

Dear Friends,

We look forward to celebrating your child's Baptism with you!

To help us prepare for this special celebration, the "Baptismal Packet" must be completed and returned to the Parish Office a week prior to the baptism.

The first form is the Baptismal Information, which gives us necessary information regarding the child to be baptized and his/her parents. Please note that if you are not a member of St. Ignatius, you will need to have the pastor of your parish sign, date, and seal the form.

The second form (two copies) is for the chosen godparents to fill out. Please keep in mind that both godparents must be Christian, and at least one must be Catholic. If the godparent is Catholic, they will need to have the pastor of the Catholic Church where they are registered sign and seal the form. If one godparent is non-Catholic, they only need to fill out the top of the form. Once the forms have been completed, please return them to the Parish Office.

If this is your first child to be baptized, you must attend an instructional baptism class that is held on the second Sunday of every other month (January, March, May, July, September, and November) at 10:00 am. Call the Parish Office to reserve your spot. Please complete the Godparent Information Sheet, Spiritual Hopes and Dreams, Reflection and Summary of the Church's Understanding of Original Sin pages and bring those with you to the baptism class.

Please call Lisa at the Parish Office to schedule the baptism at 419-693-1150.

If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office at 419-693-1150. We look forward to celebrating this beautiful sacrament with your child, you, and your families!



Date of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_

# BAPTISMAL INFORMATION

212 N. Stadium Rd. Oregon, OH 43616

Please print legibly:

Name of person to be baptized: \_\_\_\_\_ **BOY/ GIRL**  
Last First Middle

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Month/ Day/ Year Location/ City/ State

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last/ First/ Middle Father's religion:  Catholic  Non-Catholic

Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last/ First/ Middle/ MAIDEN Mother's religion:  Catholic  Non-Catholic

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Cell

Male Baptismal Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_  Catholic  Non-Catholic

Female Baptismal Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_  Catholic  Non-Catholic

PLEASE COMPLETE

\*Has this child ever been baptized in any religion:  Yes  No If yes, where \_\_\_\_\_

\*I am / We are:  Single  Married If Married, Church: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Has either spouse been married before:  Yes  No

\*If previously married, was previous marriage(s) annulled by the Catholic Church  Yes  No

If you are **not** a member of St. Ignatius please fill out the following: Name & Address of your Catholic Parish \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

**For Parish Use:**

- Schedule baptism on parish calendar
- Sponsor paperwork to parish office
- Input in database
- Parents attended baptism class
- Input in baptismal book
- Certificate

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Sacrament of Baptism Administer: \_\_\_\_\_ Celebrant: \_\_\_\_\_

## BAPTISMAL SPONSOR INFORMATION

According to Canon Law the following regulations apply for those who which to be considered a sponsor for the Sacrament of Baptism:

1. "There is to be only one male sponsor or one female sponsor or one of each" (c. 873)
2. A sponsor must "be designated by the one to be baptized, by the parents or the person who take their place, or in their absence by the pastor or minister and have the aptitude and intention of fulfilling this function." (c. 874.1.1)
3. A sponsor must "have completed the sixteenth year of age..." (c. 874.1.2)
4. A sponsor must "be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has already received the most holy sacrament of the Eucharist and who leads a life of faith in keeping with the function to be taken on." (c. 874.1.3)
5. A sponsor may "not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared, [and may] not be the father or mother of the one to be baptized." (c. 874.1.4 & 5)
6. "A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community is not to participate except with a Catholic sponsor and then only as a witness of the baptism" (Note: the baptized, non-Catholic will be listed as a "Christian Witness" in the baptismal record.) (c. 874.2)

**Name of person to be baptized:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Sponsor, attesting that he/she is qualified, accepts the responsibility and is registered in a Catholic Parish:**

**Print sponsor's name & address**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*The above individual has the necessary qualification according to the Code of Canon Law of the Catholic Church to be a baptismal sponsor.*

*Signature of the Sponsor's Parish Priest:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Printed Name of Priest:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Name of Parish* \_\_\_\_\_

*Address of Parish* \_\_\_\_\_

**PARISH SEAL**

*This certificate is valid when it bears the signature of the sponsor and parish verification.*



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*Signature of the Sponsor's Parish Priest:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Printed Name of Priest:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Name of Parish* \_\_\_\_\_

*Address of Parish* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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# GODPARENT INFORMATION SHEET

## Godparents in the Catholic Tradition . . .

When you invite a person to serve as your child's godparent, you are asking this individual to make a lifelong commitment to your child. The day of your child's Baptism marks just the beginning of the godparent-godchild relationship. It is the hope of the Church and the Catholic community that your child's godparents will be lifelong companions who will nurture your child's faith and help him or her become a true disciple of Christ.

The Catholic community calls godparents to:

- ▶ help their godchild grow in faith
- ▶ teach their godchild about Catholic traditions
- ▶ model for their godchild how to live a Catholic life

The law of the Roman Catholic Church requires that each child being baptized have one godparent to serve as his or her spiritual role model and friend. This godparent may be male or female. Two godparents—one godmother and one godfather—are the custom in the United States, but are not required.

To be a Catholic godparent, one must:

- ▶ be a Catholic who has received the Sacrament of Confirmation and regularly participates in the Eucharist
- ▶ be an active member of a Catholic faith community
- ▶ be at least sixteen years old

When choosing a godparent for your child, it may be helpful to consider the following:

- 1** Is this person actively practicing his or her faith? Does he or she worship at Sunday Eucharist regularly? *(This is the most important question to ask. If the person selected is not an active, practicing Catholic, he or she will not be able to fulfill effectively the role of godparent.)*
- 2** Does this person live close enough, or will this person have sufficiently frequent contact, to get to know your child and play an active role in your child's faith life?
- 3** Does this person know enough about the Catholic Church and Catholic faith to be able to teach your child about it?
- 4** If something happened to you, would this person make sure your child was raised as an active member of the Catholic community?

**What is a Christian witness?** Some families may wish to have a non-Catholic Christian also serve as a sponsor for their child. Although at least one Catholic godparent is required, a baptized non-Catholic Christian may be invited to serve as a "Christian witness" who will participate in the celebration and will stand alongside the godparent during the baptismal ceremony.

# Spiritual Hopes and Dreams

Name two ways you hope God will help your child throughout his or her life.

1.

2.

Name two ways you hope the Church community will help your child throughout his or her life.

1.

2.



## HOME

# Reflection

## Something to Think About

What will be your response when the priest or deacon at your child's Baptism asks you:  
"What do you ask of God's Church for your child?"

**REMEMBER:** At our 3rd session, you will be asked to share your response to this question with the group.

## Something to Read

▶ Romans 5:13, 15, 18

▶ In the *Rite of Baptism*, the priest prays a "prayer of exorcism" over the child, saying these words:

We pray for this child:  
set him (her) free from original sin,  
make him (her) a temple of your glory,  
and send your Holy Spirit to dwell with him (her).  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

When parents look at the innocence and beauty of their newborn infant, nothing could possibly seem stranger than to suggest that this child is branded by sin. Indeed, if original sin were thought of as some sort of personal fault in the child, such an idea would rightly be dismissed as absurd. However, original sin is *not a personal fault*; it is an *inherited condition*.

Original sin is the name we give to the state of humanity that inclines every human being to evil and makes us all subject to temptation. Every child is born into a sinful world and is immersed—even before reaching personal consciousness—in the sinful conditions that breed war, ethnic hatred, corporate greed, and a host of other evils from which we all need to be delivered. No one escapes being under the influence of this dark cloud of evil that hangs over our broken human condition.

Paradoxically, the *removal* of original sin in Baptism is actually the *infusion* of Christ's grace and love into the heart and soul of a child. As the prayer above states, freedom from original sin is accomplished by the gift of the Holy Spirit, a gift that makes a child the temple of God's glory.

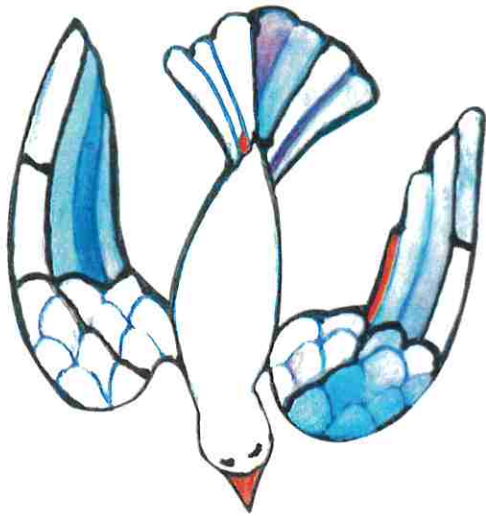
When a child is joined to the Church—the Body of Christ—that child is effectively inserted into a world of grace. Although sin and temptation will always remain present in the child's life because we cannot escape it in this world, the child now shares in the Reign of God already present in its beginnings in this world.

# saving grace

## Summary of the Church's Understanding of Original Sin

- ▶ Every human person is born into a world where the negative influence and effects of sin and evil surround us and are inescapable.
- ▶ Every human person is born into this world with an inclination to evil that makes us subject to temptation.
- ▶ Every human person is born in need of the saving grace of God that is available to us in Jesus Christ.
- ▶ This inherited condition that we are born with is what the Church calls *original sin*.
- ▶ It is the infusion of God's grace in Baptism that removes original sin and restores us to our "original justice" by giving us a share in God's own divine life.

## Reflection and Discussion



How is this explanation of original sin different than your previous understanding of the concept?

Think about the world we live in today, the world into which your child has been, or will be, born. What do you see as signs of God's grace in the world today?