



NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

185 Applegarth Road
Monroe Township, New Jersey 08831-5961

Phone: 609-371-0499
www.nativitymonroe.org

GUIDELINES FOR BAPTISM

The child's family must be registered parishioners.

If this is your first child, parents must attend our baptismal prep class which is offered on the third Wednesday of each month.

A donation is suggested at the time of the baptism.

Baptisms are celebrated on the second Sunday of each month.

Everyone who is invited to the Baptism is asked to attend that Mass.

Godparent Eligibility:

Although having two godparents is traditional, only one godparent is required. If there are two godparents, they must be male and female. They may not be both male or both female.

Godparents who are not registered and practicing members of our parish must obtain letters of eligibility from their home parish and sent to our parish office at **least 2 weeks** before the Baptism. Letters of eligibility indicate the godparent is a practicing Catholic, is of eligible age, and have received all their required sacraments.

Godparents must be practicing Catholics, at least 16 years old, having received their sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. If the Godparent is married, that marriage must be recognized as a **valid Catholic marriage**.

If one of the Godparents is fully eligible, the other may stand in as a Christian Witness.

A Christian Witness is a non-Catholic person baptized in the name of the Trinity. That is, a person baptized in a recognized Protestant denomination. A Christian Witness may not be a lapsed Catholic who is practicing in another Christian denomination. **Under no circumstances is a baptized Catholic eligible to stand in as a Christian Witness.**

A Christian Witness must submit a copy of their baptismal certificate.

The name of the Christian Witness will not appear on the baptismal record as a godparent. Only the Catholic persons names are as godparents.

The Godparent and Christian Witness must be of the opposite sex.

If you are interested in scheduling a Baptism, please contact our parish office at 609-371-0499 ext 10 to complete the required pre-registration.