



BASILICA

OF ST. MICHAEL

— THE ARCHANGEL —

Helping you find a Godparent for your Child¹

Choosing a Godparent for your child is one of the most important gifts you can give to your child at this time in their life. Being selected as a Godparent is a great honor and a privilege.

In accordance with an ancient custom of the Catholic Church, a godparent is a member of the Christian community who will help the child, after Baptism, persevere in the faith and in the Christian life. A godparent should be present to represent the spiritual family and to help the parents so that the infant will come to profess the faith and express it in life.

In the celebration of Baptism, the godparent is to testify to the faith of the child, together with the parents, and to profess the Church's faith.

Accepting the above as fundamental in choosing a Godparent, keep the following guidelines in mind when making a choice that will certainly affect your child's ongoing faith. Therefore, the godparent must be:

- Designated by the parents;
- A person no less than 16 years old;
- A fully initiated Catholic: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist;
- Living a life "consistent with faith and the responsibility of a godparent";
- not be the father nor mother of the child being baptized;
- one godparent, male or female; but there may be two, one of each gender;
- A member of the Catholic Church, not prohibited by law from carrying out the office (Non-Catholic Christians may serve as Christian Witness together with a Catholic godparent).

As the parent, you make this decision. If your choice of a Godparent is someone who is not a member of the Basilica of St. Michael, that person will have their Pastor affirm eligibility using the criteria above.

Please know we are so happy for you, especially at this moment when you wish to bring your child into the faith through the sacrament of Baptism. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office.

Peace and Blessings,

Very Rev. Raymond Herard
Rector
Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel
19 N. Palafox St.
Pensacola, FL 32502
850-4.8-4985 ext. 301

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