



# Saint Patrick's Parish

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## YOUR CHILD'S BAPTISM

**Baptism** is the beginning of the life of faith. Through the waters of baptism your child will be "born again". He will be set free from original sin and enter into a new eternal relationship with God the Father, through Jesus Christ our Saviour. He will also become a part of the Roman Catholic Church.

Baptism, of course, is only the beginning of this new life. For infant baptism to make sense, parents must be committed to raising their child in the faith. A child needs to be nourished in the Christian faith through weekly attendance at mass, through religious instruction, through prayer, through the example of a Christian family life. This is the commitment the Church expects of parents who bring in their child for baptism.

**Parents' Commitment** - It is assumed that the parents of children to be baptized in the parish are: attending Sunday mass regularly; married in the Catholic Church; and registered members of Saint Patrick's Parish. If this is not your situation, special arrangements must be made with the priest.

**Godparents** - Godparents must be practicing Roman Catholics. Only two godparents can be listed on the baptism certificate and only two godparents will have a role in the baptism ceremony.

**Photographs** - Photos may be taken during the liturgy but are not to become a distraction. Therefore, photographs must be taken from the pews or from the side of the church. Photographers are not to enter the sanctuary during the rite of baptism. After the baptism, photos may be taken in front of the altar.

★ **Modest Dress** - Baptism is a sacred ceremony and therefore, everyone attending must be dressed modestly.

**Punctuality** - All guests and family members are to arrive before the baptism begins. Late arrivals are to remain seated quietly at the back of the church.

**Church Donation** - Godparents or parents are invited to make a donation to the church at the time of the baptism. Suggested minimum is \$50.

★ *candles provided*