



## **PRECIOUS BLOOD PARISH**

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### What is Baptism?

The baptism of a child is a miracle of faith in which the child receives sanctifying grace to live in this world. In this Sacrament of Baptism, the child is welcomed into the Christian community and, therefore, gains a sense of belonging to God's family and is embraced by God's unconditional love.

### What are the Parents' responsibilities?

The nurturing and education of our children requires great care and total commitment from the parents. This same care and attention must be given to *all* aspects of the child's growth and development. You, as the child's parents, are the primary caregivers as well as the first teachers of faith.

To fulfill this responsibility and commitment, parents guide the child by Christian example. Parents should develop a personal relationship with God, nurtured by a healthy prayer life and regular Mass attendance.

### Choosing a Sponsor

The primary role of a Sponsor is that of a spiritual guide, to be a model of Christian living through daily prayer, virtue and active participation in parish life and liturgy.

You are required to have only one Sponsor, in which case he or she must be Catholic. If you have two Sponsors, one is to be male and the other, female. To qualify as a Godparent, a person must be a practicing Catholic, confirmed and in full communion with the Church, at least 16 years of age and not married outside the church or in a common-law relationship. A baptized person who belongs to the non-Roman Catholic Christian community may be asked to serve as a Christian Witness (not as a Godparent) however the Christian Witness, must be chosen with at least one Catholic Godparent.

### What do you need to do?

Please complete the registration forms and have the Sponsor(s) read and sign the declaration. Return these completed documents to the parish office with the applicable paperwork. If the Sponsors are single or not married to each other, we require from both a copy of their Baptismal certificate.