

ST. BERNARD CHURCH
275 Tower Hill Rd.
North Kingstown, RI 02852
(401) 295-0387 fax: (401) 295-1713

Dear Godparents:

Congratulations on being asked to be the godparent of a new member of our Catholic Christian Family. Your choice by the parents of this child expresses respect for the Christian example you can give their child by your life, and honor they wish to share, and a responsibility of which they want you to be a part.

In accepting this responsibility, you are making a commitment to your godchild. You are stating that you will continue to be a witness to Christ's values and our Church's beliefs and that it will be evident by the way you speak and act. Please know that you are not alone in this commitment. It is one that you share with the rest of the Catholic Community, and we promise you our support.

Please read the following requirements for a godparent. If you are able to fulfill these, then please fill in and sign the enclosed *Sponsor Certificate Form* and ask the pastor of your parish for his signature (or a staff person he has delegated.) on the bottom half of the form. Please return this form to St. Bernard's Church no later than one week prior to the date of the Baptism. ***Godparents and parents are asked to attend a 1 hour class 1 week prior to the Baptism. Godparents can be excused only for distance or work.***

The Canon Law of the Catholic Church (#874) requires those considered for the role of sponsor (godparent) to be:

- ❖ appointed by the candidate - or by the parents of the child,
- ❖ suitable and willing to fulfill the role of sponsor (godparent),
- ❖ not less than sixteen (16) years of age and someone who has received both first Eucharist and Confirmation.
- ❖ who lives the life of faith which befits the role of godparent
- ❖ who is a faithful participant in the Eucharist on Sundays and Holy Days of obligation
- ❖ if married, has been married according to the laws of the Catholic Church
- ❖ and, is living a life of good moral example.