



The Sacrament of Baptism

(for newborn to children 6 years of age)

St. Mary Catholic Church
 1612 E. Walker Street
 League City, TX 77573
 Parish Office (281) 332-3031

Class Date and Time	Baptism Dates and Times
February 7, 2017 7 to 9 p.m. in Church (arrive @ 6:45 p.m. for check-in)	Group 1 February 11, 2017 @ <u>6:00 p.m.</u> Group 2 February 11, 2017 @ <u>6:45 p.m.</u>
April 4, 2017 7 to 9 p.m. in Church (arrive @ 6:45 p.m. for check-in)	Group 1 April 8, 2017 @ <u>6:00 p.m.</u> Group 2 April 8, 2017 @ <u>6:45 p.m.</u>
June 6, 2017 7 to 9 p.m. in Church (arrive @ 6:45 p.m. for check-in)	Group 1 June 10, 2017 @ <u>6:00 p.m.</u> Group 2 June 10, 2017 @ <u>6:45 p.m.</u>
September 5, 2017 7 to 9 p.m. in Church (arrive @ 6:45 p.m. for check-in)	Group 1 September 9, 2017 @ <u>6:00 p.m.</u> Group 2 September 9, 2017 @ <u>6:45 p.m.</u>
November 14, 2017 7 to 9 p.m. in Church (arrive @ 6:45 p.m. for check-in)	Group 1 November 18, 2017 @ <u>6:00 p.m.</u> Group 2 November 18, 2017 @ <u>6:45 p.m.</u>

For Baptism Group Assignment

Families will be notified, once the class closes, which Group they will be assigned to (Registration closes at noon one week prior to class, unless class capacity is reached prior to that time.)

Susan Wood, Baptism Coordinator
 (281) 332-3031 ext. 114

Parish Baptism Guidelines

(for newborn to children 6 years of age)

As the first sacrament of Christian Initiation, baptism provides a grace-filled entrance into the Church and the beginning of a life centered in the love and service of Christ. In order to prepare parents and godparents for the sacrament, their role and duty as primary faith providers, St. Mary Parish offers our parishioners a single baptismal preparation class to assist with spiritual growth and readiness.

Our program is based on the Guidelines provided by the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and listed below.

Registration & Participation

- All registration forms must be completed and submitted in person **by a parent** of the child to be Baptized. Photo i.d. is required.
- Once a parent has taken the Baptism class twice, they are not required to take it again. They are always encouraged to take the class, but are not required.

Parents

- Must be registered in the parish (at least **6 months** prior to the actual Baptism) and active in the practice of their faith. The baptismal preparation class may be taken during this 6 month period.
- One or both must be Catholic
- Must attend the Baptismal Preparation class. (Not required if taken within the last two years, proof of attendance must be provided to the parish office).

Godparents play a very important role in the baptism and lives of their godchildren. Their role is to assist the parents in raising the child in the Catholic faith. To serve as examples of Christian living. The commitment of a godparent is a lifelong commitment to the child's faith formation and development of Christian values.

According to Canon Law. . .

- The godparents are to be chosen by the parents or guardian.
- They are to be at least sixteen years of age.
- At least one must be a Catholic who has already been confirmed and received First Holy Communion.
- If Catholic, they should be leading a life in harmony with the faith, i.e. practicing Catholics attending Mass regularly and if married, have a valid Catholic Marriage.
- They may not be the mother or father of the one to be Baptized.
- You may choose one or two godparents. If you choose two, one must be male and the other female.
- A non-Catholic Christian Witness may be designated in place of a godparent. A baptized person belonging to a non-Catholic ecclesial (church) community may be admitted as a witness to baptism but only along with a Catholic Godparent. This person is not formally called a Godparent, but will be referred to as a Christian Witness.

Class Information

Classes are held on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Church.

Please arrive at 6:45 p.m. for registration/check-in.

Specific dates are listed on the attached cover sheet.

Registration for the class is required.

A completed Baptism Request form along with the child's ORIGINAL Birth Certificate must be turned in to the parish office ONLY and in person by a PARENT of the child to be Baptized.

Requests will be accepted in the parish office until noon one week prior to class, unless class capacity is reached prior to that time.

Completed requests will be reviewed by the Baptism coordinator and you will receive confirmation of class and or baptism approximately one week before class.

Baptism Information

Group Baptisms are held the Saturday following the Class at the times designated on the cover sheet.

Families will be notified, once the class closes, which Group they will be assigned to.

Parents and godparents along with the parish community share a vital role in preparing children to profess their Catholic faith and to live that faith. The St. Mary Baptism team is here to assist parents and godparents with this spiritual development. If there are any questions about infant Baptismal Preparation classes, please contact Susan in the parish office at (281) 332-3031.

*****ORIGINAL BIRTH CERTIFICATE MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH FORM**

FOR OFFICE USE

Date received _____

Time received _____

Group Number _____

Notes _____

