

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

790 26 ½ Road

Grand Junction, CO 81506

970-242-6121

BAPTISM GUIDE

WHAT IS BAPTISM?

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, “ by water and the spirit, Baptism brings about a new birth. It celebrates, through rites and symbols, the gift of new life, the adoption of humankind as God’s people, ... by which men and women are freed from their sins, are reborn as children of God and, configured to Christ by an indelible character, are incorporated in the Church...” 849

By having your child baptized, you are accepting the responsibility of training him or her in the practice of the faith. In order to understand your responsibility, you are required to attend baptism classes with other couples. These sessions will help you understand your own faith and how to help your child develop their own relationship with God.

Baptism is a communal celebration which reminds us all of our baptismal promises. In light of this Baptisms are celebrated during Sunday Masses at IHM.

CHOOSING GODPARENTS

When selecting godparents, spend much time in thought and prayer. Remember, only one godparent is required for baptism and that person must be an active, Confirmed, practicing member of the Catholic Church. They should be people who continue to grow in their faith and are not afraid to question or to learn. They should be persons of prayer and have a relationship with God. They need to be able to share their faith, especially in telling your child about God and His love for us.

Remember, this is a serious lifelong commitment. Choose someone who you feel will pray for and make the time to be with your child throughout their life.

The responsibility of the godparent is threefold: first, to help the baptized to live the Catholic, Christian lifestyle; secondly, to support parents in the faith growth of the baptized; thirdly, to be a role model of faith for the baptized.

BAPTISM PROCEDURE

- Call parish office 970-242-6121. Parents need to specify the age of the child to be baptised. Parish staff will provide appropriate contact information and current schedules.
- Children 6 years and under to be baptised:
 - Family of the child to be baptised must be registered with Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church.
 - Parents of the child are required sign-up and attend a Baptism preparation class. This one day 4 hour class is valid for 2 years.
 - At least one practicing Catholic will agree to raise the child in the Catholic faith. A Godparent, can serve in the Catholic faith formation of the child to be baptised. A copy of the Sacrament of Confirmation Certificate will be required.
 - Introduce yourselves to Fr. John Farley at Mass and tell him you have a child to be baptized in the near future.
 - One week prior to Baptism: Be sure all paper work is in order. Pickup baptismal gown from parish office. The day of Baptism, arrive ½ hour before the Baptism Mass begins.
 - Baptismal Celebration is on a designated Baptism Sunday.
- Children 7 years and over to be baptised:
 - A meeting will be schedule with Immaculate Heart of Mary's Faith Formation Director and the family to determine the child's level of understanding in the faith. A process which is comparable to the adult Rite of Catholic Initiation for Adults (RCIA) allows the child to more fully experience the Catholic faith at an age appropriate level.

BAPTISM CLASS SCHEDULE 2010

Immaculate Heart of Mary holds six Baptismal classes a year. You must meet for one four hour class prior to the baptism. Godparents are welcome to attend, as well, although it is not a requirement.

Contact Nicole Ruiz at 970-242-6121 to preregister for this class for all wishing to baptized their children. Family will need to inform Nicole if childcare will be necessary.

BAPTISM SUNDAYS 2010

February 13th & 14th - 4pm, 10am & 6 pm Masses

April 18th – 7:30am & 10 am Masses

April 24th & 25th – 4pm (full) & 6pm Masses

May 15th & 16th 4pm, 7:30am & 6pm Masses

June 19th & 20th 4pm, 7:30am & 6pm Masses (full)

July 24th & 25th – confirm Mass times with Nicole

August 21st & 22nd – confirm Mass times with Nicole

September 5th – confirm Mass times with Nicole

October 9th & 10th – confirm Mass times with Nicole

October 31st – confirm Mass times with Nicole