



## The Sacrament of Baptism

(updated 11/29/09)

Our Parish celebrates the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* (RCIA) on a regular basis. In addition, Baptisms for children are celebrated on the **third Sunday of the month** at 11:15AM (English) and 12:00pm (Haitian), except during Lent.

Throughout the Easter season, baptisms are celebrated *exclusively* at Parish Masses.

A few things to keep in mind:

- **Baptism Preparation:** Attendance at a Baptism Preparation session is required (either at Christ the King Parish or at another parish, with written verification.) Christ the King Parish offers baptism preparation on the **first Thursday of every month** at 6:30pm (English) and 7:15pm (Haitian) in the parish church. Registration is required to attend the preparation session.
- **Godparents/Sponsors:** The role of the Godparents/Sponsors in the life of the newly baptized is crucial and not to be underestimated. Often the qualifications for a Catholic to be a Godparent are misunderstood. The qualifications are –
  1. A **confirmed Catholic**, who is living a life befitting the role of sponsor,
  2. Who is **not under canonical penalty**,
  3. Who is **not a parent** of the person being baptized,
  4. Who is, ordinarily, **sixteen years** of age.
  - **Baptized non-Catholics:** A baptized non-Catholic individual can be present as a **Christian Witness**. However, this status is for *non-Catholics only*; it is not applicable to baptized, but not-yet-Confirmed Catholics.

*(For a complete explanation of these qualifications and the rationale, please download the following PDF file: [Why Catholic Godparents Need to be Confirmed.](#))*

Please contact the Parish Office at 508/586-1575 for more information.