

ST. JOHN VIANNEY PARISH

Godparent Baptismal Registration Form

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Baptism's Ministry email: baptism@sjvparish.com

THE ROLE OF GODPARENTS

To be chosen as a godparent is a special honor. You have been entrusted with the responsibility to participate in this child's Catholic life and education. This privilege offers you the opportunity to develop a mutually enriching spiritual relationship – one that will last throughout this life and beyond. There are many ways you can nurture this spiritual relationship and become a special friend to your godchild. Among them are:

- Celebrate the anniversary of this holy day of baptism each year with a visit, a call, or a card.
- As your godchild grows, listen to and share in the struggles and triumphs of living a Christian life, and keep yourself informed on the Christian doctrine and values to be able to answer questions as they arise.
- Encourage a consistent life of faith through a special card, letter, or gifts that celebrate holy events ... Christmas, Easter... personal growth events...graduation, first job, etc. (Gift suggestions: a bible, spiritual book, rosary, religious jewelry, gift certificate of religious goods/books, retreat opportunity).
- Participate in, or send assurance of prayer, as your godchild receives the other sacraments, particularly First Communion and Confirmation, which complete initiation into the Church community.
- Be supportive of your godchild's parents in their role as the primary religious educators of their child.
- And most importantly, become a model of Christian living for your godchild, through daily prayer, virtue, and active participation in parish life and liturgy.

By living a Christian life in partnership with your godchild, both of you will experience the great joy of sharing a life of faith.

Thus, the Church has established the following norms governing the qualifications needed to be a Godparent. All of these must be true to serve as a Catholic Godparent. Please check each box indicating your qualifications:

- | | Yes | No |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • I am at least sixteen (16) years of age | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • I am a Catholic who has been confirmed and has received the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • I am married in a Catholic Church | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • I am leading a life in harmony with the faith and role to be undertaken | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • I am canonically free to carry out this office. This means that Catholics in an invalid marriage (civil marriage only) and those that are cohabitating (living together without marriage) <u>cannot serve as a sponsor/godparent.</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • I am not the mother or father of the one to be baptized. (Canon 874.2) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Additional documentation: If the sponsor is single, please include their Confirmation certificate. If the sponsor is married, please include their marriage certificate.

