

Baptismal Preparation

To: Parents and Godparents who are preparing for a child's baptism

Please consider the following questions while watching the first three videos of the REBORN series on St Gabriel website (<https://saintgabriel.net>) or FORMED.ORG. After watching each video, got down a few brief notes to answer each question and note any questions you have about the material in the videos. Please bring your notes and questions to the onsite Discussion Session which will be scheduled at St Gabriel.

Video 1: A New Creation

1. Have you ever attended a Baptism? What details do you remember about it?

2. Which "type" (representation) of baptism in the Old Testament caught your attention the most? Did any of those "types" of baptism come as a surprise to you? Explain.

3. Ezekiel 36:25-26 says, "I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean... A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you." What do you think it means to have a new heart and a new spirit through Baptism?

4. Why do you desire Baptism for your child or godchild? What is your deepest desire for your child or godchild in Baptism?

Video 2: Entering the Mystery: The Rite Explained

5. What are some choices you have already made for your child (or observed other parents making for their children)? What would be the potential consequences of delaying these decisions until the child is old enough to make them for him/herself? What are some of the reasons you are choosing Baptism for your child or supporting the choice of the parents of your godchild?

6. Baptism brings us into the family of God, the Church. This means much more than just being welcomed into the local parish. The family of God stretches across time and culture. What does it mean to you to be part of the family of God? How will you help your child or godchild understand and live out his or her identity as part of the family of God?

7. The Catechism states, "Incorporated into Christ by Baptism, the person baptized is configured to Christ. Baptism seals the Christian with the indelible spiritual mark (character) of his belonging to Christ (CCC1272). This indelible seal marks us as belonging to God, and nothing can change or erase the seal of Baptism. What does it mean to you to be marked as belonging to Christ? Why is it important to you that your child or godchild be marked by this seal now?

Video 3: Nurturing the Life of Grace

8. Why is the Christian life meant to be lived out in community? What effect has the community of faith had on you?

9. Which aspect of the threefold mission of Priest, Prophet, and King do you think is easiest to live out? Which do you think is hardest? Why?

10. Who are your godparents? How have they impacted your faith? How do you see godparents impacting the faith of your child?
