

ST. BRIGID CATHOLIC PARISH
GUIDELINES FOR BAPTISM
2010

At St. Brigid, we offer opportunities for your child to receive the Sacrament of Baptism through your participation in preparation classes and a community celebration. Once all requirements have been met, including the completion of baptism classes and the submission of paperwork for the baptism certificate, you will be able to sign up for any of our scheduled community baptisms, or you may request a letter of permission from the parish secretary to have your child baptized at another parish. Following is some important information to help you in your journey through this process:

INFANT BAPTISM REQUIREMENTS:

1. **Baptism Classes.**

Parents are required to attend preparation classes and are encouraged to do so before the birth of their child (see “baptism classes” below).

2. **Child’s Birth Certificate.**

Parents must provide the child’s original certified birth certificate – the one issued by the State Department of Health – not the hospital copy. A photocopy will be made by the parish secretary, and the original returned to the parents. **No faxed copies will be accepted.**

3. **Permission letter.**

Parents, who reside within another Parish’s boundaries, may have their child baptized at St. Brigid with written permission from their pastor and proof that they have attended and successfully completed a Baptismal Preparation Program, or after they have attended a St. Brigid Baptism Preparation Program. The letter must be on church letterhead, with the church seal.

Letters of permission to have your child baptized at another parish are available upon request by contacting Bonnie at 696-0896, ext. 1001. Please allow a few days notice for preparation. Also, please provide the name of the child being baptized, the church name, address and fax number, contact person and your address and phone number for quicker results.

4. **Catholic Sponsor.**

Only one sponsor is required to proceed with the baptism of your child; however, the traditional Godfather and Godmother are encouraged. All sponsors are encouraged to attend all preparation classes.

Requirements for being a Baptism Sponsor, “Godparent”: Sponsors must:

- A. Be “practicing” Roman Catholics.
- B. Be at least 16 years of age, and have received the Sacrament of Confirmation; and if married, married in the Catholic Church.
- C. Not be the parents of the child.
- D. Provide a letter of good standing from their parish, stating that they are eligible to be sponsors. The letter must be on church letterhead, which includes the church seal. Sponsors from St. Brigid may need to provide proof of their sacraments.

5. All necessary documents must be provided before a baptism date will be set.

