

SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA CATHOLIC CHURCH

3305 Glen Carlyn Road, Falls Church, Virginia, 22041

Office: (703) 820-7111 | Fax: (703) 379-9195 | frontdesk@stanthonyparish.org

www.stanthonyparish.org



2026

Guidelines for the Sacrament of Baptism

Revised: October 30, 2025



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REQUIREMENTS TO BAPTIZE AT SAINT ANTHONY PARISH

(Children younger than seven years old)

1. The parents of the child should be **parishioners** of St. Anthony (they must be registered)
→ If the parents are registered and/or belong to a different parish, they should present an *authorization letter from their corresponding parish, requesting permission to baptize at St. Anthony of Padua.*
2. Choose one or two godparents who **meet the requirements** to be a sponsor in the Catholic Church.
See: *requirements for the godparents.*
3. **One week before attending the pre-baptismal class, the following documents should be delivered at the parish office:**
 - Baptism Registration Form (enclosed)
 - Copy of the Birth Certificate of the child to be baptized
 - Each sponsor should obtain a *Sponsor Certificate of Eligibility*, (or recommendation letter issued by the church where they attend Mass)
 - **Parents should bring an authorization letter from their corresponding parish (according to their address if not registered at any parish) giving permission to baptize at St. Anthony of Padua Church. Does not apply for parents that are already registered.**
4. **Both parents and godparents** must register and attend a Pre-Baptismal class at St. Anthony or their home parish.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GODPARENTS

An active Catholic who meets the following requirements:

1. Have the canonical legal age of 16 years.
2. Having received the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
3. Be parishioners (you do not need to be registered in the parish), *or obtain a letter from the parish they attend to certify that they are registered.*
4. Attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation and receive the Eucharist.
5. **For married Catholics:** be married by the Catholic Church.
6. **For single Catholics:** live a Christian life according to the laws of God and the Catholic Church.
7. **For religious or clergy:** be in good relations with the religious community or the diocese to which they belong.
8. Live the commitment to Christ and the community of the Catholic Church, showing compassion and kindness to others.
9. Support the godchild with prayers and a good Christian example, and help him/her grow in the Catholic faith.
** To baptize, only one Catholic godfather and one Catholic godmother are allowed, not two of one or the other. A non-Catholic Christian cannot serve as a godparent; however, they are welcome to participate in the baptism as a “Christian witness”.

CHILDREN 7 AND OVER

Children 7 and over should attend catechesis to receive the sacrament of Baptism. Please contact the Office of Religious Education.



ENGLISH BAPTISM SCHEDULE

BAPTISM CLASSES

Saturdays at 11:00 AM* in Room 9

Room 9 is located in the church building, past the bathrooms, at the end of the hall

BAPTISM CEREMONY

Sundays in the Church at 9:30 AM*

Immediately **after** the 8:30 AM Mass

There is no fee for the sacrament of baptism. If you would like to leave a donation to the church or the priest, you may do so on the same day of the baptism. Envelopes are provided if needed.

2026	Baptism Class	Baptism Ceremony
January	3	11
February	7	15
March	7	15
April	11	12
May	2	10
June	6	14
July	11	12
August	1	9
September	5	13
October	3	11
November	7	15
December	5	13

***Please be on time to the Baptism Classes & the Baptism Ceremony.**



Baptism Registration Form

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

Are you a registered member of St. Anthony? _____
If your answer is yes, since when? _____

Child's Full Name _____

Child's Date of Birth: _____ Age _____

Child's Place of Birth (*City or County and State*): _____

Father's Name _____

Father's Religion: _____

Mother's Maiden Name: _____

Mother's Religion: _____

Father's Cell Number: _____

Mother's Cell Number: _____

Address (street, city, state, zip): _____

Godfather: (Please see requirements to be a Godfather) _____

Godmother: (Please see requirements to be a Godmother) _____

Godfather: Catholic, Single, Married in the Catholic Church

Godmother: Catholic, Single, Married in the Catholic Church

Name of Church the Godfather attends

Name of Church the Godmother attends

Is the child adopted? (YES/ NO) _____

Is one of the Godparents represented by proxy? (YES/ NO) _____

Name of Representative: _____

PARISH USE ONLY

Received by: _____ Date: _____

Date of Baptism Class

Signature of Priest or Catechist (Upon Completion)

Date of Baptism

Signature of Priest or Deacon (Upon Completion)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birth Certificate | <input type="checkbox"/> Godfather's Sponsor Letter | <input type="checkbox"/> Godmother's Sponsor Letter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parents are registered | <input type="checkbox"/> Or authorization letter to baptize at St. Anthony | <input type="checkbox"/> Letter not applicable |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parents attended the pre-baptismal class | <input type="checkbox"/> Godparents attended the pre-baptismal class | |