

Welcome!

In baptism the Church welcomes with joy a new member of the Body of Christ. Since its first days, the Church has been entrusted with baptizing “in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit” and teaching what the Lord Jesus had taught his disciples (Matt. 28:19-20).

At St. Robert, the baptism of infants and young children includes this important preparation:

- the sincere desire to raise the child in the Catholic Christian faith
- parish membership (or letter of delegation from pastor of current parish)
- scheduling the baptism and the pre-baptismal orientation sessions
- selection of godparent(s) and/or Christian witness

St. Robert Parish

4019 N. Farwell Ave.
Shorewood, WI 53211
www.strobert.org

Parish Office Main Number: 414.332.1164

Parish Secretary: ext. 3010

Parish membership: Mary Jorgensen, ext. 3044

Adult baptism, confirmation: Donna Shriner, ext. 3045

Your Child's Baptism

at St. Robert Parish



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Spring, Summer 2011

Your Child's Baptism at St. Robert Parish

"...The Church, made present by the local community, has an important part to play in the baptism of both children and adults."

—The Rites of the Catholic Church

Scheduling a Baptism

Because of the communal, public nature of baptism, all baptisms at St. Robert are celebrated during the regularly-scheduled weekend liturgies. Baptisms are not scheduled during Advent or Lent, on certain holidays, or on days of major parish events (such as the annual Fair). Please check the schedule at right for specific dates.

There may be more than one child baptized at a particular Mass. Space in church will be reserved for family members and friends on the day of the baptism upon request. Please call the Parish Office.

Pre-Baptismal Sessions for Parents and Godparents

Pre-baptismal orientation sessions are required for both parents and godparents. Members of St. Robert Parish may attend this session either at St. Robert or at Holy Family Parish in Whitefish Bay. Sessions at St. Robert are held on the second Tuesday of even-numbered months at 6:30 pm.

If the godparents live outside the area, they are asked to attend a pre-baptism session in their parish and send a letter from their parish stating that they have attended.

Who May Be a Godparent?

Godparents must be baptized, confirmed, and practicing Catholics, 16 years of age or older, and a person other than a parent or adoptive parent of the child. At least one godparent must be named. A Christian witness—that is, a baptized non-Catholic—may also be selected. Christian witnesses must also be 16 years of age or older and not the parent or adoptive parents. Grandparents may serve as godparents or as Christian witnesses.

Available Dates for Spring and Summer 2011

Please check with the Parish Office. Baptisms are usually scheduled at weekend Masses (4:30 pm on Saturdays; and 8:30 am, 11:00 am, and 5:30 pm on Sundays). Baptisms are not scheduled the weekend of St. Robert's Fair (June 4 and 5, 2011).

Frequently Asked Questions

What if the godparent or Christian witness cannot be present?

A proxy may stand in on the day of baptism for either a godparent or a Christian witness. The godparent or Christian witness, not the name of the proxy, is listed on the certificate.

What should our child wear?

It is appropriate to dress the child in a white baptismal gown; however any formal church attire is appropriate. A symbolic white garment will be provided by the church as part of the rite of baptism.

May a guest priest or deacon baptize our child?

Yes. It is expected that the deacon also serves as deacon of that Mass and that visiting priests concelebrate. Please confirm plans with the Parish Office.

Where can I go to learn more about my faith?

For opportunities to build and share your faith, please visit our parish website, www.strobert.org.

What if my child was already baptized in the hospital in an emergency?

The rites of baptism (in church) ought to be supplied after an emergency baptism. The hospital baptism is then documented in the parish baptism registry.

May my family have pews reserved in church?

Yes. Please notify the parish office regarding how many pews to have reserved.