



Saint William Catholic Church

620 Round Rock West Drive

Round Rock, Texas 78681

Teléfono (512) 255-4473 Fax (512) 255-8126

Dear Parents,

Saint William Catholic Church welcomes with great joy your family for the preparation and celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism of your child. By baptizing your child, you are deciding that your baby will be a Christian, a member of the Body of Christ, the Church. By baptizing your child, you put your dear one in God's hands in this Sacrament, and commit your child to the loving care of Jesus Christ, God's Son.

In asking to have your child baptized, you also are accepting the responsibility of training your child in the lifelong practice of the Catholic faith. Those you select as godparents are to be prepared to help you in your duty as Christian parents, and be a trustworthy witness and example of the faith for your child.

Before completing the Registration Form, please read carefully the guidelines for the Sacrament of Baptism for Infants (children under the age of 7).

- To initiate the baptismal preparation process at Saint William, parent(s) must 1) complete a Baptism Application form (see attached), 2) the parent(s) and godparent(s) must attend a baptism class, and (3) all required documents must be turned in together to the church office to schedule a date for baptism.
- Parents must stop by the church office to turn in all necessary paperwork before scheduling a baptism date. The office is open Monday – Friday 8:00am to 8:00pm and Saturday – Sunday 8:30am to 5:00pm. This will provide parents an opportunity to turn in the Baptismal Registration Form and all required documents at one time and ask questions, and an opportunity for the church office to review qualifications for godparents, and required documents.
- The English Baptism class is held on the third Saturday of the month for two hours starting at 10:00am, normally in the Parish Hall in building 5, unless otherwise indicated. Both parents and godparents/sponsors are required to attend and participate in an entire class offered at Saint William or another Catholic Church. If parents and godparents/sponsors attend a class at another church, please provide written proof of attendance of the baptismal preparation program at another Catholic parish within the past two years.
- Childcare is available on Saturdays of baptismal preparation classes. Please call (512) 600-8202 or email nursery@saintwilliams.org to register a spot for your child/children.

Parents

- Consent of at least one of the parents is required for a child to be baptized and there must be a “well-founded hope that the child will be brought up in the catholic religion” (Code of Canon Law 868).
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Parent(s) must live within the parish boundaries of Saint William *or* be registered parishioners of Saint William. If parents 1) do not live within the boundaries AND 2) do not intend to register as parishioners, a letter from the pastor of their proper parish is required, granting permission to have the child baptized at Saint William.

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- Parents must provide the Church office with a copy of the state-issued Birth Certificate or the Verification of Birth Facts from the hospital of the child to be
- baptized

Parents must provide proof of a baptism class attended within the last two years.

Qualifications for Godparents

- The child to be baptized is required to have a godparent. One godparent is sufficient; but there may be two godparents, one of each gender. (CCL 873)

→ A godparent for a Catholic baptism must be a fully initiated, practicing Catholic. A “fully initiated, practicing Catholic” must have received all of the Sacraments of Initiation – Baptism, Eucharist (First Communion) and Confirmation (CCL 874), and must attend Mass regularly.

- Godparents must be 16 years of age or older.
- Godparents may not be the mother or father of the child.
- Godparents must live lives of faith befitting the role of godparents.
- If godparents are married to each other or to other spouses, the marriage(s) must be recognized by the Catholic Church as valid.

→ If the person selected as a godparent is not fully initiated into the Catholic Church, and/or is not in a Catholic marriage, he/she may be eligible to be a Christian Witness, but not a godparent.

- Godparents must complete and sign the *Baptism Sponsor Covenant Form* (see
- attached).

Godparents must participate in a baptism class at Saint William, *or* provide written proof of attendance at a baptismal preparation program at another Catholic parish within the last two years.

The Sacrament of Baptism will be scheduled after all requirements are fulfilled by the parent(s) and godparent(s). At Saint William, infant English baptisms are celebrated on

the second and fourth Saturdays of the month at 8:00am and in Spanish the first and third Saturdays of the month at 8:00am.

If there are any questions or concerns about baptismal preparation at Saint William, please call the Church office at (512) 255-4473 or come by the church office.

We look forward to welcoming your child into the Catholic Church, and to you and your family's commitment to this lifelong faith journey.

Sincerely,

Fr. Dean Wilhelm

Pastor

Attachments:

Baptism Registration Form

Sponsor Covenant Forms