

## Dates for the Celebration of Infant Baptism

2021

	Sun.(1:30pm)	Sat.(12:30pm)
January	10	23
February	14	27
March	14	27
April	18*	17*
May	9	29*
June	13	26
July	11	24
August	8	28
September	12	25
October	10	23
November	14	27
December	5*	18*

**Baptisms begin promptly in the church.  
Please plan on arriving one half hour early.**

This schedule is subject to change. Please contact the Parish Office.

### Private Baptisms

The Baptismal ceremony by its nature is a communal ritual. Here at St. Mary we pride ourselves at the joyful way we celebrate baptisms. Each family receives individual attention. For extraordinary reasons private baptisms may be arranged, but due to our priests' busy schedules we require that you ask an outside priest or deacon to celebrate. Dates for private baptisms are very limited.

## Baptism Classes for Infant Baptism

2021\*

January	4
February	1
March	1
April	5
May	3
June	7
July	5
August	2
September	6
October	4
November	1
December	6

Baptism class is held in the Parish Ministry Center in the Msgr. Sharp Library from 7:30—9:00 PM. **First time parents are required to attend.** You may make arrangements for child care, but know that your baby is also welcome at the class.

This schedule is subject to change. Please call the Parish Office to register for the class and/or confirm dates. **Registration is required in advance!**

*\*Due to the Pandemic we are only scheduling 2 babies per Baptism & classes are on hold. Please call the Parish Office for further instruction.*

**In case of the need of an emergency baptism please call one of the priests at the Parish Office 627-0385 at any time.**

# Baptizing Your Baby



*I baptize you in the name  
of the Father and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit*

**Church of St. Mary**

**1300 Northern Blvd.  
Manhasset, NY 11030**

**516-627-0385**

**www.stmary.ws**

*“Let the children come to me and do not hinder them. It is to just such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs.”* (Mark 10:14)

Baptism is the beginning of the journey of faith for your child. Through Baptism, your child becomes part of our faith community and a child of God through spiritual adoption. Through your teaching example, your child will grow to become a follower of Christ and an active member of the Church. This is why we have a special program to prepare parents and to help them raise their consciousness about this important responsibility.

#### **Age of Infant Baptism**

Parents should see to it that their children are baptized within a reasonable period after birth. Arrangements for baptism should be made as soon as possible after the birth of the child.

#### **Pre-Baptism Instruction Classes**

First-time parents are required to attend a Baptismal preparation session. This session is offered one evening each month in the Msgr. Sharp Library (see schedule on reverse side.) The class begins at 7:30 PM and ends approximately at 9:00 PM. Space is limited-registration required in advance.

#### **The Baptism Ceremony**

St. Mary's celebrates baptisms twice a month (see schedule on reverse side) in a very beautiful ceremony that includes a Liturgy of the Word, intercessions and the Rite of Baptism. We have hospitality ministers to assist you and your guests. We limit the number of families to six\* in order to make the ceremony both a reverent and joyful occasion for you and your guests. Our busiest times for baptisms are the spring and the fall. The ceremony begins promptly and usually lasts between 45 minutes and one hour.

#### **Requirements for Parents:**

- At least one parent must be a Catholic—intending that the child become a full member of the Catholic Church (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation).
- **All required paperwork must be submitted to the Parish Office before the Baptism can be scheduled. No dates can be held without the paperwork.**
- First time parents must complete a Pre-Baptism Preparation class.
- Parents should be registered parishioners if they live in Manhasset. Register at the Parish Office during regular office hours.

#### **Requirement for Godparents:**

1. Parents may select one or two godparents—**(one male and one female)** both over the age of 16. The Church, however, requires only one godparent. Parents may not serve as their child's godparent.
2. In order to serve as a godparent, he/she must be a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church **(having received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist)** and be one who practices his/her faith. He/she must not be bound by any Church penalty **(i.e. married outside the Church [civil marriage], or divorced and remarried without an annulment)**.
3. Godparents must obtain a **sponsor certificate** from the parish where they are registered that attests that they are a practicing Catholic and have received all their sacraments.
4. A second person of the opposite sex, if cho-

sen, may be validly baptized in another Christian tradition that baptizes by water in the name of the Trinity. This person stands as a “Christian Witness” to the Baptism and will be listed as such on the Baptism certificate. **Un-baptized persons may not serve as godparents or as a Christian witnesses.**

#### **Summary of Steps for having your child baptized:**

1. Obtain a Baptism Information Packet at the Parish Office. Fill out the application to schedule your child's baptism. Dates can not be reserved until we have a completed form.
2. If you live in Manhasset, you should register as parishioners if you have not done so already. If you are members of another parish, you must obtain from your church a letter granting you permission to baptize your child at St. Mary's.
3. If you are first time parents, you are required to register for and attend the Pre-Baptism Preparation Class.
4. Godparent sponsor certificates should be submitted at least 3 business days prior to the baptism date.

The Baptism Offering envelope should be filled out completely and handed to the priest as soon as you arrive for the baptism. The priest will be using the information written on the envelope for the ceremony. There is no fee for the baptism of your child, however, we ask you to contribute to the ongoing support of the Church. Your **free-will** offering should go inside of this envelope.