



## BAPTISM GUIDELINES

Welcome to Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church and thank you for taking this first step with your child on a life long journey of faith. Baptism is the gateway to all the other Sacraments in the Church and the means by which the candidate becomes a member of the Church. It welcomes your child into a faith community. It also welcomes you, your family, and the godparents to share that same experience.

You and the godparents you choose are about to make an impact on the faith of a young life. Your role during your child's Baptism is one which calls you to make a promise on behalf of that child that you will teach him or her by word and action about God and the catholic faith.

### Listed below is information that will help you prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism:

1. Baptismal seminars are held once a month usually on the last Thursday of the month. Please call the church office to register. ***Parents and godparents must attend.*** If you have attended a baptism seminar within the last three years only a letter of attendance of said seminar is required.
2. Baptisms are held the first Sunday of the month after the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Please check with the church office for scheduled dates.
3. To be a baptismal godparent one should be:
  - a. Catholic, at least 16 years of age, and must have received the Sacrament of Confirmation.
  - b. The godparent plays an important role in assisting the parents in raising the child in the Catholic faith. Therefore, the godparent must also be "living a life of faith" reflecting the function he or she will undertake. ***See Godparent Eligibility Form.***
  - c. One confirmed godparent fulfills the requirement; if two, one *male* and one *female* godparent.
4. A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community cannot take part as a godparent, but may participate as a Christian witness provided that there is one Catholic confirmed godparent present.
5. **A completed Baptism Registration Form along with the Birth Certificate of the child must be turned into church office. The parents are also required to provide documents (e.g. certificates) that will prove that the intended godparent(s) has (or have) received the Sacrament of Confirmation and have completed and returned the Godparent Eligibility forms.**
6. A Baptismal stipend of \$10.00 or donation is necessary to help defray the cost of materials and supplies and should be paid no later than at the time of baptism.

The guidelines for this parish are in consonance with the guidelines set by the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux. We hope this will help you with any questions you may have about receiving the Sacrament of Baptism. The seminar will help you in understanding the role you and your child's sponsors will have in your child's faith journey beginning with the Sacrament of Baptism.