

# **Incarnation of Our Lord – Roman Catholic Church**

## **Baptism Guide**

**617 Pierce Street**

**Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18015**

**Telephone (610) 866-3391**

### **What is needed to baptize your child:**

- 1. Copy of your child's birth certificate.**
- 2. You must be registered in our parish if you regularly attend Incarnation Of Our Lord parish or live within our boundaries.**
- 3. If you attend or belong to another Catholic Parish but would like to baptize at Incarnation Of Our Lord for some reason, we will need a letter from the pastor of your parish granting us permission to baptize your child.**
- 4. You must choose Godparents that meet the requirements set by the Catholic Church. Please read all the information below carefully before you ask your Godparents. They will not be accepted if they do not meet all the requirements and we do not want to hurt anyone's feelings.**
- 5. Parents and Godparents must attend a pre-baptismal formation class.**

**At Incarnation of Our Lord, during the pandemic, we are using the "Reborn" series of videos on [www.Formed.org](http://www.Formed.org) to prepare our families.**

- 1. FORMED is not just for Baptism - it has great movies, audio books, talks, and programs available for kids, youth, and adults.**
- 2. Materials are available in both English and Spanish and Portuguese and there's also an APP for it.**

### **3. TO SIGN UP:**

- 1) Go to [www.formed.org/signup](http://www.formed.org/signup)**
- 2) Select "I Belong to a Parish or Organization"**
- 3) Search for "Incarnation Of Our Lord Church and School"**
- 4) Enter your Full Name and Email address**
- 5) Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED**

**6) Download the app to your phone or save the link to access**

**Search for "Reborn" and watch at least 3 or more of the videos, call the deacon or priest again to discuss what inspired you after you are done. Note: that one is specifically about being a Godparent.**

**If you are not a member of Incarnation of Our Lord, you may attend such a class at your own parish. and then have your Catholic Parish provide a letter telling us you have done so and are to be a God parent.**

**We schedule the baptism date only after the above steps are completed.**

**. The suggested donation for Baptism in the Diocese of Allentown is \$25.**

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### **The Responsibilities of a Godparent:**

**The mission of godparents/sponsors is to support the parents in ensuring that their godchild is educated in the Catholic Faith and be living examples of the faith they profess. They must be the spiritual fathers and mothers of the newly baptized.**

**To be a Catholic Godparent, the Church requires that you:**

- 1. Be at least 16 years old.**
- 2. Be a practicing Catholic who participates in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist regularly.**
- 3. Have already received the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion.**
- 4. If you are single, not be living together with your boyfriend/girlfriend outside of marriage.**
- 5. If you are married, be married according to the Catholic Church.**
- 6. Receive formation preparing you for this responsibility (see above class on Formed.org).**
- 7. If you are not a member of Incarnation Of Our Lord, you may attend a class at your own**

**Catholic Parish and then ask them to provide us a letter stating that you have done so and are eligible to be a God parent.**

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**Baptism is so important that is about everyone's relationship with God and each other in the Church. That's why your role as Parents and God Parents is so important!**

**To be a living example, the parents' ought to be married in the Catholic Church. What your child needs the most is that their mother and father remain united in Christ until death. However, we will baptize your child in the meantime and will work with you to prepare you for the Sacrament of Matrimony, since children do not choose their parents' life situation.**

**However, since you are choosing Godparents from among many people, they must meet all of the above requirements for your child's sake and for their own sake. They have to make a promise before God at the Baptism to be a living example of the Catholic Faith. When a person is not following the above guidelines, they would not be telling the truth in the Baptism when they make that promise.**

**Our Staff will work with anyone who is disposed to conform themselves to Jesus' Teachings and to help them prepare to be witnesses of the Catholic Faith.**

**If anyone is struggling with any marriage situations or hurts from the past that is keeping them from moving forward in receiving the Sacraments as adults, please speak to your priest so we can help guide you. You are never alone! Jesus calls you to follow Him today!**