

# Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

## Guidelines for Baptism of Infants and Children Under the Age of 7

### Parents

1. Parents must be registered, practicing members of Most Blessed Sacrament Parish.
2. Parents must complete the enclosed Baptism Data Form. This form is used to identify the child to be baptized, prepare the baptism certificate, and record the baptism in our Sacramental Record Book.
3. Parents registered in another church parish who wish to have their child baptized at MBS must first obtain a letter of permission from the pastor of the church parish in which they are registered.
4. Parents are required to attend a Baptism Seminar. If a seminar was attended within a 3 year period, this requirement is waived.
5. **Baptism date cannot be scheduled until a baptism seminar has been attended and all of the enclosed paperwork is returned to the parish office.**

### Godparents

1. Godparents must be practicing Catholics who are at least 16 years of age and must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation. If married, the godparent must be married in the Catholic Church or had their marriage blessed by the Catholic Church.
2. Godparents must have the enclosed Godparent Eligibility Form signed by their pastor indicating that they are registered parishioners, practicing Catholics, and are qualified to serve as a godparent.
3. Godparents are not required to attend a Baptism Seminar, but are encourage to do so.

### Frequently Asked Questions

1. ***How many godparents should there be?*** Church law only require you to have one godparent; however, it has been tradition to have two.
2. ***Can the same godparents have responsibility for more than one child in the same family?*** Yes, as long as they take seriously their responsibility and intention to help the children grow in faith.
3. ***What sex should the godparent be?*** If you choose only one godparent, you are free to

choose a male or a female. However, if you wish to have two godparents, there must be one male and one female.

4. ***Can a non-Catholic serve as a godparent?*** A baptized, non-Catholic may serve as an “official witness” to the baptism, only if there is proper Catholic sponsor who fully meets all requirements of a godparent. The non-Catholic who is selected as a witness should be an active and participating member of his/her church community. During the baptism, a non-Catholic witness may perform all the parts of the ceremony that a godparent does. His or her name will be entered into the Sacrament Record Book as an “official witness”, together with the name of the godparent.

5. ***What is the difference between a godparent and a witness?*** Witness is the term that is only mentioned in the Code of Canon Law. Canon Law describes a witness as “A baptized person who belongs to a non-catholic ecclesial community.” A godparent is a confirmed, practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church.

6. ***Can someone serve as godparent by proxy (stand-in) if the godparent is unable to participate in the baptism ceremony?*** If a godparent cannot attend the baptism ceremony, a proxy can stand in the place of the missing godparent. The name of that person will be entered as “proxy” in the Sacramental Record Book, along with the name of the missing godparent.

<b>Baptism Seminars - 7:00 p.m.</b> (St. Luke Room in Parish Office)
<b>2011</b>
December 26 <sup>th</sup>
<b>2012</b>
January 30 <sup>th</sup>
February 27 <sup>th</sup>
March 26 <sup>th</sup>
April 30 <sup>th</sup>
May 21 <sup>st</sup>
June 25 <sup>th</sup>

# MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

## DATA FOR BAPTISM

*Please print clearly as this information will be used to prepare your child's baptism certificate.*

**Child's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ City & State of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Was the Child Adopted? \_\_\_\_\_ Was the Child Previously Baptized? \_\_\_\_\_

If "Yes" Please Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

### PARENT INFORMATION:

Are you registered members of Most Blessed Sacrament Parish? \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Registered members receive by mail the weekly parish bulletin & contribution envelopes)*

*When completing parent names, please give full names - no initials. Mother's name must be her full maiden name - her given name that is on her birth certificate.*

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Religion: \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Religion: \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Middle) (Maiden)

Are Parents Married? \_\_\_\_\_

If Not Married, is Father's Name on the Birth Certificate? \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Whose Number? \_\_\_\_\_

Date & Church Parents Attended Seminar: \_\_\_\_\_

**GODPARENT INFORMATION:**

*Please see attached sheet for Godparent requirements before selecting your Godparents.*

*Please give full name, not nickname (ex. Benjamin, not Ben).*

Godfather's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Is He a Confirmed, Practicing Catholic? \_\_\_\_\_ His Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

If No, What Religion is Godfather? \_\_\_\_\_

Will Godfather be represented by a Proxy? \_\_\_\_\_

If Yes, Proxy's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Godmother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Is She a Confirmed, Practicing Catholic? \_\_\_\_\_ Her Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

If No, What Religion is Godmother? \_\_\_\_\_

Will Godmother be represented by a Proxy? \_\_\_\_\_

If Yes, Proxy's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

When space allows, we publish the names of the children baptized and their parents in our Church Bulletin.

\_\_\_\_\_ OK to Publish      \_\_\_\_\_ Please DO NOT Publish

Please return this form to:      Most Blessed Sacrament Church  
15615 Jefferson Highway  
Baton Rouge, LA 70817-6311

**Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**  
**15615 Jefferson Highway**  
**Baton Rouge, LA 70817-6311**  
**Phone (225) 752-6230 Fax (225) 756-5014**

**GODPARENT ELIGIBILITY**

Name of Godparent: \_\_\_\_\_

Godparent's Church Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Godparent for \_\_\_\_\_, the child of

\_\_\_\_\_

I declare that I am a baptized and confirmed Catholic, and that I am formally registered in the church parish listed above.

I believe all that the Catholic Church believes and teaches, and I truly make a serious effort to live a good and moral life. As a practicing Catholic, I participate at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days, and I receive the Sacraments regularly.

I am Married \_\_\_\_\_ I am Not Married \_\_\_\_\_

If married:

\_\_\_\_\_ I have celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage in the Catholic Church.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am working with a priest to have my marriage blessed in the Church.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Godparent

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**Verification by Church Parish of Godparent**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Priest

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Church Parish

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parish Seal

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Signature of Priest

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Church Parish

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parish Seal