B A P T I S M   R E G I S T R A T I O N   F O R M

Date of baptism_____

Note: *Baptisms take place on the **second** and **fourth** Sunday of each month at **12:30 pm** or at a weekend Mass if the schedule allows.*

Full Name of Child_____

❑ male ❑ female

Date of Birth _____ City/State of Birth _____

Home Address _____

City, State and Zip Code _____

Phone № _____ E-mail _____

Father's Name _____ Religion_____
      First and Last

Mother's Name _____ Religion_____
      *First and **Maiden***

Date of Marriage_____ Place of Marriage _____
If your marriage took place outside the Catholic Church without permission from your parish, please contact one of our priests.

Are you a registered parishioner at Saint Christopher Parish? ❑ yes ❑ no
If not, written permission is needed from your parish for the baptism to take place here.

Date of Baptismal Class _____ Place of Baptismal Class_____

GODPARENT INFORMATION ▶ See reverse side for more information regarding Godparents/ Christian Witness. Sponsor certificates are not required. **Please note**: A "**NO**" response to any of the questions below will prohibit a person from serving as a Godparent or a Christian Witness.

Godfather's Name_____ Religion_____
      First and Last

If Catholic, what parish does he belong to?_____

Has he received the Sacrament of Confirmation? ❑ yes ❑ no

If Catholic and married, did his marriage take place within the Catholic Church? ❑ yes ❑ no

If **not** Catholic, is he baptized into another Christian faith? ❑ yes ❑ no

Godmother's Name _____ Religion_____
      First and Last

If Catholic, what parish does she belong to? _____

Has she received the Sacrament of Confirmation? ❑ yes ❑ no

If Catholic and married, did her marriage take place within the Catholic Church? ❑ yes ❑ no

If **not** Catholic, is she baptized into another Christian faith? ❑ yes ❑ no

Guidelines for Godparents/Christian Witness

Ordinarily, **two** persons are chosen as Godparents for a child to be baptized in the Catholic Church. These individuals are someone other than the parents. Only **one** male and **one** female, may be chosen. One must be a practicing Catholic as described below. Although it is preferred that both be practicing Catholics, one may be a baptized Christian of another faith as described below.

Catholic Godparent

Any Catholic acting as a Godparent for baptism must meet the following requirements:

- Must have received all the Sacraments of Initiation: **Baptism**, **Confirmation**, and **Eucharist**.
- Must be registered in a Catholic parish and should attend Mass on a regular basis.
- If married, the marriage must have taken place within the Catholic Church.

Christian Witness

Only a non-Catholic may act as a Christian Witness and they must meet the following requirements:

- Must be baptized in a Christian faith.
- May only act as a Christian Witness <u>together with a qualified Catholic Godparent</u>.
- If married to a Catholic, their marriage must have taken place within the Catholic Church.

Some Common Questions

1) **Must I have two Godparents?**
   No, only one Godparent is required. If there is only one, the person must be a Catholic Godparent as described above.

2) **May two men or two women act as a Godparents/Christian Witness for baptism?**
   No, there must be only one male and one female Godparent/Christian Witness.

3) **Can a Catholic be a Christian Witness?**
   A Catholic can never be a Christian Witness even if there is another Catholic Godparent.

4) **Can a former Catholic or non-practicing Catholic be a Godparent?**
   No, any Catholic who has chosen to abandon the practice of their Catholic faith, for whatever reason, cannot act as a Godparent. Any Catholic acting as a Godparent must meet the above requirements. As the Godparent makes a promise to help the parents in those responsibilities, it would not be appropriate to ask someone who has abandoned the Catholic faith.

It is the hope of our parish community that the above guidelines will answer some of your concerns and help you in the important choice of Godparents for the baptism of your child.

You are always welcome to address any further questions or concerns to one of the parish priests by calling **(440) 331-4255**.

Please return this form to **Saint Christopher Parish** as soon as possible.
20141 Detroit Road • Rocky River, Ohio 44116