

ST. BRIGID CATHOLIC CHURCH

GUIDELINES FOR BAPTISM

At St. Brigid, we offer opportunities for your child to receive the Sacrament of Baptism through your participation in a preparation class and a community celebration. Following is some important and helpful information for your journey through this process:

TO BAPTIZE AT ST. BRIGID:

1. **Certification.** Parents must provide their child's **original Certified Birth Certificate** – from the County or State Department of Health (not hospital copy). A baptism cannot take place without this vital step.
 - The original birth certificate will be returned to the parent after a photocopy of it is made by the priest, deacon or a qualified staff member. ***No faxed copies will be accepted.***
 - A **Baptismal Registration Form**, will be filled out and all supporting documents will be attached. **Once ALL paperwork is submitted and requirements are met, a baptism date can be set.**
 - **Please note: If baptism does not take place at least six months from onset, all required paperwork, including birth certificate, proof of classes, letters of permissions, etc., will be discarded and process will need to begin again.**
2. **Baptism Classes.** All parents and godparents/sponsors, Christian witnesses, and proxies **ARE REQUIRED** to attend a preparation class for infant baptism. This class must be renewed every three years in the Diocese of San Antonio. You are encouraged to do so before the baby's birth.
 - Class schedule is on our website at www.stbrigidcc.org; go to Sacraments, then Infant Baptism.
 - **Prior registration for a class is required.** Call the parish office to reserve your spot.
 - Being on time is important. If later than 5-10 minutes, please reschedule for another class.
 - Babysitting is not provided. To get the most out of class, please take a class that best fits your schedule.
 - Each participant **must sign in** upon arrival. Not signing in could lead to not receiving credit.
 - Those baptizing at St. Brigid who take their class at a different parish can have their proof faxed from that church on Church letterhead to St. Brigid at 210-696-7319. ***Faxed copies from individuals will not be accepted.***
3. **Catholic Sponsors.** The traditional Godfather and Godmother are encouraged, however, only one qualified Catholic sponsor is required. Qualified sponsors or "Godparents" are required to:
 - Be "practicing" Roman Catholics, in good standing at St. Brigid or at their parish. If sponsor does not belong to St. Brigid, they will need to get a letter of good standing from their parish.
 - Be at least 16 years of age, and have received all the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation). If married, married in the Catholic Church; Catholics in civil marriages are encouraged to speak with their Pastor regarding their marriage being validated in the Church. A **baptized Christian** from another denomination can witness the baptism as a Christian Witness, along with a qualified Catholic Godparent. **Proof of sacraments for sponsors must be provided.**
 - Not be the parents/grandparents of the child.
4. **Boundaries.** Parents/family should reside within St. Brigid Parish boundaries. If not, they should be registered parishioners or request a letter of permission from their parish boundary church.
5. Baptisms are pre-set and take place **after the 12:30 mass on the 2nd Sunday of each month.**

TO BAPTIZE AT ANOTHER PARISH:

1. **Letters of Permission** to have your child baptized at another parish are available by contacting the Parish Office at 210-696-0896. Please allow at least 7 days notice for preparation of the letter.*
2. Letters of **Completion of Baptism Preparation Classes** are also available by contacting the Parish Office at 210-696-0896. Please allow at least 7 days notice for preparation of the letter. There is a fee per letter.*

* In each case, please provide the name of the child being baptized; the church name, address, contact person; and, your address and phone number for quicker response.

OTHER INFORMATION:

1. **Only parents** can set up their child’s baptism; arrangements cannot be made through a third party, including grandparents, aunts or uncles, etc.
2. NO baptisms are scheduled during Lent or Advent.
3. Parents or godparents/sponsors may furnish the baptismal candle and white garment (if desired) to be used during the baptismal ceremony.
4. **There is no cost for baptism. A stipend of choice is requested for the church and the celebrant.**

Parish Office: 210-696-0896
6907 Kitchener St; San Antonio, Tx 78240
*210-696-7319—Fax**
**Faxes from church to church only; otherwise, an original must be provided. Thank you for your understanding.*

CATHOLIC GIFT SHOPS:

- Cathedral Church Supplies** 6417 Blanco..... (210)342-6043
Store Hours: Sunday - Monday: Closed
Store Hours: Tuesday - Friday: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Store Hours: Saturday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
- Cordi-Marian Book & Gift Shop** 11624 FM 471 (210)838-5287
Store Hours: Saturday - Sunday: 9:30am – 12:30pm
- Lourdes Grotto Gift Shop** 5712 Blanco..... (210)342-9864
Store Hours: Monday - Friday: 10:00 am – 5:30 pm
Saturday - Sunday: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
- Little Flower Catholic Gift Shop** 920 Kentucky Ave..... (210)736-3889
Store Hours: Tuesday- Friday: 11am- 5:30pm
Saturday- Sunday: 9am- 3:30pm



(Last revised: July 12, 2023)