

St. Didacus Catholic Church

Baptismal Procedures

The day of Baptism is a day for the whole family to celebrate! For your child, Baptism is the day in which he or she is reborn in Christ Our Savior. For the parents, godparents, and family, it is a day of great happiness for their child is to receive the faith, which has been handed down from their family members. For the Christian community, it is a day of promise, welcome, and hope as a new member of the Church receives the faith and we reaffirm our Christian heritage. Baptism is the first step in initiation into the sacramental life of faith. In order to have your child baptized at St. Didacus, parents must fulfill the following requirements:

Residence: Parents must be **registered parishioners** of St. Didacus and practicing their faith here for at least **3 months** prior to the date of the baptism or provide a letter from the pastor of the parish where they do reside.

Interview: An interview with the pastor or deacon is required **before scheduling** the Baptism. IF the parents were not married in the Church. Please call the office to schedule an interview time.

Seminar: Due to COVID19, we are not offering a Baptismal Seminar until further notice. Parents and sponsors (godparents) of the child to be baptized are required to review and watch the Baptism Video available on the website. The video will provide parents and sponsors the opportunity review the Church's teaching regarding Baptism.

Baptism: Families are required to have all forms – parish registration (as needed), baptismal registration, and letters of consent from pastors of other Catholic parishes (when applicable), – completed and turned into the Parish Office before scheduling a required interview with the pastor/deacon and a date for the Baptism. We ask that families arrive 15 minutes early on the date of Baptism in order that other liturgical commitments not be interrupted.

Sponsors: A Baptismal Sponsor (Godparent) must be at least 16 years of age and must have received the sacraments of Communion and Confirmation. In addition, he/she must be of good moral character, living a life of faith. **A Baptized person who is not Catholic may be admitted as a witness to the Baptism and be recorded as such.** One sponsor, male or female, is sufficient, but there may be two, one of each sex. (Ref. Canon Law #873-874, "Sponsors") If from another parish, the individual will need to provide a letter from his or her pastor stating that the sponsor is in good standing at that parish. If married, they must be married in the church.

Fees: There is no fee for Baptism. Parents and Godparents are encouraged to make a donation on the day of the Baptism through the attached envelopes as an expression of gratitude to God for their child.

On behalf of our community we welcome your child to the faith!