

Holy Redeemer Catholic Church-BAPTISMAL GUIDELINES



We welcome you to Holy Redeemer Parish for this important occasion. We are glad to share in your joy as you have your child baptized. We ask that you please arrange for your Baptism as far in advance as possible. Infant Baptisms are usually celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month after the last Sunday Mass. It is highly recommended that parents be **active registered members of Holy Redeemer**. After the necessary paperwork is filled out, pre-Baptism class is attended, and Sponsor Certificates from the godparents are received, then the Baptism will be scheduled. The only exception is major Holy Days such as Christmas, Easter, Confirmation, or special occasions. The Baptism cannot be scheduled until **all necessary paperwork is submitted** to the Parish Office.

PARENTS.

- ◆ Must be registered members of Holy Redeemer Church, or if members of another parish, they must obtain a **letter of permission** from their parish to baptize their baby at Holy Redeemer. If not registered and residing within Holy Redeemer boundaries, must make a commitment to register and sincerely try to practice their faith from now on.
- ◆ Must complete the **Pre-Baptismal Registration Form** available in the parish office. Please note that the **Tribunal of the Diocese of Palm Beach** requires that **both parents** sign the pre-Baptismal Form giving permission to have their child baptized in the Catholic Faith. If the parent does not live in the area to sign the Pre-Baptismal Form, please have him/her send a letter addressed to Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, P. O. Box 916, Palm City, FL 34991, stating the fact that he/she **gives permission to have his/her child baptized at Holy Redeemer Church. Without this permission, we will be unable to Baptize your child. (Diocesan Guidelines).**
- ◆ If not married by a priest/deacon, should be open to having their marriage blessed by a priest or deacon.
- ◆ Must attend the **Pre-Baptismal Class**. Both parents and godparents.
- ◆ Must submit a copy of the **Birth Certificate**.

GODPARENTS/CHRISTIAN WITNESS

- ◆ At least one must be a practicing Catholic, over 16 years of age and Confirmed in the Catholic Faith. The other may be either Catholic or any other **Christian Religion (Christian Witness)**. When one of the Godparents is not Catholic, it is **encouraged and recommended** that the non-Catholic party **attends** the Baptismal Class. The non-Catholic sponsor is considered a Christian Witness and his/her name will not be noted in the Baptismal Certificate but in the Church's books.
- ◆ **Both Catholic Godparents**, when the potential godparent is unfamiliar to the pastor, some sort of a **Sponsor Certificate or letter** from their parish **is requested**, so that it is clear that they are Catholic in good standing. Registered **active members** of Holy Redeemer do not need the Sponsor Certificate. (as per Tribunal of the Diocese of Palm Beach).
- ◆ **Godparents** must be one godfather and one godmother. If both are of the same gender, only one can be the sponsor, the other one will be considered a Christian Witness. (As per the Tribunal of the Diocese of Palm Beach).
- ◆ Must attend the Baptismal Class, either at Holy Redeemer or at their own Catholic Parish.
- ◆ If either Godparent is to be represented by Proxy, their name must be submitted to the Parish Office as soon as possible.

SCHEDULING

- ◆ Baptismal Class is held on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 PM. You **MUST pre-register by calling the parish office (772) 286-4590**.
- ◆ **Baptism** is conferred on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month following the last Mass as follows:
January--December **11:30 AM**.