



GESU ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

2049 Parkside Boulevard + Toledo, Ohio 43607 + 419-531-1421

Dear Parent,

The Sacrament of Baptism is a celebration of new life. It incorporates a child into the family of God and the life of the Church. In order to help you prepare for the baptism of your child, the parish would like to offer you our support and assistance. For your part, you will be the child's first teachers in the ways of the faith. The Sacrament of Baptism asks you to profess your faith and to accept the responsibility of raising your child to follow Christ. The parish can help you through a program of catechetical preparation.

If this is the first baptism in your family, you will be asked to meet with one of the parish priests. Topics we will talk about will include presentation of and discussion on the Sacrament of Baptism and its renewed emphasis, how to share faith with your child, and the goals and responsibilities of Christian parenting. It will also include specific preparation for the celebration of the sacrament itself.

The pre-baptismal preparation session will ordinarily depend on the priest's availability. The parish secretary will have scheduled this before you receive this letter. Preparation for the sacrament of baptism may begin before your child is born. It is strongly recommended that both parents attend pre-baptismal preparation. Even if one parent is not Catholic, the Church feels that both parents need to know and understand the commitment that baptism entails. Sponsors (Godparents) are also welcome.

Baptism is celebrated on the dates that are listed on the enclosed parish schedule. Baptism is not celebrated during the season of Lent which serves as a time of intense preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist). However, celebrating Baptism throughout the Easter season is highly recommended, since this is the time of the Church year that recalls the resurrection and invitation to new life in Christ.

The process leading up to your child's baptism includes:

- Your formal request, submitted to the parish office
- Your personal reading and reflection about the sacrament (provided by the parish)
- Your meeting with one of the parish priests if this is a first Baptism for your family
- The celebration of the sacrament according to the parish schedule

We look forward to helping you raise your child in our shared Catholic Faith.

Sincerely,

Fr. Jim Cryan, OSFS Fr. Shaun Lowery, OSFS

The 2009-2010 schedule is as follows:

- Baptism take place at the 11:30 a.m. Sunday Mass on the following dates:
 - October 25, 2009
 - November 22, 2009
 - December 13, 2009
 - January 10, 2010
 - February 7, 2010
 - April 11, 2010
 - May 16, 2010
 - June 27, 2010
 - July 25, 2010
 - August 22, 2010

Please contact the Parish Office if you are planning beyond August, 2010: 419-531-1421