



MARY HELP of CHRISTIANS

Catholic Parish

Infant Baptism Guidelines

(Ages (0-6))

The Ceremony of the Sacrament of Baptism

Schedule

- Baptisms are scheduled on Sundays at 1:30 PM (exceptions may apply during Holy Week, Christmas, New Year, Thanksgiving, national holidays or due to severe weather conditions such as hurricanes or tropical storms). The Baptism family should arrive at the church at least 15 minutes before the scheduled time.

Baptismal Gown, Candle and Bib

- Children receiving the Sacrament of Baptism should be dressed in a white gown. We will provide the Baptismal Candle and the Baptismal Bib (or Cloth), as a symbolic gift from the parish. These are yours to keep as a reminder of this joyous milestone in your infant's life.

Baptism Offering

- For families that have been registered at MHOC for 6 months or over, the Baptism Offering is \$75.00. An offering envelope will be provided after the ceremony by the priest or deacon. For the Baptism offering of non-registered families or private Baptisms, please contact Ana Rocco at the Parish Office 954-323-8028 or e-mail Ana.Rocco@mhocrc.org.

Requirements

1. Fill out a Baptism Request Form (to download it, visit www.mhocrc.org/baptism).
2. Submit the Baptism Request Form duly completed with copy of the child's Birth Certificate to Ana.Rocco@mhocrc.org or bring them to the Parish Office.
3. Godparents (sponsors) must meet the following qualifications:
 - Be at least 16 years of age.
 - Have received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation.
 - Be a practicing Catholic and member of a parish (a practicing Catholic is a person who attends the Holy Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of obligation).
 - Godparents must present a sponsor letter or eligibility form from their church or parish, certifying that they meet the requirements to be godparents.
 - A godparent who is a member of MHOC will not need a sponsor letter, however, eligibility will be subject to verification of mass attendance.

- At least ONE of the godparents must meet ALL the requirements. The other godparent, as long as he/she is a practicing, baptized Catholic or non-Catholic Christian, can be a Christian Witness of the Baptism.
- Parents and godparents must attend the Pre-Baptismal Class. Please note that MHOC is not offering in person classes at this time.
- The Pre-Baptismal Class is available online ONLY for registered parishioners of MHOC.
- To take the class online, you must have submitted first the Baptism documents. Then, visit our webpage www.mhocrc.org/baptism. Scroll down to the Reborn section at the bottom of the page and follow the instructions to sign up with Formed.org and watch the videos. Once you are done with the videos, call or e-mail Ana Rocco at the Parish Office for instructions on how to get certified for the Pre-Baptismal Class.
- If you prefer, you may attend a baptism preparation class at a parish or church near you. A letter or certificate of attendance from that church/parish indicating the class date will be required by MHOC.

NOTE: All necessary paperwork should be completed and submitted to the Parish Office at least TWO weeks prior to the baptism.

We look forward to helping you plan your child's Baptism. If you have any questions please contact Ana Rocco at Ana.Rocco@mhocrc.org or at (954) 323-8028.

*WE ARE CALLED TO LIVE OUR BAPTISM EVERY DAY
AS NEW CREATURES, CLOTHED IN CHRIST.
~ POPE FRANCIS*