

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 the Parish Secretary at 696-0896, ext. 1000. Please allow a few days notice for preparation. Also, please provide the name of the child being baptized, the church name, address or fax number, contact person and your 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.

BAPTISM CLASSES:

1. Baptism preparation classes are offered each month except for December. Each class consists of one three-hour session. Call the parish office for specific dates. Prior registration for these classes is required. Classes will not be held if there are no registrants at least three days ahead of time.
2. Classes consist of either Wednesday or Saturday sessions. Dates are preset. Classes are scheduled on:
 - Wednesday evenings from 7:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m. in the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November; or
 - Saturday mornings from 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. in the months of February, April, June, August, and October.
3. Call the Parish Office at (210)696-0896 to sign up and reserve your spot.
4. Parents who have completed the Baptism Preparation Program within the past three years are not required to attend another class.
5. Letters of completion of Baptism Preparation Classes are available upon request by contacting the Parish Secretary at 696-0896, ext. 1000. Please allow a few days notice for preparation.

TO SET A BAPTISM DATE:

1. Infant Baptisms are typically scheduled either on the first Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m. or on the second Sunday of the month at 2:00 p.m. Baptisms in Spanish are scheduled on the second Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. All times are subject to change. **No baptisms are scheduled during Lent.**
2. Baptisms may be done at a Mass with the permission of the pastor.
3. ***All necessary documents and information must be provided to the parish secretary before any firm date will be set for the Baptism.***
4. Parents or Godparents may furnish the baptismal candle and white garment (if desired) to be used during the baptismal ceremony.
5. No cost for baptism. Traditionally, a stipend of choice is given to the celebrant.

CATHOLIC GIFT SHOPS: (Listed for convenience of our parishioners, not as recommended or exclusive sources.)

The Pelican Shop 8497 Bandera at Gilbeau Rd.(210)520-2460

Christian Treasures 15614 Huebner Road, No. 109.....(210)732-5128

Cathedral Church Supplies 6417 Blanco(210)342-6043

Christ the King Books & Gifts www.mycatholicstore.com
Forum Center next to Best Buy(210)566-7871
IH-10/Wurzbach behind HEB(210)694-4475

Cordi-Marian Book & Gift Shop 11624 FM 471(210)798-8222
Store Hours: Mon.-Fri., 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.