

Sacrament of Baptism

By baptism one is incorporated into the Church of Christ and is constituted a person in it with the duties and rights which are proper to Christians in keeping with their condition. (Code of Canon Law n.96)

Where should I baptized?

“As a rule an adult is to be baptized in his or her parish church and an infant in the parish church of the parents unless a just cause suggests otherwise.” (Canon Law 857 & 2) If you are a Catholic that lives in Ellensburg and want to baptize your son or daughter in another parish, you will need a letter from the pastor of Saint Andrew.

If you don't live in Ellensburg and want to baptize your child in this parish, you will need a letter from your parish saying you have permission to baptize in this parish.

Definition of infants, minors and adults.

Canon Law number n. 97 says “a person who has completed the eighteenth year of age has reached majority; below this age, a person is a minor.”

A minor before the completion of the seventh year is called an infant and is considered not responsible for oneself. With the completion of the seventh year, however, a minor is presumed to have the use of reason.

A child who has not completed his/her seventh year may be baptized at the parents' request. If the child is age 8 or above, the child must attend 2 years of preparation classes and celebrate all sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil (Bap. Com. Conf.)

Pre-baptismal preparation:

The Canon Law n. 851 & 2 says that “the parents of an infant to be baptized and those who are to undertake the function of sponsor are to be instructed properly on the meaning of this sacrament and the obligations attached to it.” The parents and sponsors have to attend a class before the baptism of the child.

Sponsors:

There is to be only one male sponsor or one female sponsor or one of each. (Canon Law n. 873)

To be permitted to take on the function of sponsor a person must: Have completed the sixteenth year of age.

Be a Catholic who has been Confirmed and has already received the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist and who leads a life of faith in keeping with the function to be taken on (no cohabitation)

Attends Mass on a regular basis.

A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community is not to participate, except together with a Catholic sponsor, and then only as a witness of the baptism.

Can I baptized my infant if I am not married?

Yes, but the sponsors have to be married in the Catholic Church and bring a copy of the marriage certificate.

PREPARATION CLASS

The classes are offered the last Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m., excluding holy days.

Call the office a week before to let us know you are coming to the class.

Bring a copy of the state birth certificate of the infant to be baptized.

If you do not know yet when are you going to baptize, come to the class and decide the date when you are ready.

The class is only for parents and sponsors. Sorry, we are unable to provide child care during class.

The baptism are scheduled on the first or the third Saturday and Sunday of the month during the Mass. Baptisms are not celebrated during Lent.

If you want to baptize your infant on a different day, please talk with the Pastor.

Come at least 30 minutes before the baptism.

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INFORMATION
FOR
THE SACRAMENT
OF BAPTISM
FOR
INFANTS