



## *Our Lady of the Airways Parish*

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# Baptism Registration Information

1. Baptism is a celebration of a living relationship with God and with the local parish community. It is normally celebrated in the parish where **the family resides or is registered and usually worships**. Parents who belong to another parish and wish to have their child baptized at Our Lady of the Airways Parish must obtain a letter of permission from the Pastor of the parish where they reside, or is registered and usually worship.
2. We require a photocopy of the Catholic **Baptism** Certificate of **at least one** of the Parents. As well, we require a photocopy of the **Confirmation** Certificate of **both Godparents** be provided for the interview. We have also been asked by the Archdiocese to request a photocopy of the **Birth Certificate of the child** being baptized so we can ensure the correct spelling of the child's last name. **All required documentations** must be collected before the interview with the parish priest.
3. During the interview, the priest will also review some dates for Baptism. Parents are also required to attend a one-hour baptismal preparation class in advance of the Baptism. This will be finalized in the interview meeting.
4. It is important to select Godparents (Sponsors) that are also practicing Catholics, who will be good role models for the child as they grow in faith.
5. Only Catholics can be Godparents. It is necessary to have at least one Godparent. However, a Non-Catholic Christian can be chosen as a Christian Witness in place of one Godparent, provided he/she is from a Church recognized by the Catholic Church. Please consult a priest if need be.

### **Eligibility of Sponsors (Godparents)**

There is to be only one male sponsor or one female sponsor or one of each. (canon 873)

The following are the requirements in order for a Catholic to be a sponsor: (canon 874 §1)

- At least 16 years of age
- He/she has been fully initiated in the Catholic Church (received Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation)
- In good standing with the Church (e.g. has not married outside the Catholic Church; not cohabitating)
- Not the mother or father of the one to be baptized

### **Eligibility of Christian Witness**

- A Christian Witness for a child's baptism must be validly baptized Christian of a Non-Catholic Church. (canon 874 §2)
- A Christian Witness may only participate together with a Catholic sponsor. (canon 874 §2)