

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church

800 Portion Road
Lake Ronkonkoma, New York 11779

INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on the birth or the anticipated birth of your child! St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish is happy to initiate a child of any age into the Catholic faith through the Sacrament of Baptism. The Sacrament of Baptism is about belonging to a community of faith. We are called to live out this sacrament in our daily lives. And this special occasion will start your child's journey as a follower of Christ.

GODPARENTS

There may be one or two godparents (sponsors) to assist your child in leading a good Christian life. Both godparents need to be Catholic. One must be male and the other female.

Requirements necessary to be a godparent (sponsor) for the Sacrament of Baptism:

- Received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion
- Currently an active, practicing Catholic
- At least 16 years of age when the Sacrament is celebrated.
- Free from all canonical sanctions (such as excommunication, apostacy, or schism).
- Not the biological father or biological mother of the child.
- Currently living a life of faith that is in harmony with the teachings of the Catholic Church and befits the role of the sponsor.
- For Married Catholics: Validly married according to the laws of the Catholic Church

****A signed and initialed Testimony of Designated Sponsor for the Sacrament of Baptism form is required for all Godparents.***

Christian Witness (Baptized non-Catholic)

Provided there is one Catholic godparent, a baptized non-Catholic Christian may be serve as a Christian Witness for the Baptism only. This person is the Christian witness and not a sponsor.

Requirements to be a Christian Witness:

- At least 16 years old
- A validly baptized Christian
- Living an upright life
- Cannot be either parent
- Cannot be a Catholic who has left the Church

A Christian witness may never be a non-baptized person. For example, Jewish or Muslim godparents are not permitted by universal church law. The notation "Christian Witness" is placed under the name of the non-Catholic Christian witness in the Baptismal Register.

****A copy of their Baptism Certificate is required to be a Christian witness.***

ADOPTION

If the child is adopted, or the process of adoption, special steps need to be taken that the child has not already been baptized and that the child is with his/her legal parents. The parents will be asked to supply any documentation from attorneys or adoption agencies to indicate the adoption is in process. The Baptism will not be scheduled until the documents have been submitted to the diocesan Chancery office and authorization has been received.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

The Baptism should take place where the child's family currently resides and is currently registered as parishioners. If you live in the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton's Parish but are not registered, please register with us by going to our website www.steas.org and click on Parish Registration.

BAPTISM DATES

Baptisms are typically celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month at 12:30 pm. Please contact the Parish Office 631-737-4388 to confirm dates, as they may sometimes change.

To schedule a Baptism date, please complete the Baptism Inquiry Form on the next page and drop it off at the Parish Office during normal business hours along with a signed Testimony of Designated Sponsor form for each godparent.

MISCELLANEOUS

Donation: It is customary to present an offering at the time of the Baptism. This is a free will donation.

Once the Baptism has been celebrated, the name of the godparents **CANNOT** be changed for any reason whatsoever.

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Child's Information

Is the child adopted? Yes No ☐ Male Female☐

Was the child previously baptized: Yes No

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Parents Information

Father's First Name and Last Name:_____

Religion: _____

Circle Sacraments Received: Baptism Eucharist Confirmation

Mother's First Name and Maiden Name: _____

Religion:_____

Circle Sacraments Received: Baptism Eucharist Confirmation

Are the parents married? Yes No

Were the parents married by a priest or deacon? Yes No

Contact Information

Address:

Town/Zip Code: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Email Address:

Godparents

One godparent is sufficient, two godparents are permitted. A godparent must be a practicing Roman Catholic in the state of grace having received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation and be at least 16 years old. A **baptized, non-Catholic Christian** may act as a witness to the baptism, but not as a godparent. **A signed Testimony of Designated Sponsor is required by all Godparents.**

Godfather First and Last Name: _____

Religion: _____ Current Parish: _____

Circle Sacraments Received: Baptism Eucharist Confirmation

Godmother First and Last Name:_____

Religion: _____ Current Parish: _____

Circle Sacraments Received: Baptism Eucharist Confirmation

OFFICE USE: Date Received: _____

Baptism Preparation Class: _____ Baptism Date: _____