

Practice of Faith

Please read carefully:

It was God's expectation the children of Adam and Eve first know about Him from the parents. All parents share this responsibility.

Canon (Church) Law #868 states, "There must be a **founded hope** that the child be brought up in the Catholic religion." Normally, this hope is grounded in the sincerity of the parents' practice of their faith.

It is important to remember baptism is not to be looked upon only as a family tradition to be carried on.

Your child will be introduced to Jesus Christ for the very first time. It is through you that your child will first come to know God and his Son.

Please answer the following questions. Father will then know how to prepare you for the responsibility God has given you.

01. Are you a member of St. Mary's Parish, Paragould, Arkansas? ___Yes ___No

(If **No**, please answer Parts A and B.)

A. What parish did you practice your faith in?

Name of Parish _____

City and State _____

Church Office Phone Number: _____

Name of priest (if known) _____

Length of time at this parish _____

Are you still an active member of the parish? ___Yes ___No

B. If you are still a member of the above parish, have you informed your priest of your wish to have your child baptized at St. Mary's Church, Paragould, Arkansas? ___Yes ___No

C. Please note: It is important for parish records that your pastor knows of your request to have your child baptized outside of your parish. Please attach a statement from your pastor giving written permission, or have him contact St. Mary's Church (220 North 2nd St., Paragould, AR 72450/Phone: 870-236-2568).

02. Attendance at Mass: Do you (mother) attend Mass weekly? ___Yes ___No

A. If **No**, please give an explanation. ___Not Catholic

Other: _____

03. Attendance at Mass: Do you (father) attend Mass weekly? ____Yes ____No

A. If **No**, please give an explanation. ____Not Catholic

Other: _____

04. If not a member of St. Mary's Church, Paragould, Arkansas, why do you wish to have your child baptized here? _____

Baptismal Information

Please supply the following information for your child's baptism. Parent(s) must present proof they are baptized Catholic(s). All godparents **not** attending St. Mary's Church, Paragould, will need a letter from their parish priest verifying their status as a Catholic in good standing.

01. Godfather's (sponsor's) name:

First

Middle

Last

02. Is Godfather Catholic? ____Yes ____No

03. Godmother's (sponsor's) name:

First

Middle

Last

04. Is Godmother Catholic: ____Yes ____No

05. Is either Godparent represented by a proxy? ____Yes ____No

Name of proxy: _____

06. Date requested for Baptism: _____

Note: The date of baptism is subject to the approval of the priest. The Rite of Baptism will normally occur on Sunday unless decided otherwise by the priest. Notice of baptisms will be placed in the church bulletin at least one week before the event.

07. Name of priest/deacon requested to perform Baptism: _____

Contact Information

Address: _____

Telephone Number(s): _____

(November, 2017)