

## **Common Questions:**

### **We want our child baptized. What do we do next?**

Begin by contacting the parish church where you are a registered member. For a just cause, the priest may give permission for your child to be baptized here at Holy Ghost.. We cannot baptize your child without written delegation from him.

### **What if we're not registered?**

Every Catholic is called upon to assume an active and supportive role in a specific parish community. If you worship with us regularly, but have not yet registered, please contact the parish office.

### **What is a practicing Catholic?**

A practicing Catholic is someone who accepts and strives to live the teaching and Commandments of Jesus Christ as handed on to us by the Catholic Church, and who regularly participates in the worship of the Church. A practicing Catholic receives the Sacraments regularly, and supports the Church financially.

### **What if we're not practicing?**

NOW, is the time to begin. Register at a parish and start attending Mass. Seeking Baptism for your child presumes that you are striving to live your faith.

### **What if one of us is not Catholic?**

At least one parent of the child must be willing to guarantee that the child will be brought up in the practice of the Catholic Faith. A grandparent or legal guardian may also make this guarantee, provided that the parent is not opposed to the Baptism.

### **What if I'm single, divorced, or remarried?**

Jesus says: "If you love me, keep my commandments." We urge parents, as the first teachers of their children, to live holy lives. If your current situation prevents you from participating fully in the life of the Church, we want to help you to return to full communion. Your situation, however, will not prevent your child from being baptized, as long as you guarantee that you will do all in your power to properly form your child in the Faith.

### **What if my child is over 7 years old?**

If your child has already reached the age of reason, it is important that he/she know what Baptism is, and consent to it. Such a child should participate in R.C.I.C. classes. Please contact the Parish Office.

### **Do you offer private baptisms?**

Baptism is NOT a private event, but the welcoming of a new member into the family of the Church. We celebrate Infant Baptism every Sunday after the 11:15 AM Mass.

### **Can a non-Catholic be a godparent?**

A Non-Catholic can be an official witness to your child's Baptism, but there must be at least one godparent who is a fully-initiated and practicing Catholic in good standing.

### **How many godparents can I have for my child?**

There may be two; one man and one woman.

### **Is there anything else I need to do?**

You and the godparents will need to attend a baptismal preparation class, after which you may schedule the date of your child's baptism.

For more information on the sacrament please go to the following link:

[http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc\\_css/archive/catechism/p2s2c1a1.htm](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p2s2c1a1.htm)