

Preparing for your child's Holy Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated at a Sunday or Feast Day liturgy, with preparation beginning at Vespers the evening before. If this is not possible, please discuss with Fr. Noah. Begin to discuss arrangements with Fr. Noah at the eighth-day naming prayers.

Choosing Godparents:

- There must be at least one - must be Orthodox in good standing.
- Get Fr. Noah's blessing for your choice.
- They must get a blessing from their parish priest.
- There may also be a non-Orthodox Christian witness – an “unofficial Godparent.”

The following items are necessary (*Provided by parents or godparents*):

- Baptismal cross
- Baptismal garment
- Two clean white bath towels, small white hand towel
- Olive oil (light, not extra-virgin) - a large amount
- Two Candles (for sale at the candle stand in the west of the church, fancy ones for \$10 each)
- Fill out a baptismal record form - you can get it from the website or from the office by email or paper.

You may also...

- Choose an epistle reader (an Orthodox Christian friend or family member who reads well)
- Some like to prepare extra candles so that all the children can join the procession around the font (“As many of you”) carrying candles.
- Prepare some favors (the Greek word is so beautiful: martyria /witnesses) - some sweets or an icon bookmark, etc.
- Make an offering to the church (for the extra utilities) and to the choir.
- Host a reception or assist with Coffee Hour in the Great Room following the baptism.

You may also provide honoraria for the priest, deacon, chanter (if no choir), and servers.

Also, it is a custom that on the next three Sundays the Newly Illumined receives Holy Communion with God-parents, if possible, with baptismal candles lit, and at the front of the line.

For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Galatians 3:27