

Saint Therese Parish Baptismal Form

(Please Print Legibly)

Parent and Child Information

Name of Child (if known): _____

Gender (if known): Male _____ Female _____

Date of Birth: _____ or Expected Due Date: _____

City of Birth: _____

State of Birth (if outside Wisconsin): _____

Best Phone Number to Reach you at: _____ Mother Father Both

Father's Name: _____

Father's Religion: _____

Mother's Name: _____

Mother's Maiden Name: _____
(Please note that the mother's maiden name will appear on the Baptismal Certificate, even if you are married)

Mother's Religion: _____

Were you (the parents) married by a Catholic priest? Yes No

Are you members of St. Therese Parish? Yes No

Was the Child baptized privately? *(Such as in a Hospital)* Yes No

Please see the back side of this form for important information on choosing your child's baptismal sponsor(s) prior to filling out the information below!

Catholic Sponsor's Information *(Required except in cases of emergency)*

Godparent Type: Godfather Godmother

Name of Sponsor: _____

Is the sponsor a baptized Christian? Yes No

Is the sponsor a baptized Catholic? Yes No

Is the sponsor a practicing Catholic? Yes No

Second Sponsor's Information *(The choosing of a second sponsor is optional)*

Sponsor Type: Godfather Godmother Christian Witness

Sponsor's Name: _____

Is the sponsor a baptized Christian? Yes No

Is the sponsor a baptized Catholic? Yes No

Is the sponsor a practicing Catholic? Yes No

Remarks: _____

For Parish Use Only
Date of Class(es) Taken: _____
Name of Priest: _____
Date and Time of Baptism: _____

Choosing Sponsors (Godparents) for Baptism

In order to have your child baptized at Saint Therese, we must abide by the laws of the Catholic Church (The Code of Canon Law). The following information on Sponsors comes from this code and will be helpful for you to understand and keep in mind when choosing your child's sponsor(s):

Canon 872

Insofar as possible, a person to be baptized is to be given a sponsor who assists an adult in Christian initiation or together with the parents presents an infant for baptism. A sponsor also helps the baptized person to lead a Christian life in keeping with baptism and to fulfill faithfully the obligations inherent in it.

Canon 873

There is to be only one male sponsor or one female sponsor or one of each.

Canon 874

To be permitted to take on the function of sponsor a person must:

- ❖ be designated by the one to be baptized, by the parents or the person who takes their place, or in their absence by the pastor or minister and have the aptitude and intention of fulfilling this function;
- ❖ have completed the sixteenth year of age, unless the diocesan bishop has established another age, or the pastor or minister has granted an exception for a just cause;
- ❖ be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has already received the most holy sacrament of the Eucharist and who leads a life of faith in keeping with the function to be taken on;
- ❖ not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared;
- ❖ not be the father or mother of the one to be baptized.
- ❖ A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community is not to participate except together with a Catholic sponsor and then only as a witness of the baptism.

To summarize this information:

- You may have one or two baptismal sponsors for your child.
- Having more than two sponsors is strictly prohibited. (see Canon 873)
- The first sponsor must always be Catholic and meet the following requirements to serve as a Catholic sponsor. He or she must:
 - Have received the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation.
 - Be a practicing Catholic.
 - Be at least 16 years of age.
 - Not be the mother or father of the child.
 - Not be under any canonical penalty.
- If you choose to have two sponsors:
 - If the second sponsor is a Catholic, they must also meet the proper requirements listed above.
 - If you have only one Catholic sponsor (Godparent), you may choose to have a non-Catholic Christian of the opposite gender participate in the baptism as a Christian Witness.
 - Please note that there may be only one Christian Witness and only if there is no second Catholic sponsor (Godparent) chosen.
 - In either case, the sponsors must be one male and one female.
- Please do not ask for exceptions to these rules as Father does not have the authority to grant them.