

HOLY BAPTISM

Dear Parents,

We extend our congratulations and ask for God's blessing upon you and your family on the upcoming occasion of your child's Holy Baptism. Listed below are a few things you should know for the preparation of the baptism of your child.

CHOOSING GODPARENTS

To be eligible to be Godparents in the Orthodox Church you need to be a **practicing Orthodox Christian in good sacramental standing** with the Church. Ideally, both Godparents should be Orthodox, or at least one of them must be.

The responsibilities of the Godparents are very important and reflect why we expect them to be both faithful Orthodox. Godparents are responsible for encouraging the parents in raising their child in the Orthodox Church, its faith and practice. This is why they publicly renounce the Devil and profess Christ repeatedly, and **must know and believe the Orthodox Creed, which they are expected to read or recite** during the first part of the Baptism service. The Godparents should insure that their Godchild is taken regularly to the Church, ideally every Sunday, or at a minimum every 3rd week to receive Holy Communion. The Godparents should attempt to be at Church with the Godchild to set a proper example as well as seeing that their Godchild develops a habit of prayer at home personally and with its family. The Godparents should encourage their Godchild in reading the Scripture and other Orthodox scriptural books, in attending Church School, camp, SOYO, etc., and should remember them especially with spiritual gifts (church books, icons, etc.) on their saint's day (name day) and at Christmas and Pascha, as well as on their birthday. Normally the Godparents help to supply some if not all of the below listed items used at the Baptism of their Godchild.

BAPTISMAL NAMES

Orthodox Church tradition requires your baby to have an Orthodox Christian Saint's name as a baptismal name. If your baby's first or middle name is not such a baptismal name, you will need to select one for the baptism. For a list of acceptable baptismal names, please ask the priest.

ITEMS TO BRING TO THE BAPTISM

Please bring the following items to the Baptism:

- White baptismal outfit (bring the baby to Church in a separate white garment)
- Two large white bath towels
- A small cross to put around the baby's neck
- Olive Oil, one liter or more

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

380 Magdalena Avenue - Los Altos Hills, CA 94024

V. Rev. Fr. Samer Youssef 650-941-1570 (phone) 650-948-6045 (fax)

HOLY BAPTISM

Name of Child _____
First Middle Last

Baptismal Name (if different from above) _____

Father's Full Name _____

Mother's Full Maiden Name _____

Address _____
Street City State/zip

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Birth Date _____ Birth Place _____

Baptism Date _____ Baptism Time _____

Godfather's Name _____

Godmother's Name _____

Reception Time & Place _____

Please check box:

(\$_____) Church Donation
Amount

1.

(Please make check payable to: "Orthodox Church of the Redeemer")

(\$_____) An honorarium is given to the officiating Priest (given directly to him or in a separate envelope marked "Honorarium for Priest")

2.

(\$) An Honorarium for the Chanter

Signed: _____ Date: _____