



HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH

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WWW.HFORANGE.ORG

Dear Parents,

The parish of Holy Family Catholic Church gives thanks to God for the gift of new life in your family. We look forward to celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism with you for your child. There are some documents to be gathered and a class for parents and godparents to attend in preparation for the Baptism. In some situations, there may be a need for additional information, but we are confident that you are ready with the anticipated dedication.

The following section will provide the information you need. Deacon Gerhard Stadel (gstadel@hforange.org), our coordinator for Baptisms, will be guiding you through the preparation.

Once again, congratulations! We thank you for the opportunity to be a part of the beginning of the life of grace, in Baptism for your child.

Sincerely in Christ,

Father Sy Nguyen

Father Sy Nguyen, Pastor

*please note: As of August 1, 2023
Stephanie Hernandez will now
be our coordinator for the
Sacrament of Baptism.*

STEPS TO HAVING YOUR CHILD BAPTIZED AT HOLY FAMILY CHURCH:

1. Call the church office at (714) 639-2900. Please note that Baptisms are reserved for parishioners. If you are registered in another parish, please request a letter of permission from your pastor.
2. The coordinator of the Baptism ministry will contact you to provide the necessary forms and to gather the information and documents.
3. Attend Baptism Class. Please note that the class is **mandatory for both parents and qualified godparents**. A date for the baptism should only be set after class has been completed and all documents have been received and verified.
4. Baptisms are held on Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. with occasional exceptions.
5. All Baptisms will be held in the community forum.

QUALIFICATIONS OF GODPARENTS (SPONSORS)

1. Baptized and confirmed Catholics who are practicing the Catholic Faith.
2. If married, the marriage must have been in the Catholic Church.
3. Attend Baptism Class here or verified home parish.
4. Only one godparent is required - one male, one female, or one of each.
5. A non-Catholic Christian is not qualified to be designated a godparent but can be listed as a Christian witness.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How much does it cost to have my child baptized?

- Baptism has no financial costs, as no money can pay for the graces God bestows on your child in the Sacrament. However, a free-will offering of \$50 is asked to cover administrative/material costs. While no one is denied the Sacrament due to an inability to pay material costs, your situation may allow a greater donation to cover others.

What happens if the godparent(s) live far away and cannot come to the Baptism?

- Other adults(s) can stand in as a proxy for the absent godparent(s) at the Baptism. The proxy must also meet godparent qualifications and is to be appointed by the official godparent(s); with absent godparent(s) still required to attend and provide proof of a Baptism preparation class.

Can my child have more than two godparents?

- Yes, if all the requirements for godparents are met. However, please know that the Church will record a maximum of two godparents -- one male, one female or one of each.

Can we have our child baptized even if we are not married in the Church?

- Yes, if you are willing to begin the process of having your marriage convalidated. The priests and deacons of our parish will assist you. The Baptism is not delayed while the progress of your convalidation continues.

Can grandparents ask for the Baptism of a grandchild?

- For obvious reasons, the Church prefers that the parents take the initiative for the Baptism of their child. However, if the parents agree, the pastor can make an exception on a case-by-case basis.

Can I attend the Baptism class if I am going to be a godparent at another parish? If so, what is the fee?

- Yes, as a courtesy, the Baptism preparation class is open to other parishes, with the necessary qualifications met and the suggested fee of \$50 for administration and materials.