

Pastor's Message to Parents:



Fr. Dave Sajdak, SDB

We are delighted that you are seeking Baptism for your child and we, your parish community, share in the joy of this celebration with you.

Baptism begins the initiation process into the fullness of the Catholic faith. It is an ancient Catholic rite that for many is almost an automatic reflex. Even parents whose practice of the faith is not strong will think of having their child baptized.

Because readiness for Baptism is often assumed, we are in danger of taking it for granted or 'doing it' for social, cultural or family reasons. Sadly, for some people, baptism is little more than a ticket to a Catholic School.

As pastor, I would like to reflect with you about the meaning of all this.

1. When you got married in the Catholic church, you made a promise to raise as good Christians the children whom God will give you.
2. Now at the Baptism of your child, be it your first or your fourth, is a time of grace; and an ideal time for you to review/renew what you have already committed on the day of your own Baptism, what you have renewed on your Confirmation and what you have promised on the day of your Catholic marriage—to live your faith and to raise your children in that same faith.

I share these reflections with you, in part to challenge you, but even more because you are so important.

Your child is eligible for baptism at this time because of you. I support and affirm you in your commitment to our faith and to passing on the faith to your child.

To assist you in the preparations of this joyful sacrament, please:

- *read through this booklet,*
- *complete the Registration Form, Questionnaire & Information Form for Baptism Sponsors,*
- *return the above to the parish office.*

May this time of preparation leading to your child's baptism be a grace-filled time for you and your family -- a time of renewal, refreshment and new life in the Spirit.

Peace, joy and health in the Lord.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Sajdak".

Fr. David Sajdak