

A photograph of a baby being baptized in a baptismal font. The baby is lying on their back, wearing a white lace christening gown. A hand is pouring water from a white shell into the baby's hair. The font has blue mosaic tiles. The background is a wooden surface.

PREPARING TO HAVE YOUR CHILD

Baptized

(Infants and children under age 7)



ARCHDIOCESE OF DENVER



BAPTISM IS

More Than You Realize

Have you ever wondered what happens when a person is baptized *in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit?*

Children of the Father

You become of child of God through baptism. Adam and Eve are our first parents. When Adam and Eve sinned, it corrupted their hearts, their minds, and even their flesh. In baptism, we go from being children of Adam and Eve to becoming children of God. St. John the Evangelist wrote, "But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God" (John 1:12-13).

Into the Likeness of Jesus Christ

You are saved from sin through baptism by the power of Jesus' cross and resurrection. Jesus does this not by giving us the gift for our own use but by drawing us into himself, to become a part of his body. It is the grace of baptism that continues to transform us throughout our lives to change our hearts and become more like the one who saved us.

Filled with the Holy Spirit

You become a temple of the Holy Spirit through baptism. When Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit descended upon him like a dove and that event was the catalyst for him to fulfill his calling as Messiah. When a person is baptized, the Holy Spirit fills them with the same spirit and gifts that dwell within Jesus. This includes the grace to grow in virtue and in the gifts of the Holy Spirit. In addition to these gifts the sacrament also provides distinctive missions, anointings and graces that will assist the baptized in living a life of fullness and greatness, bringing glory to God.



visit archden.org/sacraments



Preparation Steps For Baptism

1. Call Your Parish

A member of the parish staff will guide you through the following steps.

2. Complete Baptism Info Form

This information will be used to record the celebration of the sacrament in the parish's official sacramental records. When your child is later confirmed and celebrates either holy matrimony or holy orders, anywhere in the world, the record of that celebration will be recorded at the parish where he/she was baptized.

3. Complete Godparent Eligibility Form(s)

Godparents stand as representatives of the Catholic Church during the celebration of baptism but also provide the parents with support in raising their children in the Catholic faith. This form ensures that a godparent is eligible according to the Church's law to assume this duty. Godparents must be over 16, confirmed, in a valid sacramental marriage (if married), and be actively practicing the faith.

4. Baptism Preparation Program

When a baby is baptized, he/she is baptized based on the desire and faith of the parent(s). Because of this, we offer the opportunity to learn why we baptize, what baptism is, and what the effects and obligations are that go along with it. This preparation will inform the parents and godparents in those areas and empower them to make the promises that are proclaimed during a baptism celebration. ***Both the parents and godparents are required to attend a baptism preparation program.***

5. Schedule the Baptism With Your Parish

While the main priority is getting the child baptized, you are encouraged to pay attention to special dates, feast days, and the patron saints of those days on the liturgical calendar. God does everything for a reason and the date that your child is baptized will likely have grace-filled implications for the rest of their life!

6. Celebration of Baptism!

Congratulations to you and your little one! Today begins the life-long journey of receiving and being transformed by the radical love of God through Jesus Christ. Welcome to the family!

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

Baptism Schedule

The Church teaches “**the parents** of an infant to be baptized **and** those who are to undertake the function of **sponsor** are to be instructed properly on the meaning of this sacrament and the obligations attached to it”. Canon 851, 2°

Baptism Preparation Class	Baptism Celebration Day
<p>The Baptism Preparation classes are offered once a month on the first Tuesday at 7:00pm.</p> <p>Register for the Baptism preparation class <u>no later than the Thursday before the class.</u> Register online at stmichael-aurora.org (Sacraments > Baptism) or call Mary Ann at (303) 690-2329.</p>	<p>The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the first and third Saturday of the month at 9:00am.</p> <p>Baptism celebration date will be scheduled during the Baptism preparation class and must be scheduled at least seven (7) days after the attendance of class.</p>

Baptism Preparation Class Schedule 2023-20224

December 5	January 2	February 6	March 12
April 2	May 7	June 4	July 2

If the parents and godparents have already attended a class, they must provide a letter with the date of attendance.

Baptism Schedule 2023-2024

December 2	January 6 & 20	February 3 & 17	March 2
April 6 & 20	May 4 & 18	June 1 & 15	July 6 & 20

Remember to submit:

- ✓ Copy of baby’s birth certificate
- ✓ Attached forms, completed. The sponsor eligibility form must be signed and sealed by their home parish.
- ✓ Sacramental proof for sponsors. If the sponsor is single, we need a copy of the Confirmation certificate. If the sponsor is married, we need a copy of the Marriage certificate in the Catholic Church.

Please contact the parish office if you have any questions



Baptism Information

Child's Information

Child's First Name _____ Middle _____ Last Name _____

Male Female _____ Date of Birth _____

City and State of Birth (*This information must match birth certificate.*) If child is not born yet, leave this blank.

Parents' Information

Father's First Name _____ Middle _____ Last Name _____

Catholic: Yes No

Mother's First Name _____ Middle _____ Maiden Name _____

Catholic: Yes No

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email Address _____

Godparent Information

Godfather's First Name _____ Middle _____ Last Name _____

Godmother's First Name _____ Middle _____ Last Name _____

** If there is only one Catholic godparent, a baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic Christian church may participate as a Christian Witness to the baptism, but does not take on the role or title of godparent.*

Christian Witness First Name _____ Middle _____ Last Name _____

We/I affirm that all the information provided above is true. We/I are requesting the sacrament of Baptism for our child through the parish. It is our intent to raise our child as a Roman Catholic.

Father's Signature _____ Date _____ Mother's Signature _____ Date _____



Godparent/Sponsor Eligibility Form

Congratulations on being asked to be a Godparent/Sponsor! By accepting this role, you are committing to play a significant role in this person's life, sharing the faith and encouraging him/her in his/her journey as a Catholic. If you are serving as a godparent for baptism, please attend a preparation class at your parish prior to the scheduled baptism. Please take the completed form to your parish and have it signed and sealed by the pastor or their representative. **Once complete, please return the form to the parents.**

Name of child receiving sacrament:

	First Name	Middle
	First Name	Middle
	Home Phone	Cell Phone

Name of Your Catholic Parish:

Parish Name	City	State

Qualifications of a Godparent/Sponsor

In accord with *Canon Law 874*, please provide the following information. **If you do not meet all of these requirements, please let the parents know immediately.**

1. A Godparent/Sponsor must be fully initiated into the Catholic Church. Please indicate whether you have received the three Sacraments of Initiation.
 Baptism: Yes No Confirmed in the Catholic Church: Yes No First Eucharist: Yes No
2. A Godparent/Sponsor must be at least 16 years old. Are you 16 or older? Yes No
3. A Godparent/Sponsor cannot be a parent of the child to be baptized. Are you a parent of the child? Yes No
4. A Godparent/Sponsor must be a practicing Catholic.
 Do you attend Mass on Sunday and on Holy Days of Obligation, and regularly receive the sacraments of Holy Communion and Reconciliation? Do you follow the Ten Commandments? Yes No
5. Regarding the 6th Commandment, a Godparent/Sponsor must be in good standing with the Catholic Church.
 - If married, he/she must be married in the Catholic Church and living in accord with Church teaching.
 - If single, he/she must be living according to Church teaching.
 - Catholics who were married by a Justice of the Peace, at another Christian church without special permission, and those cohabiting do not meet the requirements of this role.
 Based on these guidelines, are you in good standing with the Church? Yes No
6. *Godparent only* - I have attended a baptism preparation class in the past four months at my home parish or the parish of baptism.
 Yes No

I have truthfully answered the above questions and declare that I fulfill the Catholic Church's requirements of a Godparent/Sponsor. I commit to the responsibility of acting as a Godparent/Sponsor.

Godparent/Sponsor Signature	Date

The person who has signed this form above has testified that they fulfill all canonical requirements to serve as a godparent in the Catholic Church. To be signed and sealed by the Godparent's/Sponsor's Parish of Record:

Signature of Pastor or Pastor's Designee	Date

(Seal)

Parish Name	Parish City/State



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