

## St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church

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# Request for Baptism Form

Please print clearly and check for accuracy. Information will appear on Baptismal Certificate Place of Birth Date of Birth Child's Full Name (First, Second, Surname)  $\square$  M  $\square$  F **Parents Information** Copy of Catholic Baptism Certificate of one parent must be attached to Form Mother's (Maiden) Name Father's Name Father baptized Street Address (If parents not together, address of custodian) Mother baptized ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Yes ☐ No Father's Religion Mother's Religion Home Phone Cell Phone Email address **Martial Status** Parents of child together as a couple ☐ Yes ☐ No Church of Marriage Place of Marriage ☐ Married ☐ Single ☐ Common Law ☐ Divorced ☐ Separated Registered Member of Parish Regularly attend Sunday Eucharist ☐ Yes ☐ No Mass Time: ☐ Yes ☐ No **Godparent Information** Please refer to the handout Name of Godfather (Sponsor) Received Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist ☐ Yes ☐ No Name and location of Parish Regularly practicing member of the Catholic Church ☐ Yes ☐ No Name of Godmother (Sponsor) Received Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist ☐ Yes ☐ No Name and location of Parish Regularly practicing member of the Catholic Church ☐ Yes ☐ No **Christian Witness** Name of Christian Witness Christian witness baptized Denomination ☐ Yes ☐ No Requested Date for Baptism: (not guaranteed) Parental Consent: By signing below, I certify that all information provided on this form, is true and correct; and I hereby give permission for the baptism of the above-named child in the Catholic Church. Signature of Father Date Signature of Mother Date For Office use only Stipend received (Fee- \$50.00) Date of Baptismal Class Date given for Baptism Date received Notes:

## Parish Procedure for Requesting Baptism

Request for the Sacrament for Baptism must be made to the parish in which the parents reside, as defined by territorial boundaries. Being a regular practising member of the parish, even if living outside territorial boundaries, can also define a person's parish. Onus of responsibility on the parents is to give evidence of this.

A request for baptism does not necessitate its conferral. If you wish to have your child baptized, there must be 'a realistic hope that the child will be brought up in the catholic religion. If such hope is truly lacking, the baptism is . . . to be deferred and the parents advised of the reason for this.' (Canon 868 (1.2).

- Return completed request form to office.
- Within one month, an interview will be scheduled with the priest.

At this meeting, if Baptism is to occur, you will be scheduled to attend a Baptismal Preparation Course and given a date for Baptism.

## **Information on Sponsors**

Sponsor (godparents) help parents in raising their children in the faith of the church. Please exercise due diligence and care in choosing who will fulfill this role using the following directives (canon 874).

- You may choose one or two Sponsors. If you choose one, that person must be a practicing Catholic. If you choose two Sponsors, only one of them may be a person of another faith. In this case, the non-Catholic person is referred to as a Christian Witness.
- Sponsors and Witnesses must be at least 16 years of age.
- > To act as a Sponsor, the Catholic party must be a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church (having received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist).
- Since Sponsors are to help parents in their duties as Catholic parent(s) and they are to be regularly practicing and leading a life in harmony with the faith (i.e., attending Sunday Eucharist, married within the church, not in a common law relationship, living a life of faith).

## **Multiple Sponsors**

Certain traditions may also have many Sponsors. In this case, only the name of two Sponsors (primary sponsors), a male and a female, will appear on the Baptismal Certificate and recorded in the parish registry. The name of Additional Sponsors (secondary sponsors) will not appear on the Baptismal Certificate or recorded in the parish registry.

#### **Baptism Preparation Courses**

According to canon 843(2) states there is a duty "... to ensure that those who ask for the sacraments are prepared for their reception. This should be done through proper evangelisation and catechetical instruction ..."

The parents of the child are expected to attend two sessions of a baptismal preparation session, which will take place on the **Second** and **Third Saturdays of the month**. These mandatory classes take place at 3.00pm in one of the parish halls.

## **Baptisms**

Usually held on 1ST and 4th Saturday of every month and begins at 3:00 p.m.

Please arrive at the Church by 2:45p.m.

You should not delay the baptism of your child. If there are no serious health concerns and your child will not be travelling, three months is an appropriate age to have your child baptized. Otherwise, it is advised to request baptism sooner. If baptism is requested for a person seven years of age or older, the candidate is expected to have an age-appropriate level of understanding of the sacrament, and it will not be conferred solely on the request from parents.

#### Stipend

Good will financial offering made to the Parish to help support her mission in proclaiming the Gospel. This helps the parish cover cost of resources, materials and building operations. At your discretion, you may attach with this Request Form.