

# St. Patrick's Church

## Information Booklet for Child Baptism

*The birth of a baby into a family is always a time of joyful celebration. It is also a time of re-commitment for the parents to the responsibility of rearing the child as God intends.*

Infants & children under age 7 may be presented for the Sacrament of Baptism. Baptisms are scheduled in conjunction with your intended celebrant (priest or deacon) and the parish calendar.

Baptism Preparation Seminar – Prior to the Sacrament of Baptism, **parents and godparents** are required to attend one Baptism Seminar. Seminars are scheduled through the parish office.

Children over age 7 who need to be baptized follow a different process of preparation. Please contact the parish office.

Requested Documentation - Please return the following documentation to the parish office 2 weeks before the desired baptism date:

- Child's Birth Certificate
- Baptism Application
- Parent's Testimonial
- Godparent's Testimonial (one needed for each godparent)
- Baptismal Seminar attended

### Selecting Godparents

Parents have the first duty to form their children in faith. (canon 774.2) Godparents commit themselves to support the child's parents in this duty and must, "set an example for those who believe, in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity." (1 Timothy 4:12) Because of this supremely important duty, at least ONE godparent (sponsor) must meet all the qualifications outlined below (canon 874):

- Be sixteen years of age.
- Be a Catholic who has received the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist and Confirmation and who leads a life of faith in keeping with the function to be taken on. This indicates that Catholics cohabitating (living together without marriage) and Catholics publicly living in an invalid marriage are ineligible. Invalid marriages (or marriages "outside the Church") are those which are not according to Catholic Church regulations.
- Not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared.
- Must not be the father or the mother of the one to be baptized.
- A person who was baptized into a non-Catholic ecclesial community (Protestant church) may not be admitted except as a Christian witness to baptism together with a Catholic sponsor/godparent. People who have been baptized Catholic but who no longer practice their faith may not serve as a Christian witness but are invited to speak with a priest about returning to the faith.

Additionally, canon 873 tells us that one sponsor, male or female, is sufficient; but there may be two: one of each sex. This means that there cannot be two sponsors of the same sex, and there cannot be more than two sponsors.

# St. Patrick's Church

St. Patrick's Catholic Church  
724 Camp Street  
New Orleans, LA 70130

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church  
1139 Orthea Castle Haley Blvd.  
New Orleans, LA 70113

## Baptismal Application

### Family Information:

Full Name of Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Male/Female

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Requested Date of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_ Celebrant: Father/Deacon \_\_\_\_\_

Family Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Phone Numbers: (H): \_\_\_\_\_ (Mobile): \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Father's Religion: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Full Name (Maiden): \_\_\_\_\_ Mother's Religion: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you registered parishioners of St. Patrick's Parish?	Yes	No
If you are not a St. Patrick's Parish parishioner or live in its boundaries, have you obtained a letter of permission from your parish pastor to have the baptism take place in St. Patrick's Parish?	Yes	No
Are you married?	Yes	No
Were you married by a Catholic priest or deacon?	Yes	No
Has the child been baptized privately due to illness, danger of death, or any other reason?	Yes	No
Have you previously attended a baptismal seminar?	Yes	No
Which form of the Roman Rite are you requesting?	O.F. (English)	E.F. (Latin)

### Godparents: (One of whom must be Catholic)

Godfather/Witness's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Is he a practicing Catholic? Yes No      Has he been Confirmed? Yes No      Over 16 years of age? Yes No

If not Catholic, what religion? \_\_\_\_\_

Godmother/Witness's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Is she a practicing Catholic? Yes No      Has she been Confirmed? Yes No      Over 16 years of age? Yes No

If not Catholic, what religion? \_\_\_\_\_

*It is customary, not obligatory, to donate to the church upon conclusion of the baptism.*

#### FOR PARISH USE ONLY:

Church:	St. Patrick's Church	St. John the Baptist Church	
Priest/Deacon Scheduled for Baptism:	_____		
Date and Time of Baptism:	_____		
Testimonials: Father	Mother	Godfather	Godmother
Seminar: Father	Mother	Godfather	Godmother
Letter of Permission if out of Parish:	_____		
Certificate Printed: Yes	No	Date Recorded in Baptism Register:	_____

# ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW ORLEANS

## Parental Testimonial for the Sacrament of Baptism

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Child to be Baptized: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Date of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_

### Statement of Catholic Parent(s)

**“It is my sincere hope and intention to raise my child in the Catholic faith and to do all in my power to assure through my own efforts that my child practices and grows in the Catholic faith.”**

*By signing below, the Catholic parent(s) solemnly swear that the statement above is a true and correct indication of their intentions.*

*(Must be signed by at least one Catholic parent.)*

Father's Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name Printed:

\_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name Printed:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Pastor or Delegate (In Parish where Baptism is to be Celebrated)

# ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW ORLEANS

## Godparent Testimonial for the Sacrament of Baptism

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Child to be Baptized: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Date of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_

### Criteria to Serve as Godparent for Baptism

- 1. The Godparent must be a Catholic in good standing with the Church who has been Confirmed and regularly practices his/her Catholic faith;**
- 2. The Godparent must be at least sixteen years of age;**
- 3. If married, the Godparent must be in a marriage recognized as valid by the Catholic Church. Person may not be cohabiting, or living together without marriage.**
- 4. If not previously attended, the Godparent will attend a Baptismal Seminar in preparation for this Baptism.**

### Statement of Godparent

**“I meet the above stated criteria to serve as a Godparent, and I will do all in my power to assist the parents of this child to raise their child in the Catholic faith.”**

*By signing below, the proposed Godparent solemnly swears that he or she has read the above criteria, and that the statement above is a true and correct indication of his/her intentions.*

Godparent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Godparent's Name Printed: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Pastor or Delegate (In Parish where Baptism is to be Celebrated)

# ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW ORLEANS

## Godparent Testimonial for the Sacrament of Baptism

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Name of Child to be Baptized: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Date of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_

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- 4. If not previously attended, the Godparent will attend a Baptismal Seminar in preparation for this Baptism.**

### Statement of Godparent

**“I meet the above stated criteria to serve as a Godparent, and I will do all in my power to assist the parents of this child to raise their child in the Catholic faith.”**

*By signing below, the proposed Godparent solemnly swears that he or she has read the above criteria, and that the statement above is a true and correct indication of his/her intentions.*

Godparent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Godparent's Name Printed: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Pastor or Delegate (In Parish where Baptism is to be Celebrated)