

The Rite of Baptism

Baptisms are often celebrated during Mass, which provides a wonderful way for the whole community to welcome the newly baptized and to celebrate with the family.

We also offer group baptisms that take place immediately following the 11:00 Mass, beginning around 12:15 near the baptismal font. These baptisms contain scripture readings, a reflection, and the Rite of Baptism, but not an entire Mass.

We ask families to arrive at least 15 minutes before Mass or the scheduled baptism, and to sit at the front of the church opposite the music area.

All Baptisms must be arranged in advance through the parish office.

Baptism During Mass

At the beginning of Mass, the priest greets the family. He asks the name you give your child and what you ask of God's Church (Baptism).

After the homily, the priest will invite the parents, child, siblings, and godparents to stand at the font. Baptism is done by infusion (pouring water over the head). The child is then anointed with sacred chrism, which is perfumed oil that is used as a symbol of the gift of the Holy Spirit to the newly baptized. A white garment, symbolizing the new creation in Christ, is placed on the child. The priest introduces the child to the congregation as a new member of our community.

After Communion is finished, the priest will invite the godfather to light the baptismal candle for the child from the Paschal Candle, which symbolizes the light of Christ.