

## Baptism FAQs

***Q: Can the child be baptized even if parents are living together but not married?***

A: Parents' marital status is not a condition for getting the child baptized but parents should consider getting married in the Catholic church. Parents are role models for their children. They have to lead by example. Our own baptism calls us to live our faith life according to the teachings of the Lord Jesus and His Church.

***Q: What are the requirements to get our child baptized?***

A:

- a. You must be registered parishioners. If you have been coming to OLPH but have not registered, you may download the form from the parish website. Complete it and send it in.
- b. Complete the baptism forms which can be downloaded from the parish website or picked up from the parish office. Turn these completed forms no later than one week prior to first day of classes.
- c. There is also an interview with Julia prior to start of classes.
- d. Parents and godparents must attend baptism preparation classes. The schedule of classes and baptism can be downloaded from the parish website or picked up from the parish office.
- e. You must also attend the presentation for baptism the week before baptism, and also the welcoming at the weekend mass following baptism. All of these will be discussed during classes.

***Q: How many godparents can we have?***

A: Canon Law (the laws of the Church) says one is good, but you may have two : one man and one woman.

***Q: Can we have more than two godparents?***

A: Only two names will be shown on the baptismal certificate and baptismal record. The others (secondary) may attend the baptism and be part of the celebration.

***Q: How much do we have to pay?***

A: We do not have a set fee for baptism but we are asking for donations. You will be given envelopes on your third class. The envelopes are clearly marked "For Baptism". You may give the envelope to the priest after baptism or drop it in the collection basket at Mass.

***Q: What if one parent is not Catholic?***

A: We still baptize the baby with the understanding that the non-Catholic parent agrees to the baptism and that the child will be raised Catholic. It will be the responsibility of the Catholic parent to raise the child Catholic.

***Q: What if the godparent belongs to another parish?***

A: Godparents will still need to complete the godparent forms and attend baptism classes either here at OLPH or at their own parish. If they attend the classes at their own parish, their pastor or person in-charge of baptism must send a letter certifying that the godparent attended baptism preparation classes.

***Q: Can Christians be godparents?***

A: Godparents must be fully initiated Roman Catholic. Fully initiated means they are baptized in the Roman Catholic Church, have received First Holy Communion and are Confirmed. Catholics are also Christians.

If by “Christians” you refer to non-Catholic Christians, such as evangelicals, or Protestants, they could be “Christian witness” but not godparents. Furthermore, you could only have a Christian witness if you have a Catholic godparent.