# ***St. Mary Catholic Church*** Baptism Information Packet www.stmarytempletx.org

Parish Office, 1018 S. 7th Street, Temple, TX 7650

Phone: 254.773.4541 Email: stmaryoffice@stmarytempletx.org

We hope that through the Sacrament of Baptism, you and your loved ones will grow in the Faith of the Church and be open to receive all the graces that are so freely given by the Holy Spirit.

To have the sacrament celebrated and recorded by the parish, you will need to attend a baptism preparation course (both parents and godparents) and complete the required documentation.

**REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION & FORMS**

1. Proof of attendance for a baptism preparation course. If class was taken at another parish, a

 letter signed by the pastor or administrator verifying attendance. Participation is logged in for

 each person and won’t have to be retaken for 3 years. PARENTS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 GODPARENTS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. If not registered with St. Mary Catholic Church, a letter is required from the Pastor of the

 parish attended, stating parents’/godparent’s good standing with the Church.

 PARENTS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 GODPARENTS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. Parents/guardians who are not registered with St. Mary Catholic Church, a letter from the

 Pastor of the parish in which they are registered is required, granting permission for the child

 to be baptized outside that parish. PARENTS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. Copy of child’s birth certificate to verify date of birth and correct names.

 DATE RECEIVED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

5. Parent Questionnaire

6. Godparent(s)/Sponsor Covenant DATE RECEIVED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

7. Documentation of Baptism & Confirmation DATE RECEIVED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**POLICIES**

The baptism preparation course is designed to provide a solid Christian foundation in the home and to provide for the child’s spiritual well-being. Toward that end, both parents are encouraged to support their child’s baptism. In addition, if the parents are not married in the Church, they are strongly encouraged to begin working towards a Sacramental marriage. The most powerful assistance parents can have for forming a holy, Christian family is the grace of Sacramental marriage.

Parents/guardians must accept the responsibility of raising the child in the practice of the Catholic faith and nurture that Faith at home and within a Catholic parish. Godparents and the local parish community will assist the parents/guardians with the teachings of the Church.

Infants and children through age 6:

* Parents will attend baptism preparation prior to the Sacrament being administered.

Children ages 7 through 16:

* Children will be enrolled in special classes to prepare them for baptism and First Communion. Parents will also attend special classes to help them prepare their children for the sacraments.

Grandparents:

* If they are requesting baptism of a child, they must obtain permission from the parents.

Godparents:

* Only one godparent is required. One godparent must be a practicing Catholic. Documentation of Baptism and Confirmation, with proof of dates and places of the celebration of these sacraments. Attendance at a baptism preparation course is required.
* If they are not from this parish, they must obtain a letter from their parish Pastor stating they are practicing their faith.
* Non-Catholics can only be witnesses along with Catholic godparent(s)
* Only one person of each gender can be a godparent. A single godparent should be the same gender as the child to be baptized.
* Godparents must be at least 16 years old.
* Immediate family members cannot be a godparent.
* If married, must be in a valid Catholic marriage.

Visiting Clergy:

* Clergy from another parish must complete and mail/email to the parish Pastor a request to celebrate baptism at St. Mary Catholic Church.

**PROXIES**

Proxies (stand-ins) may be used for godparents unable to be present at the baptism. The proxy need not be Catholic.

**SCHEDULING**

* A minimum of two weeks’ notice is preferred for scheduling a baptism. This Sacrament is normally scheduled after 11:00am mass every Sunday. Once all classes and documentation has been completed, bring it by the office. It will be forwarded to the Pastor or a deacon, who will contact you to schedule the baptism.
* If you want a priest or deacon to perform the baptism or need a special time or date, you must schedule it with the Pastor or deacon and then call the parish office to coordinate and post on the Church calendar.

**CANON LAW**

Here are a few of the Catholic Church Canon Laws regarding baptism:

* Can. 856 Although baptism can be celebrated on any day, it is nevertheless recommended that it be celebrated ordinarily on Sunday or, if possible, at the Easter Vigil.
* Can. 857 Apart from a case of necessity, the proper place of baptism is a church or oratory. As a rule, an adult is to be baptized in his or her parish church, and an infant, in the parish church of the parents unless a just cause suggests otherwise.
* Can. 873 There is to be only one male sponsor or one female sponsor or one of each.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Baptism preparation classes are available the third Monday of each month at 6:30pm in the Ave Maria Building.

All forms must be completed and signed before they can be accepted. Please keep a copy of this documentation for your records. Forms can be dropped off at the Parish Office, or emailed to stmaryoffice@stmarytempletx.org or mailed to: St. Mary Catholic Church, BAPTISM, 1018 S. 7th St., Temple, TX 76504. Call the office at 254.773.4541 if you have any questions.

If you are not a member of any parish, please visit [www.stmarysparishtx.com](http://www.stmarysparishtx.com) to register. At the top of the home page, click on “Registration” to obtain the form. It is also available to pick up at the back of church or in the Parish Office.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent Date Church Official Signature Date

**PARENT / GUARDIAN QUESTIONNAIRE**

 Today’s Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of St. Mary Catholic Church? yes \_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_

If not, do you live within the City of Temple boundaries? yes \_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_

Which church do you attend? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Full name of child to be Baptized? (Must be identical to birth certificate)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Father’s Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Father’s Religion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mother’s Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mother’s Religion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parents’ Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Father’s Cell \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mother’s Cell \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email Contacts \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Married in the Catholic Church? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Church \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City and State \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of Godfather \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of Godmother \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**BAPTISM SPONSOR COVENANT**

As a Baptism Sponsor/Godparent, your role is to encourage the faith of your Godchild and be a Catholic “example” to them. As your godchild grows spend time with them, share the meaning of a life of Catholic discipleship and live by example.

The Code of Canon Law (Church Law) specifies the requirements for serving as godparents at Baptism (Canon 874): You may not be the parent of the person being baptized; you must be at least 16 years old; you must be fully initiated (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation); if married, be in a valid Catholic marriage; and live a life of active faith in the Catholic Church.

I understand the requirements of being a Baptism Sponsor/Godparent. I state I have received:

**Sacrament of Baptism** at

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Catholic Church in

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City and State

**Sacrament of Confirmation** at

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Catholic Church in

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City and State

(if married) **Sacrament of Marriage** at

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Catholic Church in

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City and State

My godchild’s name is: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of parish and city where the **Sacrament of Baptism** is to take place:

Parish \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**I am active in the Catholic Church, fully initiated into the Catholic Church, regularly attend Mass on Sunday and strive to live my Catholic faith.**

Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**BAPTISM SPONSOR COVENANT**

As a Baptism sponsor, your role is to encourage the faith of your candidate and be an “example” to your godchild and reflect as your godchild grows, on the meaning of a life of Catholic discipleship.

The Code of Canon Law (Church Law) specifies the requirements for serving as godparents at Baptism (Canon 874): You may not be the parent of the person being baptized; you must be at least 16 years old; you must be fully initiated (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation); if married, be in a valid Catholic marriage; and live a life of active faith in the Catholic Church.

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\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Catholic Church in

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City and State

**Sacrament of Confirmation** at

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Catholic Church in

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City and State

(if married) **Sacrament of Marriage** at

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Catholic Church in

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City and State

My godchild’s name is: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of parish and city where the **Sacrament of Baptism** is to take place:

Parish \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**I am active in the Catholic Church, fully initiated into the Catholic Church, regularly attend Mass on Sunday and strive to live my faith.**

Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_