

## SANTA TERESITA CATHOLIC CHURCH

### INFANT BAPTISM POLICY

Congratulations on the birth of your child! We are especially thankful that you are now desiring to become truly responsible Christian parents. Infant baptism (birth up to 6 yrs of age) is a long standing and venerable tradition in the Roman Catholic Church.

Infant baptism requires that parents and godparents be committed to the practice of the faith, because these adults will speak for their child in claiming him/her for the Lord Jesus Christ. Since baptism (the fundamental sacrament), like all sacraments, is a public expression of our incorporation into sacred mysteries, there must be some evidence of sincerity in proclaiming and practicing our Catholic faith.

Therefore, here at Santa Teresita, if you desire to have your young child baptized you need to follow the following guidelines/process:

**Parents must be registered in our parish.**

**Godparents must be:**

- (1). Fully initiated in the Roman Catholic Church  
Baptized, Confirmed, and receiving Communion  
regularly.**
  
- (2). If married, Godparents must be in a current Catholic sacramental  
marriage.  
Please provide our office with current baptismal  
certificate with notations from place of baptism.**
  
- (3). If not married, Godparents must be actually living single according  
to the norms of the Church.**
  
- (4.) Parents and sponsors will be required to take 2 classes (dates will  
be provided by Santa Teresita Parish).**

Parents, if you are unknown to our parish you must come to Sunday Mass every Sunday for 3 months, to show minimal commitment to raising your child in the faith. If you cannot do this (since you are speaking for your child), then you should not baptize your child now. If you comply with these guidelines above you may move to the next step and take the baptism classes and set a date for your child's baptism.

May the Lord Bless you and hold you in His love as we all journey together in building the Body of Christ here and now.