

## **Baptism is a Sacrament**

*Baptism is the first of seven sacraments. It is the way in which original sin is removed and how a person becomes a member of the Catholic Church.*

## **Who can receive a Catholic baptism?**

*Anyone who has not already been baptized can receive the Sacrament of Baptism in the Catholic Church. Baptism leaves an indelible (permanent) mark on the soul and there is no way nor any reason that one could or should be re-baptized. There are no age restrictions for baptism; one cannot be too old or too young to be baptized.*

## **Preparation for baptism at the Church of St. Edward**

*The manner of faith formation prior to the baptism of a child is a baptismal preparation session for parents. Please contact the parish office at (952) 835-7101 to sign-up for a session.*

## **Scheduling a baptism at the Church of St. Edward**

*Baptisms are available during Mass on the second weekend of each month or privately at any time arranged with the pastor. Call the parish office at (952) 835-7101 for more information.*

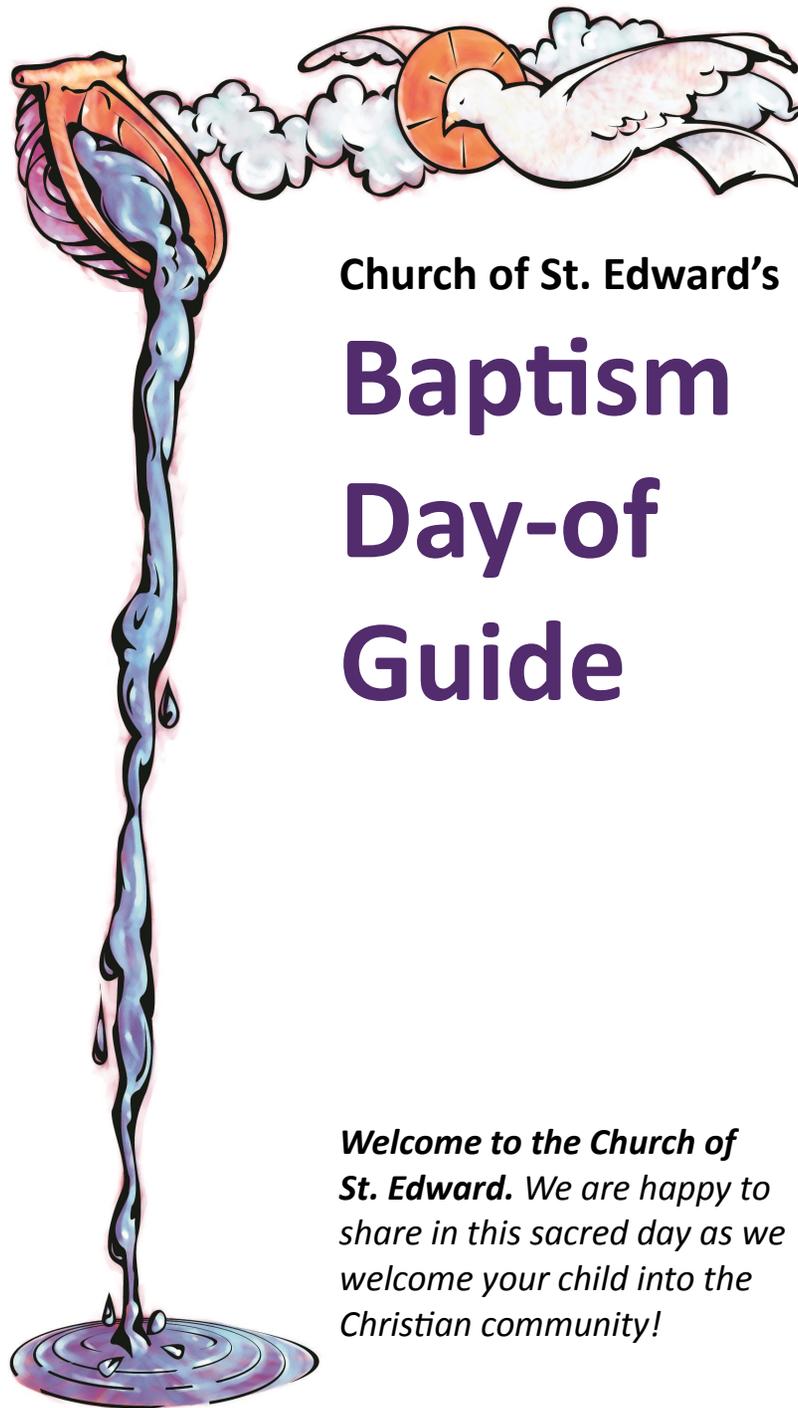


### **CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD**

9401 Nesbitt Ave South  
Bloomington, MN 55437  
Phone: 952-835-7101  
Fax: 952-835-0156  
[www.StEdwardsChurch.org](http://www.StEdwardsChurch.org)

**Masses: Sun, 8:30 & 10:30 AM and Sat, 5:00 PM**

*We are a welcoming Eucharistic Catholic Community called by God to live out the message of Christ in love and service to all.*



**Church of St. Edward's**

# **Baptism Day-of Guide**

*Welcome to the Church of St. Edward. We are happy to share in this sacred day as we welcome your child into the Christian community!*

## Baptisms during Mass

On the day of your child's Baptism:

- Please arrive 20-30 minutes before Mass begins; this allows time for any questions.
- Find one of our greeters and let them know you are a part of the Baptism party—they will be happy to show you where you will be sitting and will inform the Deacon and/or Liturgist of your arrival. There will be reserved seating for the family near the baptismal font. Parents and godparents should sit together in the front row.

Before Mass begins and before the opening song, the priest will address parents and godparents and ask these three questions of the parents:

- Q:** *What name have you given this child?*  
**A:** **State the child's name**  
**Q:** *What do you ask of God's church?*  
**A:** **Baptism**  
**Q:** *Do you clearly understand what you are taking?*  
**A:** **We do**

Then the priest will ask the godparents a question:

- Q:** *Are you ready to help the parents... as Christian parents?*  
**A:** **We are**

The priest will next ask the community to also affirm their commitment. He will make the sign of the cross on the child's forehead and invite parents and godparents to do the same. Mass will begin.

### Once the homily concludes, the Baptism will begin:

1. The priest will meet the family at the baptismal font and invite the parents and godparents to step up to the font.
2. The priest will ask a series of questions along with a renewal of baptismal promises, all of which parents and the faith community will respond with, **"I do."**
3. The priest will ask again if it is the parent's intention to have their child baptized:  
**Q:** *"Is it your will?"*  
**A:** **"It is" or "yes"**
4. The priest will then baptize the child with water.
5. He will anoint the child with chrism, a perfumed oil.
6. A white garment will be placed on the child, typically by the godmother.\*
7. The Baptismal candle will be lit, typically by the godfather.\*
8. Then the priest will say a blessing over the parents.
9. Mass will continue.

*\*Note: This arrangement assumes the mother or father is holding the child during baptism.*

## Baptisms outside of Mass

On the day of your child's Baptism:

- Please arrive 20 minutes early. Meet in the main church, unless the baptism is taking place in the chapel.
- The priest/deacon will do introductions and a welcoming.

The priest/deacon will address parents and godparents and ask these three questions of the parents:

- Q:** *What name have you given this child?*  
**A:** **State the child's name**  
**Q:** *What do you ask of God's church?*  
**A:** **Baptism**  
**Q:** *Do you clearly understand what you are taking?*  
**A:** **We do**

Then the priest will ask the godparents a question:

- Q:** *Are you ready to help the parents... as Christian parents?*  
**A:** **We are**

1. A reading and short homily will be said.
2. The baptismal water will be blessed.
3. Prayers of the faithful and a litany of the saints will be read.
4. Oil of Catechumens will be placed on the child's chest near the base of their neck (clothing should be loose enough or able to be loosened for this blessing).
5. The priest/deacon will ask a series of questions along with a renewal of baptismal promises, all of which parents and those in attendance should respond with, **"I do."**
6. The priest/deacon will ask again if it is the parent's intention to have their child baptized:  
**Q:** *"Is it your will?"*  
**A:** **"It is" or "yes"**
7. The priest/deacon will then baptize the child with water.
8. He will anoint the child with chrism, a perfumed oil.
9. A white garment will be placed on the child (typically by the godmother).\*
10. The Baptismal candle will be lit (typically by the godfather).\*
11. **"The Lord's Prayer"** will be said.
12. The priest/deacon will say a prayer over the mother and another over the father.
13. The child will be presented as a member of the Catholic community and there will be a final blessing over the parents.

*\*Note: This arrangement assumes the mother or father is holding the child during baptism.*