



SAN FERNANDO CATHEDRAL

Sponsors for Baptism

Whenever a person is baptized, as an infant, as a child, or as an adult, there should be at least one person present who will act as sponsor for the one being baptized. The Sponsor, commonly referred to as one's godmother or godfather (padrino/madrina), accepts the responsibility of helping the person grow in the Catholic faith. One who acts as a sponsor for an infant or child agrees to help the parents teach their child about the faith and how to live as a practicing Catholic. One who acts as sponsor for an adult agrees to encourage and support the person, pray with and for the person, and offer whatever help, information, or support is needed while the person is preparing to enter the Church and then in living out the rest of his or her life as a practicing Catholic.

For a person to act as a sponsor for Baptism, he or she must:

- Be at least sixteen years old.
- Have already received all the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist).
- Be living in a way that demonstrates one's faith is strong enough to be able to fulfill the responsibilities involved with being a sponsor.
- If married, sponsor must be married in accord with the laws of the Church.



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Baptism Requirements and Checklist

You cannot register for a baptism date until all requirements have been met, please check each box as you complete each task, once completed you may stop by our office and register for the baptism.

All requirements are coming from the “Sacramental Guidelines for Infant Baptism Archdiocese of San Antonio Handbook”; these are policies put into place by the Archdiocese and follow the Canon Law.

Parent Information:

- Child’s official state issued Birth Certificate
- Letter of Permission and Proof of Attendance from the parish that you are registered.
 - If you are not registered at any parish you must request a letter from the parish that is within your boundaries.
 - If you are a registered parishioner at San Fernando Cathedral, we will locate you in our ParishSoft System.
- Registration Form – to be completed in the Cathedral Offices with the receptionist
 - \$50.00 registration fee/child

Godparents Information:

- Must be over the age of 16 years old
- Not bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed
- Cannot be the mother or father of the child
- One female and/or one male Godparent
- Letter of Permission and Proof of Attendance from the parish that they are registered.
 - If they are not registered at any parish they must request a letter from the parish that is within their boundaries.
 - If they are a registered parishioner at San Fernando Cathedral, we will locate them in our ParishSoft System.
- Sacramental Records
 - Baptism Certificate
 - First Holy Communion Certificate
 - Confirmation Certificate
 - Marriage Certificate
 - Only needed if either of the Godparents are married, and **they must be married through the Catholic Church**

Note: A Baptism certificate with First Communion, Confirmation, and Marriage notations is enough.

- Both parents and Godparents must attend the Baptism Preparation Class on the Thursday @ 7:00pm before the Baptism on Saturday
 - This prep class may be taken at your parish, but proof of completion (letter or certificate)
 - This prep class is valid for 2 years.