



St. John the Evangelist

BAPTISM preparation

- 1) We expect that parents seeking Baptism for their child/children are already **attending Sunday Mass weekly**. **Prayerfully read through the Parent Covenant.**
 - Those not currently attending Sunday Mass will be asked to complete additional preparation before Baptism
- 2) **Meet with our Discipleship Coordinator, Todd Gale or the Coordinator of Sacramental Preparation, Angel Koerke**
- 3) **Baptism Registration Form**, please use full legal names for this information.
- 4) With the Godparents that you have chosen, **view the video series called REBORN**, three main videos and Godparent video. This is REALLY terrific!
 - Go to www.formed.org
 - Create a free log in (*St. John has a parish membership*)
 - Find THE **SACRAMENTS** tab under the **Programs** dropdown
 - Complete the **REBORN** series:
 - ⇒ Get together with the Godparents you've chosen
 - ⇒ Watch all three main videos & Godparent video together
 - ⇒ complete the **reflection pages** included in this packet (*parents complete the first three, Godparents the last one*)
- 5) **Godparent letter**. This should be completed by each practicing Catholic Godparent (there must be at least one), signed by their pastor, & returned to St. John's Parish
A quick note about Godparents, according to Church Law (Canon 872-874):
 - ~ *at least one Godparent must be an active, practicing Catholic;*
 - ~ *the second Godparent may be Baptized into any Christian faith but they must be Baptized;*
 - ~ *there may be one male or one female or one of each gender;*
 - ~ *they must be over 16 years of age, Confirmed, & in good standing with the Church; and*
 - ~ *Godparents cannot be the biological/adoptive parents or current legal guardians.*
- 6) ALL paperwork returned no less than **10 days before the Baptism**, please.
- 7) Baptisms are usually on the **third Sunday of the month** at your choice of Mass time. We cannot guarantee a particular celebrant for a Baptism.

REBORN
YOU, YOUR CHILD, AND THE HEART OF BAPTISM



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ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH

Parents' Covenant Agreement:

At a child's Baptism they are brought into covenant relationship with God, made an adopted son or daughter in His family. Covenants are unbreakable, lifelong bonds that form a family where one did not exist before; they are an exchange of persons that come with both rights and responsibilities.

PARENTS

When you bring a child to be Baptized, you are asking for him/her to enjoy the rights (ie: salvation) of being a part of the family of God while also accepting responsibilities in the form of a Baptismal Promise asked of parents at every Catholic Baptism: *"You have asked to have your child baptized. In doing so **you are accepting the responsibility of training him/her in the practice of the faith...**Do you clearly understand the commitment you are undertaking?"* *

To raise a child in the practice of the Catholic faith means that you accept these responsibilities :

- **Attend Mass every Sunday** and on Holy Days
- **Receive** the Sacrament of **Reconciliation at least once a year**
- **Provide for the needs** of the parish (by giving of my time & treasure)
- **Receive ongoing Catholic formation** (Catholic school/parish religious education for children; adult formation opportunities for parents)
- **Pray** for and with each other daily

Prayerfully consider this statement: I promise that I do fulfill, or intend to begin living out, the above responsibilities of my child's Baptismal covenant.

PARISH TEAM

The staff and volunteers of the both the clergy and formation team promise to:

- **Support & encourage** individuals and families preparing for sacraments
- **Be faithful witnesses** to Christ
- **Hold to the teachings** of the Catholic Church
- To **pray for all** those preparing and their families

*emphasis added



St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
BAPTISM REGISTRATION

BAPTISM DATE: _____

MASS TIME: _____

CHILD

NAME: _____ DATE of BIRTH: _____ GENDER: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

PLACE of BIRTH: _____ EMERGENCY BAPTISM?: () Yes () No
(City) (State)

MOTHER

NAME: _____ MAIDEN: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

RELIGION:

- () Catholic
() Latin Rite () Other _____
() Baptism () Eucharist () Confirmation
() Registered () Active

Church of Baptism: _____

Address: _____

- () Christian, denomination: _____
() Non-Christian, specify: _____

FATHER

NAME: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

RELIGION:

- () Catholic
() Latin Rite () Other _____
() Baptism () Eucharist () Confirmation
() Registered () Active

Church of Baptism: _____

Address: _____

- () Christian, denomination: _____
() Non-Christian, specify: _____

CHILD'S RESIDENCE/CONTACT INFO

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____
(street)

(city, state, zip) EMAIL: _____

CURRENT FAITH PRACTICE:

PARISH of FAMILY REGISTRY

(parish where family is currently attending Mass & registered)

Church Name: _____

Address: _____

(if other than St. John): _____

Our family (Catholic parent(s) and children) attends Sunday Mass:

() Weekly () Once/twice a month () Quarterly () Holidays only () Never

CHILD'S NAME _____

GODMOTHER

NAME: _____ MAIDEN: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

RELIGION:

- ☐ Catholic
☐ Baptism ☐ Eucharist ☐ Confirmation
☐ Registered ☐ Active
☐ Verification Letter Received

Baptism Church: _____

Address: _____

☐ Christian, denomination: _____

☐ Non-Christian, specify: _____

GODFATHER

NAME: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

RELIGION:

- ☐ Catholic
☐ Baptism ☐ Eucharist ☐ Confirmation
☐ Registered ☐ Active
☐ Verification Letter Received

Baptism Church: _____

Address: _____

☐ Christian, denomination: _____

☐ Non-Christian, specify: _____

PERMISSION TO PUBLISH

(please check only ONE)

- ☐ I give permission for pictures of my child's Baptism to be published on parish media (website, bulletin, Facebook, etc) **with names** included
- ☐ I give permission for pictures of my child's Baptism to be published on parish media (website, bulletin, Facebook, etc) but **no names** may be used
- ☐ I give permission for my child's Baptism to be published on parish media (website, bulletin, Facebook, etc) but **only names—no images/pictures—**may be used
- ☐ I do **NOT** want any kind of notification of this Baptism to be published (no pictures, names, or family information of any kind) in any kind of media (website, bulletin, Facebook, etc).

Parent Signature: _____

FOR OFFICE USE:

Notes:

Baptism Prep Meeting:

☐ Attended, date: _____ ☐ Attended w/ previous children

☐ Baptism COMPLETED

☐ Info sent to school for follow-up

☐ Baptism RECORDED in Registry and electronically

By _____ Date _____

Registry book and page: _____

SESSION 1

A NEW CREATION

REBORN
YOU, YOUR CHILD, AND THE HEART OF BAPTISM



1. Have you ever attended a Baptism? What details do you remember

2. Which type of baptism in the Old Testament caught your attention the most? Why? Did any of those types of baptism come as a surprise to you? Explain?

3. Ezekiel 36:25–26 says, “I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you.” What do you think it means to have a new heart and a new spirit through Baptism?

4. Why do you desire Baptism for your child or godchild? What is your deepest desire for your child or godchild in Baptism?

FINAL THOUGHTS:

What will you do to help your child walk in the freedom of his or her identity as God’s child? How will you help him or her resist the temptations of the world and the devil’s cunning? How can you start fulfilling this mission even now?



SESSION 2

ENTERING THE MYSTERY:

THE RITE EXPLAINED

REBORN
YOU, YOUR CHILD AND THE HEART OF BAPTISM



1. What are some choices you have already made for your child (or that you have observed parents making for their children)? What would be the potential consequences of delaying these decisions until the child is old enough to make those decisions for him/herself? Why do you think it is important for you to choose Baptism for your child (or to support the parents in choosing for their child)? What are some of the reasons you are choosing Baptism for your child or godchild?

2. Baptism brings us into the family of God, the Church. This means so much more than just being welcomed into the local parish. The family of God stretches across time and culture. What does it mean to you to be a part of the family of God? How will you help your child or godchild understand and live out his or her identity as part of the family of God?

3. The *Catechism* states, "Incorporated into Christ by Baptism, the person baptized is configured to Christ. Baptism seals the Christian with the indelible spiritual mark (character) of his belonging to Christ" (CCC 1272). This indelible seal marks us as belonging to God, and nothing can change or erase the seal of Baptism. What does it mean to you to be marked as belonging to Christ? Why is it important to you that your child or godchild be marked by this seal now?

FINAL THOUGHTS:

Consider the effects of your Baptism and your own life of faith; this is the faith you will profess at your child's/godchild's Baptism. What is going well in your spiritual life? Where could you use some improvement to be the best possible model and guide of faith for your child/godchild?



SESSION 3

NURTURING THE LIFE OF GRACE

REBORN
YOU, YOUR CHILD, AND THE HEART OF BAPTISM



1. Why is the Christian life meant to be lived out in community? What effect has th faith had on you?

2. Which aspect of the threefold mission of Priest, Prophet, and King do you think is easiest to live out? Which do you think is hardest? Why?

3. Who are your godparents? How have they impacted your faith? How do you see them impacting the faith of your child?

FINAL THOUGHTS:

Your child needs you to let the Holy Spirit do his work in YOU so that you live your Baptismal mission as a priest, prophet, and king. What can you start doing now to live this mission more faithfully? What can you begin doing as a family, now and in the future, to teach your child about their calling to be a priest, prophet, and king in the world?



THE GIFT OF GODPARENTS REBORN



Godparents and Parents should watch this video together,
but this worksheet should be completed by just the Godparents

1. How did you feel about being asked to be a Godparent? Why do you think the parents of this child have asked you to have this role?

2. After watching the video, has your understanding of what it means to be a Godparent changed at all? In what ways?

3. What is going well in your spiritual life? What area needs some improvement to help you be the best faith role model you can be?

4. What kinds of things can you as a Godparent do for your Godchild, today and in the years to come?





ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH

COME AND SEE

711 N. Martin Luther King Dr.
Jackson, MI - 49201
517-784-0553

Name of Person to receive sacrament: _____

Sacrament: () Baptism
() Confirmation

Sponsor/Godparent Letter

(This letter must be completed and signed by the Sponsor, and then signed and sealed by a Priest or authorized delegate at the parish where the Sponsor is registered and attending)

Sponsor/Godparent:

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Maiden Name: _____

Full Mailing address: _____

Email address: _____ Phone: _____

By my signature, I am testifying under oath in the Divine Name that I fulfill the guidelines to be Sponsor/Godparent (according to Canon Law #874, summarized here) :

- I am assuming a serious, lifelong responsibility to be a good role model in the Catholic faith by my life and my prayer
- I am a Roman Catholic and have celebrated all of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation)
- I participate weekly in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation
- I receive Holy Communion and the sacrament of Reconciliation at least once a year
- If married, I am married according to the laws of the Catholic Church
- I am at least 16 years of age or will be by the date of Baptism/Confirmation for which I will be a sponsor
- I am not the parent, step-parent, or legal guardian of the person to be Baptized/Confirmed

Sponsor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

St. John Parishioners:

Once you have completed and signed the top of this letter, please return it to the St. John Parish office/Faith Formation Department.

Non-St. John Parishioners:

After you have filled out and signed the above information, please give this letter to your pastor to complete and return to the Faith Formation Dept at St. John.

To the Sponsor/Godparent's Pastor:

The above named person is a registered member of the parish listed below.

Pastor's/approved delegate's signature: _____

Date: _____

Printed name: _____

Name/Address of parish: _____

PARISH SEAL