



St. Timothy Catholic Church

21 Leith Hill Road, North York, Ontario M2J 1Y9 Telephone: 416-494-6526 <https://sttimothyto.archtoronto.org/>

17 October 2022

Dear Parents,

It is wonderful news that you have decided to have your child baptized! The very fact that you have asked to have your child baptized shows that you recognize the importance of God in your own lives and that you seek to pass on the gift of faith.

By choosing baptism, you place your child in the hands of God and commit him/her to the loving care of Jesus and His Mother Mary. Additionally, you accept the responsibility of teaching your child in the lifelong practice of the faith.

Please read the guidelines and requirements for the baptism of your child at St Timothy's.

In Christ,
Fr. Galen Bank, Pastor

GUIDELINES FOR INFANT BAPTISM

CHILD

This program is for a child up to *6 years of age*. If your child is 7 years or older, he/she would have to enroll in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Children (RCIC) program.

PARENTS

- At least one parent has to be a Catholic. Proof of baptism certificate of one of the parents is required.
- The [Baptism Registration Form](#) must be completed in full.
- A copy of the long birth certificate of the child must be provided.
- It is mandatory for parents and godparents to attend the baptism preparation classes.
- A date for Baptism will not be booked until all requirements are met.
- Registration requirements:
 - the mother or the father is a registered member of St. Timothy's (or member of another parish) for at least three months prior to attendance of a baptism preparation class. If you are a member of another parish, you must provide us with a Baptism Permission Letter signed by the pastor of that parish which should indicate the date of your registration.

- Parish registration means formal written registration with the parish as contained in the parish records. Unless there is a medical emergency involving the child, no exceptions will be made to the parish registration requirements.
- If you do not meet the registration requirement at this time, you may begin to gather necessary documentation. You may not, however, attend the baptism preparation class until after you meet the registration requirement.

GODPARENTS

An important decision in your child's baptism is the choice of godparents. When you choose your child's godparents, talk with them about your mutual expectations. The Catholic Church requires the following of godparents:

- You must designate them, and they must be willing to help your child lead a Christian life in harmony with the Catholic faith.
- They must be at least sixteen years of age.
- They must be Catholics who are baptized and confirmed and have received first communion.
- They must lead a life "in harmony with the faith."
- They must be someone other than the child's parents.
- You may have one or two godparents. If you choose two, one must be male, and the other female. You must have at least one Catholic Godparent. In addition, a Baptized person who is actively practicing the Christian faith may be a sponsor in the role "as Christian Witness;" but only in company with a practicing Catholic.

It is mandatory for both Godparents to attend the baptism preparation class. If they live outside the Archdiocese of Toronto, they will need to provide proof that they have attended a baptismal preparation class in another Parish.

OTHER

- An offering of \$25 is suggested for the parish of St. Timothy's
- All documents and offertory should be submitted at one time to the Parish office.
- Provided all the documents are in place, we will schedule you to attend the baptism preparation class.

For further questions, please contact Baptism Coordinators:

Gina & Victor Sosa at: sttimbaptism@gmail.com

DOCUMENT CHECKLIST

- [Baptism Registration Form](#) Completed: includes godparent information
- Proof of baptism of one parent (original and copy)
- Long Birth Certificate of the child with the names of biological parents (original and copy)
- Baptism Permission Letter (if parents are registered in another parish)