

Information Regarding Baptism at St. Veronica Church

Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons and daughters of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and are sharers in her mission: Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1213).

St. Veronica Catholic Church celebrates baptisms at 12:30 pm on the first and third Sundays of the month. We have a limit of six babies per Sunday. Spots are filled on a first come first served basis. All paperwork must be returned to the parish office, and parents must have attended a baptism preparation class prior to scheduling the baptism.

Additional Information:

- Parents must attend a baptism preparation class. Class is usually held the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Conference Room of the Parish Office. Please call the Parish Office to register for a class. Parents who have previously attended a baptism preparation class when having a sibling baptized are not required to attend again. Godparents are also encouraged to attend, although their attendance is not mandatory.
- The "Parent Request for Infant Baptism Form" must be completed and returned to the Parish Office. Once all the forms, including the original sponsor certificates are received in the Parish Office, and your attendance at a baptism preparation class has been confirmed, your Baptism can be scheduled.
- Parents must provide sponsor certificates for each Catholic Godparent. At least one Godparent MUST be a practicing Catholic. The Godparent should contact the Church where he/she is currently registered to request a sponsor certificate. If a Christian Witness is chosen to participate in and witness the baptism, no documentation is needed. If two sponsors are chosen, one must be male, the other female. For baptism, a parent may NOT be a sponsor. Please note, a lapsed Catholic cannot serve as either a Godparent or a Christian witness. See the full set of requirements for Sponsors below.
- Parents should realize that nothing is "Set in Stone" until everything is received and confirmed by the Parish Office.

GODPARENTS/SPONSORS:

Canon law requires 1 Godparent. If two are chosen, one must be a man, one must be a woman. One godparent **MUST** be a practicing Catholic, up-to-date on all his/her sacraments, at least 16 years of age, attends Mass weekly, if married, must be married in the Catholic Church.

If the other sponsor is not Catholic, he/she must be baptized Christian. They are recorded as a Christian witness in the baptismal records and on the certificate. Non-Christians may NOT be sponsors (Mormon, Jewish, Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, etc). Lapsed Catholics or a Catholic married outside the church may **NOT** be a sponsor for Baptism.

PROXIES:

If the godparents cannot make it to the ceremony, a proxy may be selected. The proxy must be of the same form as the godparent or sponsor (i.e. male Catholic must be selected to stand in for a male Catholic godparent; female Christian witness must be selected to stand in for a female Christian witness, etc). No sponsor forms are required for the proxy.

Parents who were not married in the Church – We will invite them to set up an appointment with the pastor to see about having their marriage con-validated. Most couples are willing to do this. Their particular circumstances determine the level of complexity in having this done, but that is for the pastor to decide and discuss with them.

Children who are not babies –We schedule Baptisms on the first and third Sunday afternoon for children from age 0-6. Children should be baptized at the earliest possible time. The parents of a child age 7 or over need to schedule a meeting with the Director of Religious Education to determine the best course of action.

We **do** accept sponsorship certificates (forms) from the godparents' home parish. They do not have to use our form. Please make sure they have had their pastor sign and seal the sponsor form. If the pastor's signature or parish seal is missing, this could delay the Baptism. All forms should be mailed or brought to the parish office. We will accept a fax, but the original must be received at least one week prior to the Baptism.

Parent Request for Infant Baptism

Please print, and remember that this form will provide permanent information for the Baptism records for your child. Please verify legal spelling of names. Please return the following to the parish office at your earliest convenience. Once these forms are received, a Baptism date will be scheduled and confirmed.

1. Information for Infant Baptism (this form)
2. Original copies of the Godparents' sponsor certificates signed and sealed by the pastor of the Catholic Church where they are currently registered.

**All forms must be turned into the parish office
prior to the Baptism date being scheduled.
Once the Parent Request for Baptism and the sponsor forms
for the Godparents are received, the Parish office will
schedule your child's Baptism.**

Name of Child: _____
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____
(month, day, year) (city, state)

Baptism date requested: _____

**Please know St. Veronica Catholic Church schedules Baptisms at
12:30 pm on the First and Third Sunday of each month.
We have a limit of 6 children per Sunday.
The Baptism date will be scheduled, once all forms
are received by the Parish Office.**

Are you the parents or legal guardians of the child? Parent Guardian

If legal guardian, is this your child by legal adoption? Yes No

Has the child been previously baptized? Yes No (if yes, please give information below)

Date of Baptism: _____ Church Chapel Hospital Home

Names and ages of siblings: _____

Parent Information

Name of Father: _____
(first) (middle) (last)

Address: _____
(street) (city) (state) (zip code)

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Religion of Father: Catholic? Yes No

If no, what religion does the Father practice? _____

Maiden Name of Mother: _____
(first) (middle) (last)

Address: _____
(street) (city) (state) (zip code)

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Religion of mother: Catholic? Yes No If no, what Religion? _____

Are parents currently registered at St. Veronica Church? Yes No _____
Envelope #

Do parents attend Mass? Yes No How often? _____

Parents Marital Status: Married Separated Divorced Unmarried

Were parents married in the Catholic Church? Yes No Civilly? Yes No

If married civilly, has marriage been validated by the Catholic Church? Yes No

If separated/divorced or unmarried, who has legal custody of the child?

Name: _____ Relationship to child: _____

Address: _____
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

Have parents attended a Baptism Preparation Class? Yes No

Parish where class was taken? _____ Date: _____

**St. Veronica Catholic Church, 3460 Centreville Road, Chantilly, VA 20151
703-773-2000**

Godparent Information

Name of Godfather/Christian Witness: _____
(first) (middle) (last)

Is the Godfather a Baptized Christian? Yes No Which Denomination? _____

Is the Godfather a Baptized Catholic? Yes No Married? Yes No

If Catholic, Name of Parish where currently registered? _____
(Name) (City, State)

Was the Godfather Married in the Catholic Church? Yes No Civilly? Yes No

If no, has marriage been validated by the Catholic Church? Yes No

Confirmed in the Catholic Church? Yes No

Does Godfather attend Catholic Mass? Yes No How Often? _____

Name of Godmother/Christian Witness: _____
(first) (middle) (last)

Is the Godmother a Baptized Christian? Yes No Which Denomination? _____

Is the Godmother a Baptized Catholic? Yes No Married? Yes No

If Catholic, Name of Parish where currently registered? _____
(Name) (City, State)

Was the Godmother Married in the Catholic Church? Yes No Civilly? Yes No

If no, has marriage been validated by the Catholic Church? Yes No

Confirmed in the Catholic Church? Yes No

Does Godmother attend Catholic Mass? Yes No How often? _____

For Office Use Only:

_____ Registered Parishioners _____ Parents attended Baptism Class

_____ Godmothers's Sponsor Certificate rec'd _____ Godfather's Sponsor Certificate rec'd

Date of Baptism

Celebrant

_____ Baptism Certificate Complete _____ Entered into register

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