

## Choosing Your Baby's Godparents

Selecting your baby's godparents is an important part of preparing for your baby's baptism. Godparents have a special role in participating in your godchild's Christian life and formation. This role offers you and your baby's godparents the opportunity to develop a mutually enriching spiritual relationship, one that will last throughout this life and beyond.

### Godparents

- Should be at least 16 years of age
- Must be a fully initiated (has celebrated Baptism, Confirmation and Communion) and practicing Catholic.
- A person baptized in another Christian tradition may be a second godparent.

## WHAT ARE YOUR EXPECTATIONS FOR YOUR BABY'S GODPARENTS?

Because of their special role in supporting you in training your child in the practice of the Catholic faith, you should share your expectations with your baby's godparents. There are many ways you can involve your child's godparents in a spiritual relationship with you and your child.

- Invite your child's godparents to a celebration of the anniversary of your child's Baptism each year. Even if you are unable to get together physically, you can "visit" with a phone call or Internet connection.
- Each year, talk with your child's godparents about how your child has grown in faith over the last year.
- Encourage your child to regularly connect with his/her godparents. As your godchild grows, having another trusted adult in his/her life will be a valued blessing.
- Invite your child's godparents to celebrate events with your family: Christmas and Easter...faith and personal milestones such as First Holy Communion, First Reconciliation, Confirmation, graduation, first job, engagement and Marriage.
- Have your child pray regularly for his/her godparents.
- Turn to your child's godparents for advice. Talk to godparents about your questions and concerns, hopes and dreams for your child's life, including physical, emotional, psychological, and spiritual development.
- If possible, invite your child's godparents to attend Mass with you.
- If you need help with transportation, scheduling or other details regarding your child's attendance at faith formation programs, turn to your child's godparents for assistance.