



St. Francis Xavier Parish

513 Howard • Petoskey, MI 49770
(231) 348-2210 • Fax: (231) 347-4134
petoskeysfx.org • church@petoskeysfx.org

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH Sacrament of Baptism — Information for Parents

Dear Parents,

Congratulations on the birth of your child! We rejoice with you as you begin this beautiful journey of parenthood and are grateful that you have chosen to celebrate your child's **Sacrament of Baptism** at St. Francis Xavier Parish.

Baptism is the first of the Sacraments of Christian Initiation and marks the beginning of your child's life in Christ and membership in the Catholic Church. As you prepare for this joyful celebration, please review the following:

1. Parents & Baptism Preparation

At least one parent must be a practicing Catholic, regularly participating in Sunday Mass and registered in a parish. If this is your first child to be baptized, you must participate in a **Baptism Preparation Class**. If you completed preparation at another parish, please provide a letter confirming your participation.

2. Parents Registered at Another Parish

If you belong to another parish and wish to celebrate your child's Baptism at St. Francis Xavier, you must provide a letter from your pastor confirming that you are a member in good standing, along with his written permission for the Baptism to take place here.

3. Parents Who Have Not Been Practicing Their Faith

If both parents have not been actively practicing the Catholic faith, **six months of waiting will be required before the Baptism can be scheduled. During this time, parents are expected to:** Attend Sunday Mass faithfully. Register as parishioners of St. Francis Xavier Parish. Become actively involved in the life and mission of the Church. Contribute to the parish community according to their ability. This time is an opportunity to renew your relationship with Christ and strengthen your commitment to living the Catholic faith.

4. Godparents

Canon Law requires **at least one godparent**. A godparent must be a practicing Catholic, registered in a parish, and a member in good standing. The godparent must provide a letter from his or her pastor confirming eligibility to serve. It is customary to have two godparents, one male and one female.

5. Christian Witness

A non-Catholic Christian may not serve as a godparent but may serve as a **Christian Witness** if he or she is baptized and actively practicing the Christian faith. A letter from the person's pastor confirming Baptism and active membership will be required. A non-baptized person cannot serve as a Christian Witness.

Thank you for your cooperation and for your commitment to preparing your family for this important sacrament. The Baptism of your child is a joyful moment for your family and our parish as we welcome your child into the life of Christ and His Church.

May God bless you and your family abundantly. We look forward to celebrating this beautiful occasion with you.

Fr. Peter Eke

Pastor

St. Francis Xavier Parish

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Baptism Application Form

Please contact the Parish Office to confirm the baptism date.

Please print clearly, if entering information by hand.

Child's Information

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____

Date Requested for Baptism: ____ / ____ / ____ Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____

City/State of Birth: City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Home Address: City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Email Address (if applicable): _____

Have you attended a Baptism Prep Class? Yes ____ / No ____

If Yes, Date: ____ / ____ / ____ Parish Name: _____

Has this child ever been Baptized?: Yes ____ / No ____

If Yes, When: ____ / ____ / ____ Where: _____

Parent's Martial Status: _____ Place of Marriage: _____

Father's Information

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____

Home Address (if different than child)

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone#: _____

Religion/Denomination: _____ Registered Parish: _____

Mother's Information

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____

Home Address (if different than child)

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone#: _____

Religion/Denomination: _____ Registered Parish: _____

Catholic Parish Where Parents are Registered: _____

Parent's Mass Participation: Weekly ____ Twice/Month ____ Seldom ____ Never ____

Child's Siblings (Names & Ages):

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Godfather's Information

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____

Registered Parish: _____

Godmother's Information

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____

Registered Parish: _____