

## *Saint Anselm Church Policy Regarding Baptism*

To have your child baptized at Saint Anselm Church you need to be **registered in our parish.**

1. Members of another parish may also have their child baptized in our Church. **You will need a letter from the pastor of your Church stating that he gives permission for the baptism to take place at our parish.** Please contact Deacon Whartenby at the parish center for further details (215-637-3525 ext 12).
2. Baptisms are scheduled on each Sunday of the month. Baptisms are celebrated after the 12 noon Mass. Please be at the Church by 1:00 PM. **Visiting priests or deacons may also baptize in our Church. Those baptisms are scheduled at 2:15PM.** Please call Deacon Gerald Whartenby at the parish center to make those arrangements. As you enter the Church, please be seated in the area by the Baptismal font. If there is a need for a baptism to be held other than on a Sunday, contact Deacon Whartenby at the parish center so those arrangements can be made.
3. **To be a Godparent, one must be a Catholic:**
  - a. The Godparent/Sponsor must be at least 16 years old and have received the sacraments of **Baptism, Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation.**
  - b. The Godparent/Sponsor must be **registered in a parish** and be a **practicing** (Church-going) **Catholic.**
  - c. **Godparents must provide the parish with a “Letter of Eligibility” form his/her parish.** Godparents who are members of Saint Anselm Parish need to contact Deacon Whartenby for eligibility. All letters are required to be in the parish **one week** prior to the baptism.
  - d. Normally there are two Godparents, if you are selecting two you must select **“One male and One female Godparent.” You are not permitted to have two males or two females as Godparents Please remember that you only need to have one Catholic Godparent for the baptism of your child.**
  - e. A Catholic who is unable to receive a **“Letter of Eligibility”** may not stand as a Godparent. From time to time, problems arise – if you are having a problem please contact Deacon Whartenby to discuss the issue.
4. **Non-Catholics** can sometimes act as a **Christian Witness** at a Baptism, but:
  - a. They can only serve if a Catholic is acting as a Godparent/Sponsor.
  - b. The non-Catholic must be baptized and a practicing Christian, either Protestant or Orthodox. They may not be Jewish, Moslem or a former Roman Catholic.
  - c. They will need a letter form their Church indicating they are a member of that Church and are a practicing member of that Church.
5. In special cases, a person may be a Godparent or Christian Witness by proxy (meaning **“to stand in for”**). The proxy stands in for the Godparent or Christian Witness who is unable to be present at the Church at the time of the baptism. Both proxy and Godparent/Christian Witness need to meet the above requirements.
6. **Today is a great celebration day for you and your child. Certainly we encourage you to invite your family and friends to the baptismal ceremony and to take pictures to capture the event. Through your child’s baptism, they begin a life long journey with the Lord. It is a journey that will give them God’s life giving grace. Enjoy the day!**

**Saint Anselm Baptismal Registration Form**

Date of Baptism \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Child \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Date of Child's Birth \_\_\_\_\_ City of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
**Boy** \_\_\_\_\_ **Girl** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age of Child** \_\_\_\_\_ Due Date, if unborn \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

City & State \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Father's Religion \_\_\_\_\_ Work - Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Sacraments**

Baptism: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Eucharist: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Confirmation: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Middle) (Maiden)

Mother's Religion \_\_\_\_\_ Work - Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Sacraments:**

Baptism: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Eucharist: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Confirmation: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Married by Priest/Deacon? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Church of Marriage & Date \_\_\_\_\_

If married outside the Church, please give place & date \_\_\_\_\_

Was a Church dispensation granted? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Did you attend the Baptismal Class (Pre Jordan) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_**

**Are you registered in Saint Anselm Parish? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_**

If not at Saint Anselm, what Parish are you registered in? \_\_\_\_\_

Godfather's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Religion \_\_\_\_\_ Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Godmother's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Religion \_\_\_\_\_ Parish \_\_\_\_\_

**Letter of Eligibility -- Godfather \_\_\_\_\_ Godmother \_\_\_\_\_**