

# **BAPTISM PREPARATION GUIDELINES**

## **St. Joseph Community**

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### **WELCOME AND CONGRATULATIONS!**

The Parish Staff and our Baptism Team look forward to working with you at this joyous time in the life of your family. Working together, we join with you in accepting responsibility for your child's faith journey in our Community. Below we have outlined some important information you need to know before you decide to have your baby baptized.

1. We celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism as a community at St. Joseph and that is why we celebrate together with other families on select dates and times throughout the year. Because of our philosophy of community, we discourage "private" baptisms.
2. We desire that you be a registered, active parishioner for at least three months before setting your child's baptism date. If you are not registered, please ask for a registration form so you can join our community.
3. If you want your child baptized at St. Joseph but you are registered in another parish, you will need to obtain a letter of permission from the pastor of that parish.
4. If you have been a registered, active parishioner, please complete the Baptismal Registration Form included in this packet. Please fill out all information as completely as possible. ***When you return the completed form to the Parish Office, along with the \$100 stipend, we will begin the process.***
5. Eric Bertelsen, our Liturgy Coordinator, will contact you regarding an interview. When you meet together, the date of the baptism will be set.
6. It is encouraged that you select Godparents who are practicing Catholics. Canon Law **requires** that at least one of the godparents be a confirmed Catholic who has already received Eucharist.
7. Parents will be required to participate in our sacramental preparation process, which includes attending a class with members of our Baptismal Team. Though not required to attend, Godparents are welcome to participate in the class.

If you have any questions, please contact our Liturgy Coordinator or a member of the Baptism Team. We thank you for choosing to be a part of St. Joseph Community.

Welcome and Congratulations!

Eric Bertelsen

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