 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 in accordance to those beliefs and teachings. I participate at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days, and I receive the Sacraments regularly.

I am Married: Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, I have celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage in the Catholic Church. Yes ☐ No ☐

Signature of Godparent

TO BE FILLED OUT BY GODPARENT'S CHURCH PARISH

Church parish: _____
Name City State

Signature of Priest

Date



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Church parish: _____
Name City State

Signature of Priest

Date