**Instructions on Having your child baptized**

God Bless you for bringing your child to be baptized! This packet contains the necessary questions needed for this baptism as well as an opportunity to deepen the faith life of your family.

**To complete this packet please follow these instructions**:

1. Listen to the informational CD (or audio file) given to you which describes various aspects of baptism.
2. Fill out pages 2-6 and return them to the Church Office in the envelope provided. This will be reviewed by the Pastor. **Include a copy of YOUR CHILD’S BIRTH CERTIFICATE as well as the act of adoption if your child was adopted.**
3. While your information is being reviewed, begin to consider who the godparent(s) of your child might be according to the guidelines given in this packet.
4. Once you have decided upon the godparent(s) please fill out the godparent information (pages 7-9) and **call the church of their baptism to send our parish office a CURRENT copy of their sacramental record(s). We do NOT need original certificates! We must have a copy dated no more than 6 months ago. This record must be in hand before the chosen godparent may be allowed. If the godparents are not registered with Our Lady of the Lake, we will need a letter of good standing from the pastor of the church in which they are registered.**

**If you need help in acquiring any of these documents, let our office know and we will acquire it for you.**

1. You will be contacted in short order to make an appointment to speak to the Pastor. At that time, please bring your godparent information with you.
2. Once the baptism is set, please inform the godparents that they should receive the Sacrament of reconciliation sometime before the baptism, if necessary.
3. Keep these instructions!

**Child’s Information**

What is your child’s full name? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is the city of your child’s birth? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is your child’s birthday? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Has your child ever been baptized in any way? Y\_\_\_ N\_\_\_

What date would you hope to have the Baptism? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

Each baptized person is traditionally given a saint’s name. If the given name of your child is the name of a saint (first or middle name), another name will not be necessary. If neither of your child’s names is not that of a saint, a particular saint should be chosen as a patron for your child. The saint may be man or woman. Mary and Joseph are often chosen for both boys and girls with no distinction made because of their sex.

What is the chosen saint’s name of the one to be baptized? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Notes:**

**Parent’s Information**

Is either parent a member of an Eastern Orthodox Church? Y\_\_\_ N\_\_\_

Does your child reside with both parents? Y\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_

If not, with whom does your child reside? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Is your child adopted? Y\_\_\_\_ N\_\_\_\_\_

If your family registered as a parishioner of Our Lady of the Lake? Y\_\_\_ N \_\_\_

**Notes:**

**Father’s Information**

Father’s full name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Father’s date of birth \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City of birth: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Father’s street address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How long has the father lived at this address? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Father’s mailing address if different from above \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Father’s phone numbers: Work ( ) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cell ( ) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home ( )\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Is the father Roman Catholic? Y\_\_\_\_ N\_\_\_\_

If the father is a Roman Catholic, has he made all his sacraments? Y\_\_\_ N\_\_\_

**Notes:**

**Mother’s Information**

Mother’s full maiden and married name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mother’s date of birth \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City of birth \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mother’s street address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How long has the mother lived at this address? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mother’s mailing address if different from above \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mother’s phone numbers: Work ( ) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cell ( ) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home ( )\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Is the mother Roman Catholic? Y\_\_\_\_ N\_\_\_\_

If the mother is a Roman Catholic, has she made all her sacraments? Y\_\_\_ N\_\_\_

**Notes:**

**Family Information**

For our records:

Have you had any children baptized within the last three years? Y\_\_\_\_ N\_\_\_\_

If yes, please name them and the church they were baptized in:

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

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

After listening to the CD on Baptism, in your own words, please discuss what you know of baptism and why you believe it is important to your child:

Please describe the practice of the faith within your family, including church attendance, whether any of your children are enrolled in CCD, and whether the Catholic Faith is a strong or small part of the life of your family:

If Church attendance is not a regular part of the life of your family, please discuss why and how the Pastor might help it become a priority to your family:

Please include any questions you would like to have answered or discussed with you. All questions are welcomed.

Please circle all who filled out this form: Father Mother Other.

If other, please give the name and relationship to the child:

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

**Choosing a Godparent - Please read and answer the following questions and bring this with you when you meet with Fr. Alexius.**

**Why a godparent?** The Church officially teaches that the godparents(s) are to be given to the one being baptized by the parents or the priest in order to do the following:

1. Present the one being baptized to the Church.
2. Actively help the baptized person to lead a Catholic life including faithfully fulfilling the obligations presented by the Catholic Faith. (cf. Canon 872)
3. The godparent is chosen to be a guide and protector of the CATHOLIC faith throughout the life of the one being baptized. As such, the proposed godparent should, at the least, show his/her knowledge of the tenets of The Faith (the Creed) and the prayer given by Jesus, to us. Therefore, the proposed godparents must be able to recite from memory (not by reading it) both the Creed and the Our Father. If the proposed godparent cannot recite these prayers, another godparent should be chosen. (The godparent will recite these prayers at the baptism with the priest.)

**How many godparents can there be?** There is to be only one male sponsor or one female sponsor or one of each. (cf. Canon 873)

**How to know if the godparent under consideration may be permitted to be a godparent according to the canons of the Church (cf. Can.** [**874**](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG1104/2/Y8.HTM) **§**[**1**](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG1104/E.HTM)**):**

1. Has the godparent under consideration made his/her seventeenth birthday?

Y\_\_\_\_\_No \_\_\_\_

1. Has the godparent under consideration been Confirmed and received the Sacrament of the Eucharist? Y\_\_\_\_\_ N\_\_\_\_\_
2. Is the godparent under consideration under any penalty imposed by the Church? Y\_\_\_\_\_ N\_\_\_\_\_
3. The godparent under consideration must be living a life of faith which is in keeping with his/her role of teaching and supporting the faith of the baptized. In keeping with his sort of life it should be asked:
   1. Is the godparent under consideration attending mass every Sunday and every Holy Day of Obligation unless ill or truly prevented by a reasonable obstacle? Y\_\_\_N\_\_\_
   2. There are obstacles preventing the godparent under consideration from attending mass every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation? Y\_\_\_ N\_\_\_
   3. Is the godparent under consideration married? Y\_\_\_ N\_\_\_
      1. If Yes, is the godparent under consideration married in the Church? Y\_\_\_ N\_\_\_
      2. If the godparent under consideration is not married, is he/she living with another person in the way that married people do (i.e. romantically involved and living together but not married)? Y\_\_\_ N\_\_\_\_
4. Is there any aspect of the current life of the godparent under consideration which goes against the Teachings of the Church on Faith and Morals? Y\_\_\_ N\_\_\_
5. Do you, as parents, consider yourself as knowing the Church’s teachings on Faith and Morals? Y\_\_\_ N\_\_\_
6. Have you discussed the active role the godparent under consideration is meant to take in the Faith Life of the child? Y\_\_\_\_ N\_\_\_\_
7. Do they understand this obligation and are they willing to do so? Y \_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_

\*\* Non-Catholic sponsors: Please note that according to Canon 874. §[2](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG1104/F.HTM). A [baptized](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG1104/6F.HTM) [person](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG1104/Y.HTM) who [belongs](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG1104/BX.HTM) to a [non-Catholic](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG1104/UM.HTM) [church](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG1104/XN.HTM) [community](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG1104/BK.HTM) is not to [participate](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG1104/K1.HTM) except together with a [Catholic](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG1104/48.HTM) [sponsor](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG1104/U8.HTM) and then only as a [witness](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG1104/8T.HTM) of the [baptism](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG1104/56.HTM). (A witness cannot take the place of a sponsor.)

Will your child have a witness Y\_\_\_ N\_\_\_ (**If no, you may skip the following questions**)

Is the witness baptized? Y\_\_\_ N\_\_\_

What religion is the proposed witness? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Was the witness ever baptized in the Catholic Church? Y\_\_\_ N\_\_\_

Is the witness living a life which is in harmony with the Scriptures (such as no history of divorce), lives in relationships in conformity with the morality expected by Holy Scriptures, believes in Jesus Christ and embraces a Christian lifestyle? Y\_\_\_ N\_\_\_

Is the witness a parent? Y\_\_\_ N\_\_\_

Please provide the office with a copy of the witness’s baptismal certificate.

**Sponsor (Godparent) Information**

**Sponsor One**: First, middle and last name of first sponsor. (If this sponsor is a female and married, please include her maiden name.) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor One date of birth \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City of birth \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor One’s parents \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is the name of the church where this sponsor was baptized? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In what city is this Church? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you know the year this baptism occurred? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In what Church was this person confirmed? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is this person’s current church parish (where do they currently attend church every weekend?) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsor Two**: First, middle and last name of first sponsor. (If this sponsor is a female and married, please include her maiden name.)

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

Sponsor Two date of birth \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City of birth \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor Two’s parents \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is the name of the church where this sponsor was baptized? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In what city is this Church? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you know the year this baptism occurred? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In what Church was this person confirmed? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In what church is this person registered? And where do they currently attend Mass every weekend?) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_