Sacrament of Baptism for Children

Discussion Questions for Parents/Godparents

**PRAYER FOR BAPTISM**

**We have been called by the Lord to be a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people he has acquired for himself. Let us ask him to show his mercy to these children, who are to receive the graces of Baptism, to their parents and godparents, and to all the baptized everywhere. Through Baptism may these children become God’s own beloved sons and daughters. —Rite of Baptism for Children, 47**

1. 1213 Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit (vitae spiritualis ianua) , 4 and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission: "Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word." 5

a. Have you ever attended a Baptism?

b. What details do you remember about it?

c. Why do you desire Baptism for your child or godchild?

d. What is your deepest desire for your child or godchild in Baptism?

1. The Catechism states, “Incorporated into Christ by Baptism, the person baptized is configured to Christ. Baptism seals the Christian with the indelible spiritual mark (character) of his belonging to Christ” (CCC 1272). This indelible seal marks us as belonging to God, and nothing can change or erase the seal of Baptism.
   1. What does it mean to be marked as belonging to Christ?
   2. Why is it important to you that your child or godchild be marked by this seal now?
2. Baptism brings us into the family of God, the Church. This means so much more than just being welcomed into the local parish. The family of God stretches across time and culture.
   1. What does it mean to you to be a part of the family of God?
   2. How will you help your child or godchild understand and live out his or her identity as part of the family of God?
   3. Why is the Christian life meant to be lived out in community?
   4. What effect has the community of faith had on you?
3. The principal responsibility of a **godparent** is to give witness to the Catholic faith by his/her words and actions. The **role** is, together with the parents, to present the child for [baptism](https://www.bing.com/search?q=Baptism&filters=sid%3ad1e23008-863e-91f1-35c7-85424f2368d7&form=ENTLNK), and to help it to live a Christian life befitting the baptized and faithfully to fulfill the duties inherent in baptism. When called upon to profess the Catholic faith on behalf of the infant, the **godparent** must believe in what he/she is professing.
4. Who are your godparents?
5. How have they impacted your faith?
6. How do you see them impacting the faith of your child?