



Dear Parents,

We welcome you and your family with great joy to St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church for the preparation and celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism of your child.

If you are not a registered member of St. Catherine's, we encourage you to do so. Church Registration forms are available in the church office, [online](#) and in the Narthex of the Church.

In asking to have your child baptized, you are also accepting the responsibility of training your child in their lifelong practice of the Catholic faith. Those you select as godparents are to be prepared to help you in your duty as Christian parents.

Completion of a Baptism instructional class for both parents and godparents is requested. Attendance will be waived if a Baptism class has been completed within the last 3 years. A certificate or letter of completion is required for parents/godparents if they had attended class elsewhere other than St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church. Parents/godparents may attend a class at any parish. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church will not have any in-person classes for the foreseeable future. All Baptismal preparation classes will be held online.

To register to have your child baptized at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, please visit the parish website and complete the [Baptism Online registration](#).

The following forms must be completed and submitted before a Baptism Date can be chosen:

- **Completed Baptism registration form.** Parents must have completed or be participating in a Baptismal Preparation Program
- **Copy of State-issued Birth Certificate:** Parents must provide the church with a copy of the state-issued birth certificate of the child to be baptized. (If the child is not yet born, please contact Jennifer Gamblin to discuss.)
- **Godparent Covenant Forms:** Godparents must complete and sign the Godparent Covenant forms that are available on the parish website.

Please see the following pages for baptism guidelines, information on the preparation classes and schedules for upcoming online preparation classes, and Baptism dates.

For more information, please call Jennifer Gamblin at (512) 892-2420 ext. 331 with any questions or issues.

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**FOR PARENTS**

Parent(s) must be registered parishioners of St. Catherine of Siena or live within the parish boundaries. If parents do not live within the boundaries AND do not intend to register as parishioners, a letter from the pastor of their proper parish is required, granting permission to have the child baptized at St. Catherine's.

**QUALIFICATIONS FOR GODPARENTS**

The child to be baptized is required to have one godparent but may have the customary two (one male – godfather, one female – godmother). A godparent must be a fully initiated practicing Catholic, meaning the godparent must have received all of the Sacraments of Initiation – Baptism, Eucharist (1<sup>st</sup> Communion) and Confirmation. If godparents are married (to each or to other spouses), they must be married in the Catholic Church.

- Godparents must be at least 16 years of age
- Godparents must provide written proof of completion in a godparent preparation program within the last 2 years or be participating in a godparent preparation program. If godparent is not able to find a godparent program, a written letter from their church stating they are fully initiated and practicing Catholics is required.
- Godparents must complete and sign the “[Covenant Form](#)” that is available on the parish website
- Godparents can register to attend the Godparent Class through St. Catherine of Siena on the parish website. *If Godparents reside outside the Austin area, they may elect to attend instruction at their local Parish. The Pastor of the Parish where instruction is received must provide a letter to St. Catherine of Siena which includes the name of the child to be baptized and the date of the scheduled Baptism.*

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**THE RITE OF INFANT BAPTISM IS SCHEDULED AT 10:30 A.M. ON THE DATES SHOWN BELOW.**

Parents and Godparents should be in the Narthex of the church NO LATER THAN 10:15 A.M.

To schedule a Baptism date, please call Jennifer Gamblin at (512) 892-2420 ext. 331.

**2024 Baptism Dates**

January 13	February 3
April 13	April 20
May 11	May 25
June 8	June 22
July 13	July 27
August 10	August 24
September 7	September 21
October 12	October 26
November 9	November 23
December 14	December 21

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**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION FOR PARENTS:**

**Part 1:** Complete the online sacramental preparation course, *“Belonging: Baptism in the Family of God”* available through Ascension Press (Ascensionpress.com). The current cost of this online course is \$9.95. Access this course at [Belonging, Certification Course – Ascension](#). Once the course is completed, you will receive a Completion Certificate.

Email your completion certificate to Jennifer Gamblin at [jennifer.gamblin@stcatherine-austin.org](mailto:jennifer.gamblin@stcatherine-austin.org).

**Part 2:** Attend a scheduled Online Class with Adult Faith Formation Director, Pam Neumann.

After completing the online class and submitting the certificate to Jennifer Gamblin, you will attend a Zoom meeting where you will meet with our Adult Faith Formation Director, Pam Neumann, and connect to the parish. Pam will answer your questions and go over everything you need to know about the day of baptism at St Catherine of Siena. You will receive the meeting link from Jennifer Gamblin. *Please complete part one first and provide the certificate before attending the Zoom meeting.*

**Parent Online Classes:**

Parent online classes are held on a scheduled Saturday from 10 a.m. to Noon.  
You may select your class preference when you complete the online Baptism registration form.

**2024 Parent Class Dates**

January 20	February 17
March 16	April 20
May 18	June 15
July – no class	August 17
September 21	October 19
November 16	December 14

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**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION FOR GODPARENTS:**

**Part 1:** Watch the following sessions from “*REBORN: You, Your Child, and the Heart of Baptism*” available on FORMED.org. We encourage you to watch all sessions for your own spiritual growth. *View these videos prior to attending the scheduled online class.*

1. Reborn - Session 2: “*Entering the Mystery: The Rite Explained*” (24 minutes)
2. Reborn - “*The Gift of Godparents: More Than Cards & Presents*” (38 minutes)

To access these videos from FORMED.org:

- Go to [FORMED.org/signup](https://www.formed.org/signup)
- Find our parish by entering zip code, **78749** and select St. Catherine of Siena
- Register with your name and email address
- In FORMED, select “Programs” from the title bar and locate “The Sacraments”
- Click on REBORN to watch the videos.

**Complete the “Godparent Class Questions”** at [stcatherine-austin.org/godparent-questions](https://stcatherine-austin.org/godparent-questions) prior to attending the online Godparent Class. Your answers will be submitted to Jennifer Gamblin and will be used to satisfy the requirements of the Godparent Class.

**Part 2:** Attend a scheduled Online Class with Adult Faith Formation Director, Pam Neumann.

Godparent online classes are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

You may select your class preference when you complete the online [Godparent registration form](#).

**2024 Godparent Class Dates**

January 3	February 7
March 6	April 3
May 1	June 5
July – no class	August 7
September 4	October 2
November 6	December 4