



## *The Sacrament of Baptism*



If you are new to the area or just been 'gone' for a while – Welcome to Saint Dennis! Sacraments are 'sacred moments' when God touches our everyday lives in a very special way.

The Sacrament of Baptism is the first step in a Life-Long journey of Faith Formation. The celebration of this Sacrament is the 'welcoming' moment that brings and bonds your family with the **family** of St Dennis Parish (the Church is after all a '**Family of Families**').

Since Baptism is just the **beginning** of your family's Faith Journey, you need to be a registered member of Saint Dennis Parish before you sign up to attend the Baptism Classes. Baptism reflects your family desire to be "active member" of our Faith Family. "Who are 'active members'?" Families who attend Church weekly, support St. Dennis to the best of their ability with their Time, Talents & Treasures & help St. Dennis grow are "active members". In addition your family should be attending Generations of Faith – these events are for ALL members of your extended family, so invite the grandparents, aunts, cousins, etc to join you.

You may have more than 2 'godparents' as long as at least one 'godparent' is baptized, confirmed and practicing the faith – a letter from their home parish is required. Godparents are encouraged to attend classes with you. **Sound like a lot?** All this just for the Sacrament of Baptism? **YES!**

LIFE is filled with daily decisions. Each and every 'yes' we give to an event or activity means we are saying "no" to everything else life has to offer. Saying 'YES' to God's call in our lives opens the flood gates of God's Blessings and Graces into our daily activities. Our 'yes' leads to many other 'yesses' – but Jesus comes into our world through our 'yes'! And it is FUN being Catholic!

The Sacrament of Baptism is a public proclamation that YOU value our Faith **and there is something of great value here**. Jesus told us, "Go into the whole world and make disciples" – we are trying to live up to his challenge, to share the good news with the world we live in. We know that we are not perfect. Not even close. We're called 'practicing' Catholics because after 2000 years we are still learning – but we will keep **practicing** until we do get it right!

**Baptismal preparation classes** will now be divided into two preparation meetings, 4 weeks apart. These meetings will be on Saturday, from 9 -10:30am. Parents and Godparents will be required to attend both classes before the Baptismal date is set.

**The dates for the new format are: No July classes, Aug 20<sup>th</sup> & Sept 17<sup>th</sup>, Oct 15<sup>th</sup> & Nov 19<sup>th</sup>, No Dec class, Jan 21<sup>st</sup> & Feb 18<sup>th</sup>, March 17<sup>th</sup> & April 21<sup>st</sup>, May 21<sup>st</sup> & June 16<sup>th</sup>.**

*Please pre-register for these classes – by picking up the Baptismal Request Forms from the Parish Office or off our web site. Once your form is processed you will be assigned to a class. A \$75.00 Sacrament Preparation Fee is due with your Baptismal Request Form. Baptisms are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month at 1 pm, enter through the Narthex.*