

## REQUIREMENTS FOR BAPTISM

Inquiries regarding baptism must be made by the child's parents. Parent(s) of the child being baptized must be registered parishioners of St. Christopher's. In certain circumstances families living outside of the parish boundaries may have their child baptized at St. Christopher's with the written permission of their home parish.

Parents must attend a Pre-Baptism Parent class before scheduling the baptism. You must register for this class by calling the Parish Office at 410-643-6220. It is recommended that parents attend the class before the child is born. If you have previously attended a Pre-Baptism class, please note that the class is required if it has been three years or more since you attended. Proof of attendance is required.

## GODPARENT ELIGIBILITY

The child must have at least one Catholic Godparent. You may have no more than two Godparents – in which case one must be male and one female. You may not have two Godmothers or two Godfathers.

To be eligible to be a catholic Godparent, the person must have received all of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist). If the person is married, they must have been married in the catholic church. The person must be at least 16 years of age.

There must be one Godparent. If you choose to have two, one must be male and the other female.

A Letter or Certificate of Eligibility must be obtained by the Godparent from their pastor who recommends that the person is worthy of being a Godparent because they are actively practicing and living their catholic faith, i.e., attending church weekly. This letter must be sent to the Pastor of St. Christopher's at least one month prior to the scheduled baptism.

If a Godparent cannot be present for the baptism, a proxy may be named by the Godparent and the proxy must meet the same requirements as an actual Godparent.

A non-Catholic is not referred to as "Godparent"; they will be listed in our records and on the baptismal certificate as "Christian Witness". A Christian Witness must have been baptized in a Christian Faith and be practicing their faith as well.