

## INFORMATION REGARDING BAPTISMS

1. Please call 610-683-6454 to schedule Baptism Preparation classes.  
This consists of two one-hour classes, usually held on a weekday evening.
2. Dates and Times: At St. Mary's, Kutztown, baptisms are usually held on the first Sunday of the month at the 11 a.m. Mass. Private Baptisms (outside the context of the Mass) may be scheduled in Lent, and at other times when necessary.  
Baptisms may be celebrated on Easter regardless of where it falls during the month.
3. To have Baptism here, families must be active registered parishioners at our church, in the process of registering, or have permission from the church you are registered at.
4. Godparent Role:
  - to be a support to the parents in raising the child as a Catholic Christian.
  - to be a good example to the child of a mature Catholic Christian.

### Qualifications for a Godparent:

- must have received the three initiation sacraments: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.
- must be an active participant in a parish.
- must present a certificate of eligibility from his/her parish to the pastor before the Baptism.  
**WE MUST RECEIVE THIS CERTIFICATE ONE MONTH IN ADVANCE.**

-must be at least 16 yrs. of age. Remember, the godparent is to be a mature model of faith for your child.

-only one godparent of either sex is necessary. One of each sex is customary.

-cohabitating adults must be validly married in the Catholic Church or married with permission of the Catholic Church.

**Christian Witness:** When one Catholic godparent has been chosen, one Christian witness is permissible. This person should be a good example to your child and a practicing member of a Christian church (not Catholic). The Witness should be the opposite gender of the Catholic godparent.

5. Please fill out the Baptismal Information Sheet completely and return it to the pastor three weeks before the Baptism. (or call the information into the pastor at 610 683-7443)

Call the pastor one week before the Baptism so that all concerned know that the Baptism will take place on schedule.

A pew (seats 8 adults) will be reserved for the parents, godparents, and immediate family.

If any reserved seating near the font is necessary, let the pastor know before the day of the baptism and remind the usher when you get to the Church.

If you would like to hang a banner up near the font, tell the usher when you arrive at Church.

6. **Day of Baptism:** Arrive at least 15 minutes before the Mass to meet the pastor and greet the people in the gathering area. The typical manner of Baptism is by pouring of the water. To be true to the symbolism of the "white garment," all babies and children should wear white after the baptism.
7. **Stipend:** An offering of \$35.

## ***Sacramental Sponsor Certificate of Eligibility***

In accepting the responsibility of being a Godparent at Baptism or a Sponsor at Confirmation, I truthfully state the following:

- I am at least sixteen (16) years of age;
- I have received the sacraments of Christian Initiation (Baptism, Holy Eucharist, Confirmation) in the Catholic Church;
- I am living—and intend to continue living—in conformity with the law of the Catholic Church regarding marriage;
- I attend Mass every week on Sundays and holydays of obligation, and receive the sacraments of the church (Holy Eucharist and Confession) regularly;
- I understand and accept the responsibilities that I undertake at this time and promise to pay special attention to ...

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*Name of Person to be Baptized or Confirmed at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Kutztown*

... in his/her efforts to fully live in accordance with the spirit and the teachings of the Catholic Church. I am prepared to assist his/her parents or guardians in their duties by my support, encouragement and prayer.

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*Name of Prospective Godparent*

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*Address, City, State, Zip*

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*Phone Number(s) and Email Address*

I certify that the applicant is duly registered in our parish and according to our record and my knowledge, is eligible for service in the role of Godparent or Sponsor.

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*Signature of Pastor or his Authorized Delegate*

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*Date*

## BAPTISM INFORMATION SHEET

**Child's info:**

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
(last name) (first name) (middle name) (m/f)

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Hospital (City & State): \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Month of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_

**Father's info:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(last name) (first, middle name) Religion

**Mother's info:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(last name) (first, middle name) Religion

**Family info:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(street address, town, state, zip code)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(phone) (email)

Registered with the parish? (*registration is required*)

\_\_\_ Yes / \_\_\_ No, I still need to

**Godparent Info:**

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ Practicing Catholic

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ Practicing Catholic

See explanation of "Christian Witness" above where necessary.