

**ST. JOHN THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
475 EAST 4TH STREET, HIALEAH, FLORIDA 33010
PHONE (305) 888-9769 FAX (305) 888-9341**



Baptism Sacrament Guide

1. Children who are older than 7 years will need to register in the Religious Education Program and take classes for a specific time before being baptized.
2. A copy of child's Birth Certificate must be provided with the Baptism Application.
3. Both parents must agree in baptizing their child in the Catholic Faith.
4. If the parents do not belong to our parish, they will need to obtain permission (Letter of Permission) from their parish in order to baptize their child at St. John the Apostle.
5. The godparents who are not registered at our parish will need to obtain permission from their parish; this permission document is called a Sponsor Certificate. In addition the godparents must comply with the following requirements:
 1. In accord with Canon 874, to be a Godparent for Baptism a person must be:
 - a.) A Baptized Catholic who has also received the sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation, and is practicing the faith, which means they are actively attending mass regularly.
*If married, their wedding should have been celebrated in a Catholic Church by a priest or deacon.
 - b.) Mature enough to undertake this responsibility. *They must be at least 16 years old.
 - c.) A member of the Catholic Church canonically free to carry out this office.
 - d.) Someone other than the father, mother, spouse or fiancé of the one to be baptized.
 2. A validly baptized and believing Christian from a separated church may act as a Christian Witness of Baptism so long as there is also a Godparent.

* A person who has not been baptized cannot be chosen to be a godparent nor be a Christian Witness.
* If there are two Godparents, it should be a man and a woman.
6. It is required that the parents and the godparents all be present in a Pre Baptismal Class prior to the celebration of the Baptism Sacrament The objective of this class is to give a general explanation regarding the sacrament the child will be receiving.
7. The godparents who are not able to be present the day of the celebration of the Baptism can be represented by a Proxy. The requirements to act as a Proxy are the same as stated above in the requirements for godparents. (See #5)
8. To reserve the date for the Baptism a \$60 donation will be requested. Please contact the office for schedule of dates.