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 online or 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, as is the church herself, which we enter by Baptism." Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraph 1277

Age of Infant Baptism:
As Catholics, we believe children should be baptized as soon as possible after birth so their spiritual life in Christ may begin early.

At. St. Francis Xavier, infant baptisms are celebrated communally with other families. This reflects that Baptism welcomes each child not only into their family's faith, but into the larger Church community. Therefore, families should plan to choose from the available communal baptism dates listed in this packet.

Children who have reached the age of reason, age 7, will need to participate in a different preparation process for the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist.

If your child is 6 years old, please contact the Parish Office before beginning the Baptism process. Your child may need to participate in a religious education or sacramental preparation before receiving baptism.

All baptized Catholics should eventually be fully initiated into the Church through First Eucharist and Confirmation.

Before a Baptism can be scheduled, all requirements must be completed.

Requirements for Baptism:

- At least one parent or legal guardian must give their consent for the baptism
- Godparents must be designated by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s)and be at least 16 years old
- There must be a well-founded hope that the child will be brought up in the Catholic faith.
- Parents, legal guardians, and godparents must compete a Baptism Preparation class. Godparents who attend a class at another parish may submit the certificate from that parish. The class must be within the last two years. **The baptism class is to be done in a parish in-person. Please discuss any exceptions with the priest in the interview**

Requirements for Godparents

- One godparent is required. If there are 2 godparents, one must be male and one female.
- Godparents must be Catholics who have received the sacraments of Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation, and be living a life of faith. Single Godparents must testify to the fact that they are not living with another as husband or wife.
- If any godparent is married, the marriage must be in the Catholic Church. Cohabitating couples or couples who are civilly married may not qualify to be godparents.

Documents Required for Baptism (Original or copies):

- Your child's birth certificate
- For legal guardians, a copy of the order appointing you as legal guardian.
- For each godparent
  - If married, a Catholic Church wedding certificate
  - If single, First Eucharist, AND Confirmation certificates only.

Once you have gathered all the required documents, please contact the Parish Office to schedule an appointment with the priest on duty.

Please bring **all the required documents** with you to the interview. The baptism process cannot move forward until all requirements are met, including godparent requirements.

Only the child's mother, father, or legal guardian needs to attend this initial priest interview.

After the interview, the priest will review your documents, answer any questions, and direct you with the next steps.

A contribution of $100 is requested for families who are taking the Baptism class and baptizing their child at St. Francis Xavier. Please be prepared to make this payment at the time of the priest interview.

BAPTISM CLASSES

All classes are held in the Lower-Level Training Room
(LOCATION OF BAPTISM CLASS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE)
Due to insurance requirements, and to make sure parents and godparents are able to engage in the baptism class, children are not permitted in class. Please make arrangements for childcare if necessary.

Baptism Class: This session is for ALL parents/guardians and godparents requesting to have their child baptized at St. Francis Xavier. This session will be from **9:00am-12:00(noon). All classes are held on a Saturday. Please arrive by 8:45 a.m.to check in.**

June 2026 – July 2027 English BAPTISM CLASSES

2026	2027
June 6	Jan. 2 (lower-level training room)
July – NONE	Feb. 6 (lower-level training room)
Aug. 1 (lower-level training room)	Mar. 6 (lower-level training room)
Aug. 29 (lower-level training room)	April 3 (lower-level training room)
Oct. 3 (lower-level training room)	May – none
~~Nov. 7 (lower-level training room~~ Rescheduled for Oct. 31	June 5 (lower-level training room)
Dec. 5 (lower level training room)	July – none

June 2026 – July 2027 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.**

2026	2027
June 13	Jan. 9
July - None	Feb. 13
Aug. 8	Mar. 13
Sept. 12	April 10
Oct. 10	May - None
Nov. 14	June 12
Dec. 12	July - None

Baptisms During Select Weekend Masses

Baptisms may also be offered during select Sunday Masses **(9am English & 1pm Spanish)** for special parish feast celebrations.

This option allows families to celebrate Baptism during the parish's Sunday worship, surrounded by the larger Church community.

To preserve the prayerfulness and timing of the Mass, each Mass will be limited to:
*2 baptisms maximum

This option is only available on designated weekends and is not offered every month.

Baptism preparation is still required. Space is limited.

Families interested in this option must contact the Parish Office in advance.

Available Feast Celebration Dates:
September 27, 2026
January 10, 2027
June 13, 2027

Before Calling the Parish Office

Please make sure you have:

☐Child's birth certificate
☐Legal guardianship documents, if applicable
☐Godparent First Communion & Confirmation certificate
☐Godparent Catholic Church marriage certificate, if applicable
☐Baptism class certificate, if completed at another parish

For further information regarding English baptisms, please contact
Alejandra Saucedo 602-212-4519 or
email Alejandra.saucedo@sfxphx.org