

Baptizing Your Baby at St. Francis Xavier Parish



Welcome to St. Francis Xavier Church! We are so happy to celebrate this important event with you and your family. If you are not a member of our parish, you are invited to consider us your spiritual home by registering your family at our front office. We are here to be of service!

“Baptism is birth into the new life in Christ. In accordance with the Lord’s will, it is necessary for salvation...Baptism imprints on the soul an indelible spiritual sign, the character, which consecrates the baptized person for Christian worship...Since the earliest times, Baptism has been administered to children, for it is a grace and a gift of God that does not presuppose any human merit; children are baptized in the faith of the Church. Entry into Christian life gives access to true freedom.” Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraph 1277

Age of Infant Baptism: We as Catholics believe that infant baptism is important because just as we have shared our physical life with our child, it is important to begin their spiritual formation as soon as possible. God considers them part of his family, like his own sons and daughters.

Therefore, communal Baptism, with other children, is strongly encouraged.

Parents should ensure that their children are baptized within a reasonable period after birth. Once children have reached the age of reason (usually 7 years old), they would enter a different program to prepare for the sacraments of initiation, including Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist. If your child is 6 or 7 years of age, it is necessary that your child participates in a religious education/sacramental preparation program that will lead to reception of the sacraments of Eucharist (1st Communion) and Confirmation in order to be baptized. This could be here in our St. Francis Xavier parish faith formation program or at St. Francis Xavier School or in the religious education program at another parish. Verification of participation in a religious education/sacramental preparation program is required for children 6 or 7 years of age. All baptized persons should be fully initiated into the Church through Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.

Required documentation:

For the Parents: A copy of the child's birth certificate.

For the Legal Guardians: A copy of the child's birth certificate and a copy of the order appointing you as legal guardian.

For the Godparents: It is the rule of the church that if the Godparents are married, they are required to be married in the church. The presentation of a church marriage certificate is needed.

If the Godparents are single, they must be at least 16 years of age and have received their sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion. A copy of the Communion and Confirmation certificates are needed. Single Godparents must testify to the fact that they are not living with another as husband or wife.

Baptism Class: Parents, Legal Guardians and Godparents are required to attend a baptism class which benefits them as a faith growth experience and assists them in understanding and fulfilling their respective roles. If you have taken the baptism class in the last 2 years, you will not need to repeat the class, but you will need to provide confirmation (attendance certificate or letter from the parish) that you have taken the class. Also, for godparents who live out of town, attendance at a baptism class in another parish is permitted. Confirmation of attendance is requested.

The suggested donation for the sacrament of Baptism is \$100 which covers the class and the baptism and is requested at the time you sign up for your class and baptism. For those attending the baptism class only, we request a donation of \$50.

Once you have the proper documentation, please call one of the priests listed below to schedule an appointment. Only the mother or the father (or legal guardian) need attend this initial interview. PLEASE CONTACT ONLY ONE PRIEST.

Fr. George Teodoro, S. J.
George.teodoro@sfxphx.org
602-212-4535

Fr. Tom Griffin
Thomas.griffin@sfxphx.org
602-212-4515

Fr. Dan Sullivan
Dan.sullivan@sfxphx.org
602-212-4514

After you complete the interview, you will be contacted by one of our baptism coordinators to schedule dates for the baptism class and baptism.

**BAPTISM CLASSES
(ENGLISH ONLY)**

All classes are held in the Lower Level Training Room or Room D of Anderson Hall
(LOCATION OF BAPTISM CLASS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Due to insurance requirements, and to make sure parents are able to engage in the baptism class, children are not permitted in class. Please make arrangements for child care if necessary.

Baptism Class: This session is for ALL parents/guardians requesting to have their child baptized at St. Francis Xavier. This session will be from **9:00am-12:00(noon)**.

June 2021 – July 2022 English BAPTISM CLASSES

2021

June: 5th, Saturday
July: NONE
Aug. 7, 2021
Sept. 4, 2021
Oct. 2, 2021 (Lower Level Atrium)
Nov. 5, 2021
Dec. 4, 2021

2022

Jan. 8, 2022
Feb. 5, 2022
Mar. 5, 2022
March 26, 2022 (Lower Level Atrium)
May – none
June 4, 2022
July – none

Jan – July 2021 English BAPTISM DATES

Baptisms are held on Saturdays at **9:00am** in the church unless otherwise noted.

Please be in the church no later than **8:45am to check in**. **If you are more than 10 minutes late for the baptism, we will ask you to reschedule to another date.**

2021

June 12th, Saturday
July: NONE
Aug. 14, 2021
Sept. 11, 2021
Oct. 9, 2021
Nov. 13, 2021
Dec. 11, 2021

2022

Jan. 15, 2022
Feb. 12, 2022
Mar. 12, 2022
April 9, 2022
May – none
June 11, 2022
July – none

**For further information regarding English baptisms, please contact
Sue Klein at (602) 212-4550
or email marriage.prep@sfxphx.org**