

# INFANT BAPTISM

St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish

**Congratulations!** We rejoice with you for the gift of your child. Knowing that this is a special time for you, we invite you to take some time to look at another special event, the baptism of your child. The baptism of a child removes original sin, and brings your child into the life of Christ as a member of God's family, the church. Baptism is a beginning of the child's faith life. As the child grows and matures, parents are the first and most important teachers of the faith, as you lead your child into a deeper relationship with Christ by your words and your example. As a parish, we are blessed and privileged to help you in this endeavor.

## PARENTS

As you think about the baptism of your child, considerations arise:

- *What does faith mean to me and my spouse? How do we live our faith?*
- *Am I living my life in the community of the Church? In what ways is the Church my community?*
- *What is my relationship with Christ?*

In having a child baptized, parents are making a commitment of faith. Parents are committing themselves to regular and active participation in the life of the Church so that the passing on of the faith to their child will become a reality. Above all, parents are called to be disciples themselves for we cannot share what we do not possess.

## BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

Parents must be registered as parishioners, either at St. Max or another Catholic parish. **If registered at another parish, please provide a letter from your pastor acknowledging this baptism is taking place here at St. Max.**

Parents preparing for the baptism of their first child are required to participate in one baptismal preparation session. Godparents are strongly encouraged to join the parents. Infants are welcome to this session, but adults may find it less distracting if someone else can watch the child at home.

If you've already had a child baptized here at St. Max, you don't need to participate in another session. If you've participated in a baptismal prep session in another parish, **please provide a certificate of completion or a letter from the pastor verifying your participation.**

Once you complete and return the Baptism registration form, we will help you register for an upcoming preparation session.

## **Godparents**

Like parents, godparents are called to be witness of or faith to the child that is to be baptized. This implies that a godparent is striving to live the faith and to follow the teachings of Christ's Church.

The Godparent form must be filled out by the potential Godparent and returned to the parish office. The form for a Catholic godparent must be **signed by their pastor and returned to the Parish Office before a baptism will be scheduled.**

## **CELEBRATIONS OF BAPTISM**

The Rite of Baptism is celebrated on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at 1:30pm. You can find the most up-to-date schedule of possible dates on the website: [www.saint-max.org/baptism](http://www.saint-max.org/baptism)

## **SCHEDULING A BAPTISM DATE**

**After all three forms (registration sheet AND BOTH godparent forms) are turned into the office, you will receive confirmation of the baptism date. All forms must be submitted BEFORE a date may be scheduled, ideally at least two weeks prior to your potential liturgy date.**

We look forward to celebrating the sacrament of Baptism with your family and welcoming your child into our parish, our Church and into the Body of Christ..