

# BAPTISM

Holy Baptism is one of the seven Sacraments of the church and the first Sacrament of initiation to introduce a new convert into the Catholic Church. Through Baptism all sins are forgiven - original and personal. The Sacrament of Baptism gives birth to the Christian's life of faith. We become adopted children of God, co-heirs with Christ and share in Christ being king, prophet and priest.

**Child's Qualifications:** Your child may not be previously baptized.

**Parent's Qualifications:** At least one parent must be a baptized Roman Catholic and must be a registered parishioner of St. James the Apostle Church for at least 6 months.

**Primary Godparent's Qualifications:** A child should have one primary godfather and one primary godmother. You may desire to have "sponsors" but only the parents' and two primary godparents' names will appear on your child's Baptismal Certificate. The godparent(s) must be over 16 years of age, baptized Roman Catholic and have received their First Communion and Confirmation. If the Godparents are from a different diocese and/or Parish Church, they must produce a letter from the respective Parish Priest stating that he/she has attended the baptism training class. They must commit to serve as lifetime spiritual mentors to their godchild, nurturing his/her Catholic faith and practice through their own regular attendance at Mass and active participation in parish life. Being a godparent is truly a ministry in the Church and not simply an honor.

**Baptism Preparation/Training Class:** First Saturday of the month from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The Church requires parents and godparents to attend a preparation/training class so that they are well-prepared for this first Sacramental encounter and celebration with the child who becomes a child of God through baptism.

The Church takes great care and concern in the preparation of parents and godparents for the Sacrament of Baptism. Classes are designed so participants gain a deep understanding of what the Sacrament of Baptism is about and what the Church expects of them regarding both their commitment to the Church and to the spiritual life of the child.

**To sign up** for a Baptism class and Baptism, please come to St. James the Apostles Church office located at 34700 Fremont Blvd, CA 94555 or call the church office at 510-792-1962 to make an appointment with Father Antony for an interview and approval.

**Baptism Celebrations:** Last Saturday of the month from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 noon