

Preparing for your child's Baptism

This checklist is for parents arranging a child's Baptism. Adult preparation follows a different path. Your parish will explain eligibility, preparation and the records it needs; requirements are not identical everywhere.

Begin with your parish

☐ **Contact the parish**

Explain your child's age and whether any Baptism has already taken place. Ask about the appropriate next step.

☐ **Ask about preparation**

Check class arrangements, possible dates and any accessibility or language needs.

☐ **Confirm the records**

Ask which documents are needed, how to provide them securely and when they are due.

Prepare together

☐ **Discuss godparents**

Ask the parish about eligibility before making an invitation. Talk with potential godparents about ongoing support in faith.

☐ **Learn what happens**

Ask about the rite, who takes part and which items the parish provides.

☐ **Plan for your child**

Allow for feeding, rest, transport and guests. A simple celebration is enough.

Our parish conversation

Parish / contact: _____ Meeting date: _____

After Baptism

☐ **Keep the certificate**

Store the certificate safely and ask how to request a replacement if needed.

☐ **Continue a small rhythm**

Mark the anniversary, stay in touch with godparents and begin an age-appropriate family prayer habit.

Questions to bring

Which preparation and documents apply to our family?

What are the godparent requirements and how are they confirmed?

What support is available for family prayer after Baptism?

What our parish asks us to do

Dates and next steps

Teaching reference: Catechism 1246-1255: receiving Baptism. Read the source and companion guide at lifeofacatholic.com/sacraments/baptism/.