

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BAPTISM OF CHILDREN IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1. The child's parents – or at least one of them – or the person who lawfully takes their place must give consent.
2. There must be reasonable indication that the child will be brought up in the Catholic faith.
3. Insofar as possible, the child is to have a sponsor (godparent) who will present the child for baptism with the parent(s) and will help the child to lead a Christian life in harmony with baptism and fulfill the obligations connected to it.
4. The child is to have only one male or one female sponsor or one of each sex. *The name(s) of the sponsor(s) is entered in the official parish registry of baptism and appear(s) on the baptismal certificate.*
5. A godparent must be Confirmed in the faith and have received the Eucharist.
6. Ordinarily, a godparent should be no younger than sixteen.
7. A baptized person who belongs to another Christian church may be a witness together with a Catholic sponsor (godparent). *Witnesses are not listed in the official parish registry of baptisms. Names of witnesses are not entered on the baptismal certificate.*

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BAPTISM OF CHILDREN AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

1. The requirements of the Catholic Church are to be fulfilled.
2. Parents provide Immaculate Conception with reasonable indication that their child will be brought up on the Catholic faith by participating in one baptism preparation session. Both parents are required to attend unless exception is made by the Pastor. Sessions are scheduled regularly throughout the year. (This requirement is waived for parents who have participated in a session within the previous two years.)
3. The parents must complete the information form distributed at the baptism preparation session.
4. The godparent(s) must submit the GODPARENT TESTIMONY distributed at the baptism preparation session or found online (www.icdurham.org).
5. Because the child is baptized into the faith of the Church, baptisms are celebrated at Sunday Masses, usually the first and third Sundays of the month, except during the season of Lent (Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday). Parents may choose any Mass on these Sundays.
6. Parents may schedule the baptism of their child only when the parish office informs them that the necessary information form and godparent testimony have been received.