



Welcome to Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Baptism

Congratulations on the next step in your family's faith journey. The baptism of a child is one of the greatest gifts God has given us. Raising that child in our faith can be one of the greatest challenges. The parish and staff at Blessed Sacrament are here to help you and support you in the preparation of this Sacrament and to foster your child's relationship with the Lord.

The Sacrament of Baptism is a living sign with a beautiful ritual that connects us to the seen and unseen. As we contemplate the signs of Baptism, we will discover how God's light and love will guide, guard and protect us throughout our lives from birth to death. During the ritual of Baptism we will renew our own Baptismal promises and stand before one another, family and friends as well as the priest and parish community, and make a covenant with God that we will raise your child in the faith and nurture their relationship with Jesus. The promise will be renewed throughout their lives and is a reminder of the covenantal promise you have made as Catholic parents.

Use this checklist to help you plan your child's baptism.

- ☐ Please contact Jacqui Hayes, Family Formation Coordinator, at jacqui@blsacrament.org as soon as possible to discuss a date and make arrangements for a meeting. Baptisms occur on the weekdays, in the late afternoon- early evenings. Weekend baptisms are on Saturdays from 11:00 AM-3:00 PM or on Sundays after the 11:00 AM Mass until early evening. We also baptize during any of the Sunday Masses (Saturday- 5:00 PM, Sunday- 7:30, 9:00, & 11:00 AM).
- ☐ If this is your first child, it is policy in the Diocese of Madison that you must have formation. There can be no exceptions to this policy. This can be arranged with Jacqui.
 - ☐ We use the Reborn program on Formed.org. Jacqui will help set this up.
- ☐ You will find an online baptism registration form at www.blsacrament.org/baptism. Please complete the form in its entirety with all the necessary information that is needed for planning the Baptism. Your child's Record of Baptism will be recorded in our parish Baptismal Church Record and will serve as the official place of record for all future sacraments, including marriage. Please submit this form as soon as possible to reserve your date and time.

- ☐ When selecting Godparents please note that it is required that at least one must be an active practicing Catholic. Parents may not be Godparents. This is church law. A Godparent must be baptized and confirmed Catholic and an active member of a Parish. They must attend Mass regularly and have received the Sacrament of Eucharist. If you choose two Godparents, they must be man and one woman, to mirror the parentage of a child. Godparents should be comfortable praying and talking about their personal relationship with Jesus and the Church. And most of all, Godparents should love your child. It is encouraged to have your child's Godparents active in your child's life and to celebrate with them the Sacraments of the Church as your child journeys through his/her Catholic faith.
 - ☐ ***Godparents will need to submit a letter of good standing from their parish with the parish seal on it. It should be sent directly from their parish to our office. We need this letter at LEAST 1-week in advance of the baptism.***
- ☐ You are asked to arrive 15 minutes before the Mass begins or the time of the Baptism if it is outside of the Mass. This will give the priest time to review the sacramental rite with you. There will be reserved seating for you and your family in the front of the Church.
- ☐ There is a \$30 stole fee for the Sacrament, payable directly to Father.
 - ☐ *(This is usually given in a thank-you card at the time of baptism.)*

Baptism is a very special ritual in which your child is transformed through the special graces given to us by Jesus Christ, himself. Baptism makes us one with Christ and enables us to resist the "sin of the world." It is our bridge to divine life and the love of the most blessed Trinity.

Congratulations and I look forward to working with you.

Blessings,

Jacqui