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Dear Parent(s),

I am pleased that you are planning to have your child baptized at Christ Our Light parish. It is a special day for our parish community and your family. It is an opportunity for all of us to celebrate anew the meaning of Church and the outward sign we call Sacrament.

Hopefully our baptismal preparation program will help you recognize and understand the important opportunities and responsibilities you encounter as Christian parents. We also hope that you will find in our parish community a place of renewal, refreshment and peace, and that you will join us often, especially at Sunday Mass, as participating members of our community. We believe that you are the primary models of our faith for your child.

Attached you will find information about our baptism program, dates for preparation and baptism, and the baptism registration form. If you are not already registered members of the parish, and are interested in joining, there are many ways to do so ([online](#), at the Welcome Desk on Sunday or in the Parish Office). The suggested offering for baptism is \$50-\$100. This offering can be sent to/dropped off at the parish when you register your child for baptism or given to the priest or deacon at the time of baptism.

We look forward to celebrating this important day with you. Please feel free to contact our office by phone or email if you have any questions.

Peace,

Fr. John Picinic

Baptism at Christ Our Light

♦ Preparation

What does preparation involve? Parents are asked to attend a baptismal preparation session before the baptism of their child. Preparation involves coming to 11am Mass and a session to follow which lasts until 2-2:30pm. You can come to the session before or after your child is born. To register for a session, you can contact the parish office by email, phone, or include the date in your registration. If these dates/times do not work for your family, please let us know. *See final page for list of preparation and baptism dates.*

Does my child need to attend? It is up to you whether or not your child(ren) attend the preparation session with you. It depends on the needs of your child(ren), and whether or not you have childcare available. If you do not have childcare and it would be difficult to participate in the session with your child(ren) present, please let us know.

Do I need to attend if I have attended in the past? If you have already attended preparation in the past 3 years at Christ Our Light we would still like invite you to attend a Rite of Welcome Mass. When you register you can indicate that you have already attended the preparation session.

What if I have attended preparation at another church? If you have attended preparation for previous children at another parish, we would like to invite you to join us once for preparation here at Christ Our Light.

♦ Choosing a Date for Baptism

There is a list of available dates for baptism. If the option says "Mass," it takes place during a regularly scheduled weekend liturgy. Ceremonies are Sunday after 10:30am Mass or Saturday. Since this option is not during Mass, only family and friends of the children being baptized are present. If the dates available do not work for your family, please let us know. *See final page for list of preparation and baptism dates.*

♦ Baptism Registration Form

Online Registration. We now have baptism registration available online. The form includes all of the same information requested on the PDF. A response summary will be emailed to you with a link to edit if/when necessary. After filling out the registration, you will receive confirmation of information provided.

PDF Registration Form. If you decide to use the PDF, it can be emailed, mailed, put in the Sunday collection or brought to the Parish Office. All contact information is included on the form. *See links below to register online or with PDF.*

◆ Godparents

Do godparents need to attend the preparation session? Godparents are invited to attend the preparation session with your family. They are not required to attend.

Do the godparents need to be Catholic? At least one fully initiated Catholic (Baptism, Communion, Confirmation) godparent is required. Additional godparents can be Catholic or Christian (other than Catholic).

Are two godparents required? Only one godparent is required. If there is one, s/he does need to be a fully initiated Catholic (Baptism, Communion, Confirmation) godparent.

Can there be more than two godparents? There can only be two godparents listed in the Baptism Register (Official Sacrament Record). If you are interested in having additional godparents acknowledged, please let us know.

◆ Day of Baptism

On the day of the baptism, please arrive 15 minutes early. If during a Mass, please let the ushers know that you are here for a baptism, so they seat you near the baptismal font.

If you have not made an offering yet, and would like to, you can bring it with you to the baptism. The suggested donation is \$50-\$100, but it depends on what your family is comfortable with.

If you are worried at all about what to say or do during the baptism, know that the priests and deacons will walk you through the ritual and guide you as needed.

If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to ask. You can call the Parish Office (856-667-2440) to speak with Amelia Conte or Cathy Johnson, or email parishoffice@christourlight.net.

[Online Baptism Registration Form](#)
[PDF - Baptism Registration Form](#)