

## Baptisms at St Robert Church

### Instructions

- Complete a Baptismal Form with information for your baby's Baptismal Certificate.
- Arrive at least 20 minutes before Mass begins for instructions.
  - Baby, parents & godparents sit in front pews; other family members are welcome, too.
  - After the opening procession & greeting, Fr Len will greet you and your baby
  - After the homily, Fr Len will invite you to stand with everyone present in the community for the Renewal of Baptismal Promises
  - Then you be directed to process to the baptismal font
  - After your baby is baptized, return to the front of church
    - Baby, parents & godparents stand in the front of church facing congregation; baby's siblings may stand with you, too. Everyone else returns to the pew.
  - Fr Len will anoint your baby with the Oil of Chrism
  - Your baby will receive a white garment
  - Return to your pew for Liturgy of the Eucharist
  - After Communion, Fr Len will invite baby, parents & godparents to come forward and face congregation. He will give godfathers lit candles and pray a blessing.
  - Return to your pew for the closing song.

### Guidelines for Sponsors/Godparents

- Should be at least 16 years of age
- Must be a fully initiated (has celebrated Baptism, Communion, Confirmation) and practicing Catholic.
- A non-Catholic person may be a witness.

\*\*The reason that non-Catholics cannot be official godparents/sponsors is because the godparents take a vow to support and assist parents in training the child in the practice of the Catholic faith. In order to do so, the godparent/sponsor must be a practicing Catholic.

# Responses for the Rite of Baptism

AFTER ALL PRAYERS, RESPOND ... **AMEN.**

Celebrant: ...through (or in) Christ our Lord.  
All: **AMEN.**

Celebrant: What name do you give your child?  
Parents: **SAY YOUR CHILD'S FIRST AND MIDDLE NAME**

Celebrant: What do you ask of God's Church for NAME?  
Parents: **BAPTISM**

Celebrant: You have asked to have your child baptized. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training him/her in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him/her up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and neighbor. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?  
Parents: **WE DO.**

*To the Godparents...*

Celebrant: Are you ready to help these parents in their duty as Christian mothers and fathers?  
Godparents: **WE ARE.**

Celebrant: NAME, the Christian community welcomes you with great joy. In its name I claim you for Christ our Savior by the Sign of the Cross. I now trace the cross on your foreheads, and invite your parents (and godparents) to do the same.

## Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Celebrant: Dear parents and godparents: You have come here to present this child for Baptism. By water and the Holy Spirit he/she is to receive the gift of new life from God, who is love. On your part, you must make it your constant care to bring him/her up in the practice of the faith. See that the divine life that God gives him/her is kept safe from the poison of sin, to grow always stronger in his/her heart. If your faith makes you ready to accept this responsibility, renew now the vows of your own Baptism. Reject sin; profess your faith in Christ Jesus. This is the faith of the Church. This is the faith in which this child is about to be baptized

Celebrant: Do you reject Satan?  
All: **I DO.**

Celebrant: And all his works?  
All: **I DO.**

Celebrant: And all his empty promises?  
All: **I DO.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in God, the Father almighty; creator of heaven and earth?  
All: **I DO.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?  
All: **I DO.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?  
All: **I DO.**

Celebrant: This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it, in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

All: **AMEN.**

### **Baptism**

Celebrant: Is it your will that NAME be baptized in the faith of the Church, which we have just professed?

Parents & godparents: **IT IS.**

Celebrant: *as he pours water over the child*

NAME, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

### **Anointing after Baptism**

Celebrant: The God of power and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin and brought you to new life through water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into his holy people.

He now anoints you with the Chrism of salvation, so that, united with his people, you may remain forever a member of Christ who is priest, prophet, and King.

All: **AMEN.**

### **Clothing with a White Garment**

Celebrant: NAME, you have become a new creation, and have clothed yourself in Christ.

See in this white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity. With your family and friends to help you by word and example, bring that dignity unstained into the everlasting life of heaven.

All: **AMEN.**

### **Lighted Candle**

Celebrant: Receive the light of Christ.

Parents and godparents, this light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly. This child of yours has been enlightened by Christ. He/She is to walk always as child of the light. May he/she keep the flame of faith alive in his/her heart. When the Lord comes, may he/she go out to meet him with all the Saints of the heavenly kingdom.

### **Conclusion Rite**

Celebrant: You have put on Christ . . . In the name of this child, in the Spirit of our common sonship, let us pray together in the words our Lord has given us:

All: **Our Father...**

### **Blessing and Dismissal**

#### **Blessing of Mother**

Celebrant: . . . in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: **AMEN.**

#### **Blessing of Father**

Celebrant: . . . in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: **AMEN.**

#### **Blessing of All**

Celebrant: . . . in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: **AMEN.**

*Make the Sign of the Cross as the celebrant prays...*

Celebrant: May almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you.

All: **AMEN.**

Celebrant: Go in peace.

All: **THANKS BE TO GOD.**