



HOLY INFANCY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

312 East Fourth Street

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18015

Telephone (610) 866-1121

Things we will need in order to baptize your child:

1. We need a copy of your child's **birth certificate**.
2. If you regularly attend Holy Infancy parish or live within her parish boundaries, **you must make sure you are registered at the parish!** If you attend another parish but would like to baptize at Holy Infancy for some reason, *we will need a letter from the pastor of your regular parish granting us permission to baptize your child.*
3. You must choose Godparents that meet the requirements set by the Catholic Church (see below). We require a letter from each Godparent's parish affirming that they meet these requirements.
4. Parents and Godparents must attend a pre-baptismal formation class. Those who are not members of Holy Infancymay attend such a class at another parish and give us a letter from the parish confirming that they received formation.
5. We will not schedule any baptism until the above steps are completed.
6. The suggested donation for Baptism in the Diocese of Allentown is \$25.



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The Responsibilities of a Godparent:

Godparents should be a role model of Christian life for the

newly baptized. The mission of godparents/sponsors is to ensure that their godchild is educated in the faith and Christian life. They must be the spiritual fathers of the newly baptized.

To be a Godparent the Church requires that you:

1. Be at least 16 years old.
2. Be a practicing Catholic who attends Mass regularly.
3. Have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion.
4. Not be cohabiting if you are single.
5. Be married in the Catholic Church if you are married.
6. Receive formation preparing you for this responsibility. At Holy

Infancy, this is done by attending a pre-baptismal formation class. If you are not a member of Holy Infancy, you may attend such a class at your own parish and then provide a letter from the parish telling us you have done so.



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Please understand that *we want to baptize your child.*

- The parents **ought to be married by the Church.** However, **we will baptize your child in the meantime** and will work with you to prepare you for the Sacrament of Matrimony, *since children do not choose their parents' life situation.*
- However, *since you are choosing Godparents from among any people, they must meet all of the above requirements* for your child's sake and for their own sake. **Living the Christian life is how we prepare for Heaven!** When a person is not following the above guidelines, they are not objectively living the Catholic Faith and so cannot serve as examples of that faith.
- **Our Staff will work with anyone who is disposed to conform themselves to Christ so as to help them prepare to be witnesses of the Catholic Faith.**