

SAINT BERNARD CATHOLIC CHURCH

8279 Sunset Strip, Sunrise, Florida 33322
Phone: 954-781-7800 - Fax: 954-742-4558

Baptism Information

St. Bernard performs Baptisms in English on the 1st Sunday of the month and, in Spanish, the 3rd Sunday of the month, both at 1pm. Registration is necessary prior to the Baptism. We kindly ask for a donation of \$100.00 for Baptisms.

All parents (or legal guardians) and godparents (or sponsors) must attend a preparation class, called: Pre-Baptism Class. This is a requirement and here, at St. Bernard, we offer this class every 1st Tuesday of the month, at 7pm, in one of the Classrooms of the Parish Center. Please call the Parish Office (954-741-7800) to let them know when you and/or your group will be attending the class. **Everyone attending class must bring a picture ID, since the name on the Baptismal Certificate will be the same name reflected on the ID.** If you or anyone in your group cannot attend any of our classes, you may take the class at any Catholic Parish in the world. The Original Class Attendance Certificate must be presented to our offices at least a week prior to the Baptism. **The Parish seal needs to be on this Certificate of Attendance.**

A copy of the child's Birth Certificate is required. Parents (or legal guardians) need to live within our Parish boundaries. When you have all required documents, please come to the Parish Office to register for the Baptism and the Pre-baptism Class.

Parents (or legal guardians) that live outside of our Parish boundaries need to get a letter of permission from their church, plus all the required paper work.

Godparents (or sponsors) have to be over 16, must have received Baptism, Holy Communion & Confirmation. If they are married, it must have been in the Catholic Church, not only civilly. A Sponsor Certificate Letter is required from their Parish to say they are practicing/active Catholics.

Baptism Procedures:

- 1) Children must be up to 6 years to receive Baptism. If 7 years or older, they are candidates for our Religious Education Classes (CCD) which include Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation.
- 2) **Birth Certificate is needed for each child that will be Baptized.**
- 3) Both parents (or legal guardians) should be Catholic. If not, a letter from the parent who is not Catholic is needed stating they are giving permission to have their child Baptized in the Catholic Faith. The letter must be notarized. We can Notarize this letter at the Parish Office for free, but both parents need to be present.
- 4) An official and/or legal document, from the Court, is required if parents are divorced or separated and/or only one has custody of the child.
- 5) If both parents share custody of the child, and one of them will not be present at Baptism, a notarized letter should be provided giving permission for the child to be Baptized.
- 6) Legal guardian(s) need to present an official and/or legal document from the Court, showing they have full custody of the child to be Baptized.
- 7) Both godparents (or sponsors) must be a confirmed practicing Catholic. If not, one should be a confirmed practicing Catholic and the other can be Christian, but can't be a Mormon, Jehovah Witness or Atheist. In this case, the full responsibility goes to the Catholic godparent (sponsor). The other Christian will only be a witness, with no responsibilities.
- 8) If not our parishioner, godparent (or sponsor) should obtain a Sponsor Certificate Letter from the current Parish they are attending.

Pre-Baptismal Class Date: _____ (please call the day before to confirm attendance)

Class starts at 7pm. (Please do not be late and arrive 5-10 minutes before class) Class is approximately 1 hour, therefore, ask all parties to complete the full hour from beginning to end. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Schedule Date of Baptism: _____ (If any changes, please call the office)

The Baptism starts 1pm and it is recommended that the family attends the 12pm Mass in English or the 2pm Mass in Spanish.

If you do not have a baby sitter for your children, you can bring them to class.

PLEASE DO OR BRING TO THE PARISH OFFICE THE FOLLOWING, BEFORE THE BAPTISM DATE:

- 1) Copy of the Birth Certificate of the child.
- 2) Pay for the Baptism.
- 3) Make sure to bring ALL, already mentioned, required documentation.