



1927 S.W. Green Oaks Blvd. | Arlington, TX 76017 | stjoe88.org  
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## BAPTISM INFORMATION

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated at St. Joseph on the last complete weekend of each month at any one of the Sunday Masses (for families who are married in the Catholic Church);  
OR in a group on the 4th Saturday (Rite of Baptism only) - 10 a.m. (English) or 11 a.m. (Spanish)  
for children of married or non-married couples.

### SACRAMENT PREPARATION

Classes available in English and Spanish

Who: Parent(s) & Godparent(s) of child to be baptized

When : 9 a.m. – noon | first Saturday of every month

Where: St. Joseph Catholic Parish – see sign in Community Center for specific room number

Fee: \$10 per married couple/ \$10 per single person (Must be paid before the class.)

Other Notes: No childcare is available during the sessions.  
Classes are valid for three (3) years from date.

### ELIGIBILITY

- ❖ Families who reside within St. Joseph parish boundaries (recognized ZIP codes 76001, 76002, 75054, 75052, 76017, 76018) are considered parishioners.
- ❖ There is a three-month waiting period for those parents who reside outside St. Joseph parish boundaries (including ZIP CODES 76010, 76011, 76014, Mansfield, Dallas, Fort Worth, etc.) and are newly-registered in the parish.

### NON-ST. JOSEPH PARISHIONERS:

- Receive formal written permission (with seal) from the family's home parish Pastor.
- Parishioners from another parish may schedule an appointment with Fr. Mercado to arrange their child's baptism at St. Joseph.

## BAPTISM REQUIREMENTS

### FOR PARENTS

- ❖ Choose at least one Catholic “in good standing” to serve as Godparent of child.  
Non-Catholics may serve as Christian witnesses, but will not be formally listed as a Godparent.
- ❖ Both parents (non -Catholic parents also) must attend Baptismal preparation class.
- ❖ If parents are not married in the Catholic Church, or are single, AND after they have completed the preparation course, they must schedule an appointment with Fr. Mercado.
- ❖ Non-parishioners also must receive written permission from the family’s home parish Pastor to baptize a child at St. Joseph.
- ❖ Provide a copy of child’s official (state-issued) birth certificate
  - Documentation of preparation class previously at St. Joseph or at another parish is acceptable.

### FOR GODPARENTS

#### If Married:

- ❖ Attend Baptism preparation class here or at their parish (need copy of the attendance certificate).
- ❖ Provide *Godparent Sponsor Form* OR “*letter of good standing*” from their parish (if not St. Joseph parishioner) that states they are active parishioners and eligible to act as sponsor.
- ❖ Provide a copy of their certificate of marriage issued by the Church

#### If Single:

- ❖ A Godparent or Sponsor must be at least 16 years old and have present documents that confirms he/she received the sacraments of BAPTISM, COMMUNION, AND CONFIRMATION.
- ❖ Attend Baptism Preparation class at St. Joseph or another parish (need attendance record).
- ❖ Provide *Godparent Sponsor Form* OR “*letter of good standing*” from their parish (if not St. Joseph parishioner) stating they are active parishioners and eligible to act as sponsor.

#### Non-Catholic Godparents:

- ❖ At least one Catholic “in good standing” must serve as child’s Godparent.
- ❖ Non-Catholics may serve as Christian witnesses, but will not be formally listed as a Godparent in official church record or on Baptism Certificate.