

# SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

**St. Camillus Church**



## *Guide for Infant Baptism*

The baptism of an infants is a treasured practice of the Catholic Church dating from the earliest tradition of the Church. At St. Camillus, we celebrate the sacrament with clear expectations of the parents and godparents of the infants to be baptized, as well as of the Christian community. Parents commit themselves to regular participation in our weekend liturgy and are encouraged to involve themselves and their children in the various activities and ministries of the parish and experience the love and support that this community has to offer.

- 1) To register an infant (up to 4 years of age) for baptism, the parents/legal guardians should come to the Parish Office with the child's birth certificate, at least one month in advance, and speak with our secretary/office assistant.
- 2) Parents/legal guardians registered in another parish must bring a letter of permission from their pastor to baptize at St. Camillus and provide a sound reason why the child should not be baptized in their parish.
- 3) Parents/legal guardians and godparents must attend the preparation class, unless they have attended classes here within a year. They must have a letter from their pastor if they have received classes elsewhere. Baptism preparation classes in English and Spanish are the first Tuesday of every month. Children should not be brought to the classes. Parents must register in advance for the preparation class with the Parish Office.
- 4) There need be only one godmother or godfather, although it is common practice to have one of each. A godparent must be a practicing Catholic who is at least 16 years of age and has received Confirmation. Other baptized persons can serve as witnesses, but only two persons can be officially designated as godparents.
- 5) Baptisms are celebrated once a month, Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Church. There are no private baptisms.
- 6) There are no baptisms scheduled during Lent. If this presents a hardship, please speak with one of the friars.
- 7) To baptize children five years of age or older, parents/legal guardian are asked to contact the Faith Formation Office.

## **Baptism for Children 5 years or older 5 – 7 years old**

Children 5-7 years-old must attend Baptismal Preparation classes, three consecutive Sunday classes.

Parents/legal guardians are asked to contact the Faith Formation Office to register.

After completing the three classes, parents must take the certificate of completion to the Parish Office.

For children with disabilities, please make an appointment with the Pastor.

## **8 – 11 years old**

Children must be register and attend the First Communion Program.

After successfully completing the first year of the First Communion Program, the parent must take the certificate of completion to the Parish Office to register the child for Baptism.

Parents/legal guardians are asked to contact the Faith Formation Office for more information and to register.

**Parish Office: 301-434-8400 ext 402 or [Epalacios@StCamillusChurch.org](mailto:Epalacios@StCamillusChurch.org)  
Faith Formation Office: 301-434-2111 or [FaithFormation@StCamillusChurch.org](mailto:FaithFormation@StCamillusChurch.org)**