



10. CLOTHING AND CANDLE

A white Christening gown is customary but not required. If a hat is worn, it should be removed for the baptism. The parish will often provide a white Baptismal bib and a candle. After the ceremony they will be yours to keep as a reminder of this joyous sacrament. The candle can be burned on Baptismal anniversaries and when the child receives other sacraments in the future.



11. FAMILY DONATION

There is no fee, however many families wish to offer a donation on the occasion of their child's Baptism. This may be placed in an envelope and given to the priest on the day of the baptism when you are issued your child's baptism certificate. Please make sure to indicate that the donation is for the occasion of your child's baptism.

12. BAPTISM RECORD AND CERTIFICATE

The baptism will be recorded in the permanent records of the parish from the information you provide. Therefore please be sure of the accuracy of information and the spelling of names. A baptism certificate will be given to you following the baptism. They become permanent and historic records, these records cannot be changed.

PARENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE NECESSARY REQUIREMENTS. ONCE YOU HAVE COLLECTED ALL THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION FOR YOUR CHILDS BAPTISM YOU CAN FILL OUT A REGISTRATION FORM AT THE PARISH RECTORY OFFICE AND SELECT A DATE.

NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE, THANK YOU.

CHECK LIST

- I have read the requirements and understand what is required.
- Active Registered Parishioner of St. Vito's (Minimum of 2 Months)
- Pastor's Permission Letter (Non Parishioners, Pastors Signature, Church Seal)
- Child's Birth Certificate (Present Original, we will make a copy)
- Sponsor (s) Certificate (For Married & Single Godparents)
- Marriage Certificate (Married Godparents)
- Sacrament Certificates (Single Godparents)
- Baptismal Instruction Letter (For out of town Parent's or Godparent's)

PREPARATION CLASS DATE

Date _____ Time _____
Month Day Year

BAPTISM CEREMONY DATE

Date _____ Time _____
Month Day Year

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM REQUIREMENTS



*Congratulations! We are excited to celebrate the
Sacrament of Baptism of your child.*

Church of Saint Vito



1. REGISTERED PARISHIONER OF ST. VITO'S

Parents of the child to be baptized must be registered and active members of St. Vito's for at least **2 MONTHS**. If you are not a parishioner of St. Vito's you will need a letter from your Pastor with the seal of the Church that you belong to, where he authorizes the Church of St. Vito's to celebrate the Baptism. If you attend St. Vito's and you are not registered you may do so at any time during office hours. You will be required to supply your parishioner number when scheduling the baptism.



2. SELECTING GODPARENTS

Godparents play a very important role in your child's spiritual life. They should serve as role models of faith. Therefore, the Godparents should be carefully chosen. In recognizing the importance of the Godparents and their duties, the Church has provided guidelines to help parents choose the best possible Godparent for their children. St. Vito's adheres to Canon Law in all aspects of Baptism. If potential Godparents are not practicing members of the church or have converted from the Catholic faith to any other faith, they should not be considered and will not be accepted.

The Church Requirements for Roman Catholic Godparents are:

- (a) A child must have a practicing Roman Catholic Godparent in good standing and be actively participating with the Church.
- (b) These Godparents must be at least **16 YEARS OLD** and be mature enough to understand, accept and carry out the duties of a Godparent.
- (c) A Godparent must be living an exemplary life consistent with faith and morals taught by the Roman Catholic Church.
- (d) If married, the Godparent must be **MARRIED IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**. Godparents who are single must be **BAPTIZED** Catholics who have received the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist and **CONFIRMATION**.
- (e) If you choose only one godparent, you are free to choose a male or a female. However, if you wish to have two godparents, there must be one male and one female.
- (f) If both are Catholic, both must meet all the criteria above. A baptized person who belongs to a Non-Catholic ecclesial community is not to participate except together with a Catholic Godparent and then only as a witness of the baptism.

3. AGE REQUIREMENT

The sacrament of baptism can only be scheduled for infants and children under 5 years of age. Children who are older than 5 years of age must take one year of Religious Education before being baptized. Adults who wish to be baptized must register for the adult preparation courses that begin in the fall. For more information please contact the parish office.



4. CHILDS BIRTH CERTIFICATE

The child's Original Birth Certificate should be presented. The parish will make a copy for our records and will return the original copy. The information on your child's Birth Certificate will be used to register the baptism. The child's name, birth date and parent's names will be based on the **Birth Certificate ONLY**.



5. SPONSORSHIP CERTIFICATE

All Catholic Godparents must obtain a Sponsorship certificate from their own parish stating that they are members in good standing and are eligible to act as a Catholic Sponsor for Baptism. These certificates are required in order to register your child for the sacrament of baptism. With out these certificates you cannot schedule your child's Baptism. If a sponsor is registered member of St. Vito's they will need to contact the parish secretaries. *(If the sponsors are parishioners of St. Vito and are not official registered in the parish, they must register at least a minimum of two months prior to the Baptismal date. In order to receive the sponsor certificate, there will be NO exceptions.)*

6. SACRAMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR GODPARENTS

If a Godparent is married they must present a copy of their Catholic Marriage Certificate. If a Godparent is single he/she must submit their Baptism, First Holy Eucharist and Confirmation Certificates.

7. BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS (No Class, No Baptism)

All **Parents** and **Godparents** are required to attend one Baptism Preparation Class. The time and date of the preparation class will be scheduled after registration. If either the Parents or Godparents live out of the area, they can take the preparation class in their own parish and present a letter from their pastor stating they have received the class. *(Please us know if you have attended a baptism preparation class within a 2 year period, if so this requirement will be waived.)*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

8. SCHEDULING THE BAPTISM

Baptisms are celebrated twice a month on **Sunday's ONLY**. One Sunday at 12:30pm in Spanish and one Sunday at 2:00pm in English. Please call the parish office for dates.

Exceptions maybe made when this presents an extreme difficulty.

Please note: There are no baptisms celebrated during Lent or Advent.



9. PICTURES DURING THE BAPTISM

These are excellent means of sharing the memory of this joyous and special day with your child as he/she grows in age and faith. Any one who is taking the pictures/video should not go onto the altar. They can take pictures/video from the pew and after the ceremony.