

Baptism Prep and Information

We are very happy to welcome you and your child for the sacrament of Baptism. Below is some useful information for parents regarding this sacrament.

Parents who have not had a child baptized here at St. Rita are required to attend a Parent Baptism Meeting. Both parents are required to attend this meeting. Godparents do not need to attend.

The meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month from **7:00 - 8:00 pm in the Parish Office** with Deacon Rick Rall or Deacon Jim Fien. There will be several families attending each meeting, so we ask, if possible, that you find childcare, so you can focus on the preparation. Thank you!

<u>To register for one of the upcoming Parent Meetings, please call or email me.</u> You must register before attending.

When choosing Godparents for your child, be aware that they must be at least 16 years of age, active members of the faith, and have received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation in the Roman Catholic Church. This is important because the Godparents' role is to be models of the Catholic faith for your child. Godparents help you raise your child knowing and loving God and the Church.

A certificate with a **parish seal and notations** from the church where the Godparent(s) sacraments were received needs to be mailed to the address below. If you would like help obtaining this certificate, don't hesitate to let me know. A non-Catholic may serve as Godparent if there is one Godparent who is a practicing Catholic.

If you are not registered members of St. Rita Parish, you can do this easily by going to our website, https://stritawebster.org/parish-census/, fill out the census form and submit.



BAPTISMS ARE held on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays of each month at 12:00 p.m. and during the 10:30 am Mass on the 3rd Sunday of the month. There are a few exceptions to this based on liturgical celebrations and holidays. Arrangements can be made for other times if these do not work for your family.

After you have attended a Parent Baptism Meeting, please contact me to schedule a date for your child's baptism. You may be celebrating this sacrament with up to two other families.

A question that is asked frequently is, "What should my child wear?" Although there is no mandated type of outfit, the color white is one of the many symbols used in Baptism. You may choose to dress your child in white.

If you are scheduled to have your child baptized at 12:00 pm on a Sunday, we would love to have your family join us at the 10:30 am Mass. If you or your guests are not attending Mass, everyone should arrive at church 15 minutes before the baptism.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I look forward to working with you to make this sacrament a wonderful experience for your family.

God bless,

Julie Cohn

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