



HOLY BAPTISM
AT THE
CATHEDRAL CHURCH
OF THE NATIVITY

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20

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Cathedral Church of the Nativity

321 Wyandotte Street

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA 18015

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Dear Friends in Christ,

Welcome to the Cathedral Church of the Nativity and thank you for your interest in Holy Baptism. In the Christian Church, Baptism is the sacred rite through which people are welcomed into the household of faith. We are all God's beloved and through Baptism we begin to understand that love.

In the Episcopal Church, we baptize people of all ages, in the name of the Holy Trinity; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We welcome all who wish to pass through the waters of Baptism and share with us the mark of Christ. We offer instruction for adults who wish to be baptized, and for parents who wish their children to be baptized. Baptism is not about a day in church, but about a life in Christ, and it is expected that candidates intend to become active members of this parish.

The procedures and the requirements for Holy Baptism are presented on the following pages of this pamphlet. They are intended to enable us all to exercise with integrity the trust God has placed in us.

BAPTISM AT THE CATHEDRAL

- **Infants and Children:** In the case of infants and children, both parents, if available, should consent to baptism for their child. At least one of the parents must be baptized and regular in worship at the Cathedral.
- **Godparents:** Godparents for infants and children should be selected because of their love for the child, their demonstrated commitment to their own baptism, and their willingness to nurture the child in his/her journey as a child of God. Godparents must be baptized and regular in worship in a Christian Church.
- **Adults:** Adults wishing to be baptized should consult with the clergy about preparation before choosing a date. Sponsors for adults seeking baptism should be selected in consultation with the Canon for Christian Formation.
- **Classes:** Candidates for baptism are prepared under the direction of the Cathedral clergy and assigned lay mentors. When the candidate is an infant or young child, his/her parents and godparents must attend the Baptismal Classes. Classes are generally held Sunday mornings prior to the date of the baptism.
- **Dates:** The Sacrament of Holy Baptism is celebrated during the Eucharist service on the following dates:

January 9, 2022	The Baptism of our Lord, 10:30 a.m. (English), 12:30 p.m. (Spanish)
February 27, 2022	The Last Sunday after the Epiphany, 10:30 a.m. (English)
April 16, 2022	The Great Vigil of Easter, 5:00 p.m. (bilingual)
TBD	Bishop's Visitation – late Spring (bilingual)
June 5, 2022	The Feast of Pentecost, 10:00 a.m. (English), 12:30 p.m. (Spanish)
August 6, 2022 (Sat.)	The Transfiguration, 12:30 p.m. (Spanish), 5:00 p.m. (English)
November 1, 2022 (Tue.)	All Saints' Day, 7:00 p.m. (Spanish)
November 20, 2022	The Last Sunday after Pentecost, 10:30 a.m. (English)

Please plan around these stated Baptismal occasions.

APPLICATION FOR HOLY BAPTISM

Requested Date of Baptism _____

10/10:30 AM Service _____ or 12:30 PM Spanish Service _____

Full Name of Candidate _____

Address of Candidate _____

Date of Birth _____

Place of Birth _____

If candidate is not an adult:

Parents' Full Names

Member of the Cathedral

1) _____ () yes () no

2) _____ () yes () no

Mother's maiden name _____

Telephone Number of Candidate or Parents:

Home _____ Work _____

Cell _____ Email _____

Sponsors/Godparents:

1. _____

Church Affiliation _____

2. _____

Church Affiliation _____

3. _____

Church Affiliation _____

Date of Application _____

THINGS TO DO

- Notify the Cathedral office at the time of your child's birth (in the case of the baptism of an infant).
- Go over the Baptismal schedule with family and friends and determine the date you desire for your (or your child's) baptism.
- Schedule an appointment with the Clergy to discuss upcoming Baptismal Dates, classes and the selection of Godparents or sponsors.
- Complete and mail the application form found in this booklet to the Cathedral office. Applications must be received and approved by Cathedral clergy before a baptism is scheduled.
- Attend the pre-baptismal classes.
- Attend the baptismal rehearsal.

Former Members: If a Cathedral family has moved away, but wishes to bring their child to the Cathedral for baptism on one of the stated occasions, they must contact the rector of the parish in which they are active and request that he/she send a letter to the Cathedral stating:

1. The parents are members in good standing of that parish.
2. Their rector gives the Cathedral clergy permission to baptize on behalf of that parish.
3. The required baptismal instruction has taken place in the home parish.

