

Stipend for Baptism

Although it is customary to offer a stipend to the person who officiates, it is not required. If the family wishes to extend this gesture of gratitude, it can be made within the context of personal financial ability.

Some remarks about infant baptism from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

Born with a fallen human nature and tainted by original sin, children have the need of the new birth in Baptism to be freed from the power of darkness and brought into the realm of the freedom of the children of God. (1250)

Christian parents will recognize that this practice also accords with their role as nurturers of the life that God has entrusted to them. (1251)

Baptism is the sacrament of faith. And faith needs the community of believers. Baptisms should be celebrated during the Sunday Liturgy with the community of believers present, whenever possible.

BAPTISM IS A SERIOUS, LIFE LONG COMMITMENT, PASSING ON THE FAITH FROM CARING AND CHURCH GOING PARENTS TO AN AS YET FULLY FAITHFORMED CHILD.

Updated March 2015

One in a series of guidelines for the members of the

**Church of St. John the Baptist
210 E. Dominick St.
Rome, New York 13440**

**Transfiguration Parish
111 Ridge St.
Rome, NY 13440**

**Reverend Paul F. Angelicchio
Pastor
Dcn. Michael Gudaitis
Deacon**

www.stjohnbaptist.info

The Sacrament of



Holy BAPTISM

Guidelines for parents and guardians at the

**Church of
St. John the Baptist
Rome, NY**

and

**Transfiguration Parish
111 Ridge St.
Rome, NY 13440**

**To schedule a baptism,
Please read this pamphlet;
then call Dave & Cindy Lyman**

Phone: 315-335-6635

Email: dlyman8005@aol.com

Guidelines and Requirements for Parents

It is only the parent(s) or legal guardian who can request the baptism of a child under the age of reason.

The person(s) requesting baptism of an infant needs to be an active member of the Church of St. John the Baptist.

Active membership is described as:

1. **Completion of a Parish census form;**
2. **Regular attendance at Sunday Worship;**

If the person requesting baptism is a member of another parish, he or she will need a letter attesting to active membership from his or her pastor.

Workshop

Parents who are requesting a baptism are required to attend a workshop.

Please contact the person listed on the front of this brochure to schedule the workshop and Baptismal ceremony.

All others are not required to attend the workshop but are most welcome to do so. Please contact the person on the front of this brochure to schedule the Baptismal ceremony.

Sponsors or Godparents and the Faith Community

The *Catechism* states: For the grace of Baptism to unfold, the parent's help is important. So too is the role of godfather and godmother, who must be firm believers, able and ready to help the newly baptized on the road of Christian life. They and the whole church community bear some responsibility for the development and safeguarding of the grace given at Baptism. (1255)

For those reasons **at least one sponsor** (godparent will be a **practicing, baptized Catholic**.

This may be someone from St. John the Baptist, who like the parents, fulfills the definition of membership - **registration, regular worship, parish support.**

Or this may be someone from **another parish** who has obtained from his or her pastor a document called a **sponsor certificate.**

Scheduling Baptism

Baptisms at the Church of St. John the Baptist takes place during the weekend Liturgy; on the second and third Sundays of each month immediately after the 11:00 am Mass or by appointment.

Baptisms at Transfiguration Church takes place during any weekend Liturgy at 10:45 am; or by appointment.

Except for grave and serious reasons, baptisms are not celebrated during Lent.

Since children are born and raised within the context of a particular community, the community, like the parents, looks forward to the healthy birth and joyful baptism of the children of its members.