



## Steps to Baptism

Parents wishing to baptize a child at St. Vincent de Paul should reside in the area and must be registered members in the parish. Exceptions can be made for those living in areas without a Catholic Church or where a family tie to St. Vincent's exists. A short preparation class for both parents and godparents is required before the baptism. At SVDP, a preparation class is valid for 3 years. If taken elsewhere, a letter or certificate is to be provided from where the class was taken.

## Godparents

While it is customary for a child to have a godmother and godfather, only one godparent is required by canon law. A child may not have more than two godparents and if two godparents are chosen one must be female and the other male. As models of the Catholic faith, godparents should be mature enough to undertake the responsibility. By Canon Law:

- A Godparent must be at least 16yrs of age.
- A registered and practicing Catholic.
- Have received the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation (must provide copy of Confirmation Certificate).
- If married, must provide a copy of the marriage Certificate from the Catholic Church they were married in.
- If not a registered parishioner of SVDP, must provide a letter from their church stating they are registered and in Good Standing.
- Attend a Baptism Prep class and provide a copy of their class certificate.

Upon request, a baptized believer of another Christian faith may serve as a Christian Witness along with a Catholic godparent.

## Day of Baptism

The ordinary setting for a baptism at St. Vincent de Paul Church is within the celebration of the Eucharist on the designated weekend each month. Since baptism is the beginning of one's life in the parish community, it is appropriate that the sacrament be celebrated when the community has gathered. Because of the large number of Spanish baptisms, the sacrament is celebrated on Saturday mornings @ 10:30am (in Spanish only) with the number of baptisms limited to 30 children, please plan to arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the start time. Also, on Sunday at 12 Noon Spanish Mass are limited to 3 children. English baptisms are celebrated at the weekend Masses. Baptisms are limited to 3 families per Mass. The day of Mass Baptism, please plan to arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the start time for Anointing (this is part of the rite of baptism). Please note: we do not offer Baptism during Lent, Advent, or on a holiday weekend.

## Administration Fee

An administrative fee is charged to cover the costs associated with the preparation class as well as the processing and maintenance of sacramental records.

- \$10 for parishioners (who have been registered more than a year) attending Mass regularly and contributing.
- \$50 for those registered less than a year and NO contributing.
- \$100 for non-parishioners.

The link below must be filled out and all documents attached in order to complete the application process for Baptism. So, make sure you have a:

- Photo copy of Child's Birth Certificate.
- Godparents Confirmation Certificate of each one.
- Certificate of Sacramental Marriage (NO civil marriage).
- Godparent's letter of permission of their pastor and of good standing.
- Certificate of Preparation class if taken at a different church.

To handle our large volume of Baptism requests at this time all applicants must use a google account to apply. Please create Gmail account before proceeding with registration.