



St. Ignatius Catholic Church

3400 S.E. 43rd Avenue, Portland Oregon 97206

Dear Parents,

Greetings from St. Ignatius parish! What a delight to have your child become part of the Body of Christ through the sacrament of Baptism. As parents, you have the privilege of nurturing the faith of your child, and this packet highlights the different ways we hope to support you.

Before the Baptism, we ask that you attend one of the Baptism classes outlined in the enclosed Baptismal schedule. In this gathering you will have a chance to connect with other parents as you learn about the sacrament of Baptism and attend a practice in the church. This session will allow time for you to share your own experience and ask questions.

A booklet is enclosed for you to review as you anticipate your child's Baptism. As you prepare for the parent session, we invite you to reflect on the following questions:

- What experiences have made me aware of God's presence in my life?
- How do I nurture the faith of my child(ren)?
- Why am I seeking to have my child baptized in the Catholic Church at St. Ignatius parish?

An important aspect of preparation involves choosing godparents – the adults who will support you and your child as you raise them in the Christian faith. Parents often choose two godparents, but the sacrament requires only one Catholic godparent. Because of the significance of this role, it's important to know the key characteristics of a Catholic godparent as you consider whom you would like to serve in this role. Catholic godparents are active in their faith, fully initiated (having received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist), and in good standing in their parish community. If you would like to choose a second godparent who is from another Christian tradition, they are welcome to serve as a Christian witness to the Baptism. Godparents are encouraged to join you for the Baptism class and practice as they prepare for their new role, but we realize this might not always be possible if they do not live in the area.

Please complete and return the enclosed Baptism Information form as soon as possible to indicate which class you'll be attending. If you have further questions about godparents or other details, please contact me at jingman@sipdx.org or 503.777.1491, ext. 238. We are honored to accompany your family during this preparation process, and we look forward to celebrating this first Sacrament of Initiation with you and your child!

Blessings,

Jess Ingman