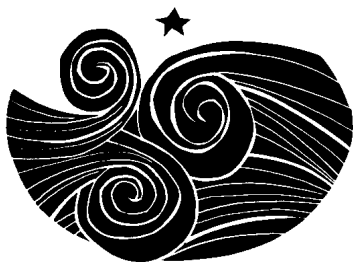


Congratulations on the birth of your child! We look forward to celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism with you and your family.

This is a joyous time for your family and for our Church Community. Everyone loves to witness a Baptism!

In this brochure is an overview of the rite as we will celebrate it. *Please do not worry about things like where to stand etc.* The presider will help you along. Rather, we ask you to reflect on the mysteries we celebrate and your role in passing on faith in Jesus Christ to your child.

If you have any concerns, please contact Mary Dumm at the Parish offices at 586.268.2244.



Dismissal Rites:

During the Dismissal Rites, the final two symbols of baptism are noted.

The white garment recalls Revelation 7:9, 13-17, for it the sign of those who are baptized.

† *You have become a new creation,
and have clothed yourself in Christ.
See in these white garments
the outward sign of your Christian dignity.
With your family and friends to help you
bring that dignity unstained
into the everlasting life of heaven.*

The baptismal candle, lit from the paschal candle is reminiscent of Matthew 5: 14-16. We who follow Christ, the light of the world, are to let our light shine each day of our lives.

† *Receive the light of Christ.
Parents and godparents,
this light is entrusted to you
to be kept burning brightly.
These children of yours
have been enlightened by Christ.
They are to walk always
as children of the light.
May they keep the flame of faith
alive in their hearts.
When the Lord comes,
may they go out to meet him
with all the saints
in the heavenly kingdom.*

Your child is now a Christian. How will your family foster this new faith?

Celebration of Infant Baptism



*Saint Blase
Catholic Church*



Gathering Rite:

At the beginning of Mass, the presider will ask the parents and Godparents their intentions.

† **Presider: What name do you give your child?**

† **Presider: What do you ask of God's Church for your children?**
Parents: Baptism

† **Presider: Parents, you have asked to have your children baptized. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training them in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty bring them up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbor. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?**

† **Presider: Godparents, are you ready to help the parents of these children in their duty as Christian parents?**

Without the consent of the parents and their promise to raise the child in the faith, the child cannot be baptized. *How will you try to raise your child in the faith? In addition to participating every week at Sunday Mass, what else can you do to pass on the faith to your child?*



† Your child is then claimed for Christ by the Sign of the Cross. As the priest reads the prayers, parents and Godparents trace the cross on their child.

Celebration of Baptism

Following the homily, the priest will ask parents, Godparents and all assembled to renew their own baptismal promises.

† **Do you reject sin so as to live in the freedom of God's children?**

† **Do you believe in God, the Father the almighty, creator of heaven and earth?**

† **Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?**

† **Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy, catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?**

† **This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it, in Christ Jesus our Lord.**



What do these promises mean to you? How will you try to pass them on to your children?

Parents, Godparents and siblings then join the priest at the font.

The original and fullest sign of Baptism is by immersion. You may choose to have your child baptized in this manner, or for the water to be poured over their forehead. (infusion)

In either case, please bring your child dressed simply to mass. Following the baptism and anointing with chrism, parents and godparents will dress the child in their white garment.

While one of the parents holds the child, the presider immerses or pours the water saying:

† **I baptized you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.**

Then your child is anointed on the forehead with Sacred Chrism.

† **God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into his holy people. The Lord now anoints you with the chrism of salvation. As Christ was anointed Priest, Prophet, and King, so may you always live as a member of his body, sharing everlasting life.**

After all children are baptized and anointed, parents go to a separate room to dress their child in their white garment.

In the prayer of anointing we pray that your child is to be a person of prayer (priest), speak the truth of the Gospel (prophet) and lead others to God (king). How might you raise your son or daughter to live out these roles?