

**PARENTS' GUIDELINES FOR THE 2:00 PM BAPTISM POURING CEREMONY
AT ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC COMMUNITY**

1. **The Baptism Host will be with you during the entire Baptism, directing you all the way.**
The Baptism Host will meet you at church at 1:30 PM to check your Baptism Registration form with you, and to assign you and your guests to a seating area in the Church.
2. **At 1:50 PM**, you, the godparents, and all your family and friends will take your seats.
3. **The Baptism will begin at 2:00 PM SHARP** with the Host greeting everyone and inviting the parents, siblings and godparents to join the Priest/Deacon in the back of the church, lining up in front of the Baptismal Pool. The Priest/Deacon will ask you to say your baby's name and to answer the question, "What do you ask of God's Church for your child?" ("BAPTISM" is your response.) He will ask the godparents if they are ready to assist you. (Their response is "We are.")
4. **Process up the main aisle**, following the Priest/Deacon and the Host. You will take your seats in your assigned section. The Liturgy of the Word and a Homily will follow. Then, the child will be anointed with the Oil of the Catechumens followed by the Intercessions and Invocation of the Saints, the Blessing of the Water, the Renunciation of Sin, and the Profession of Faith.
5. **The Baptism Host calls each family to the Baptismal Pool, one at a time.** When you are called, all of your family and friends will proceed to the Baptismal Pool. The Host will direct you where to stand. You will hold the baby's head over the water for Baptism.
6. **After the Baptism**, the Host will direct all of you to use a side aisle to return to your seats. Please sit quietly during the Baptism of each baby.
7. **When the last baby is baptized**, the Priest/Deacon will return to the front of the church and invite you, the baby, siblings and godparents to come up to the sanctuary for the anointing of the Sacred Chrism and lighting of the baptismal candle. The Host will direct you to stand behind the altar, facing your family and friends. The celebrant will anoint each baby with sacred chrism. As the celebrant begins the prayer for the lighting of the baptismal candles, the Host will direct the first godfather to light his baptismal candle from the Paschal Candle, then pass the flame on to the next godfather. All the godfathers will pass the flame on to the next godfather, until all the baptismal candles are lit.
8. **Following the candle lighting**, the Lord's prayer is said by all, and the Priest blesses the baby, the parents, the siblings, and the community. This is the conclusion of the Baptism Ceremony. It usually takes about one hour.

PLEASE REMEMBER:

1. **BE AT CHURCH AT 1:30 PM**
2. **FOLLOW THE HOST'S DIRECTIONS.**
3. **REMAIN QUIET AND SEATED DURING THE BAPTISM OF THE OTHER BABIES.**
4. **ALL OF YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE INVITED TO THE BAPTISMAL POOL.**
5. **VIDEO CAMERAS AND CAMERAS ARE OK DURING THE CEREMONY AT THE BAPTISMAL POOL.**
6. **THE CELEBRANT WILL BE EITHER A PRIEST OR DEACON.**