

**St. Elizabeth Ann Seton  
Catholic Church**

3145 SW 192<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Aloha, Oregon 97006  
Tel. 503.649.9044  
Fax 503.848.2915

***CONGRATULATIONS!***

Dear Parent(s)

The community of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish rejoices with you. We are writing to you in response to your request for information concerning the Baptism of your child. We will be pleased to work with you, to support you and to help you as you prepare for this momentous occasion and happy celebration

Baptism is the first of three Sacraments leading to full initiation into the Catholic Church. It makes one a member of the Body of Christ. It fulfills the command of Christ to "make disciples of all nations and to baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Through this Sacrament, the parish community welcomes its newest members and begins the faith journey with them toward their full initiation. It is by celebrating Confirmation and Eucharist that your child will become fully initiated and can then live the complete committed life of a Catholic Christian.

Such a life requires a continuous growth in faith. The beginning of your child's faith formation and its continued growth is dependent heavily, if not entirely, upon your own faith and the extent to which you live it. It is for this reason that parents must be registered, regularly participating, and worshipping members of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parish. If parents are not from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, a letter of verification from the priest of the home parish needs to be presented.

Godparents must be baptized, practicing Catholics. Without this support the child cannot fulfill the promises or responsibilities made and accepted at baptism. To help you reflect upon your own faith, to help you prepare well for the celebration of your child's Baptism, and to help you in your ongoing journey of faith with your child, the parish requires catechetical sessions prior to the celebration of the Sacrament, both for the parents and godparents. If married, the marriage needs to be blessed and recognized by the Catholic Church. Civil Marriages, alone, are not considered sacramental. If the godparents are not local, a letter of verification is required from the priest in the parish they attend.

To begin the process, please complete the enclosed registration form and return it to the parish office **THRISTY DAYS** before the baptism date. Also enclosed is a letter addressed to the prospective godparent(s) and a form for them to complete.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call our secretary at 503.649.9044.

We hope that this time of preparation for the celebration of your child's Baptism will provide an opportunity for you to deepen your own faith and love of the Lord so that as the years go by, you will help your child do the same. Again, we are here to support you in whatever way we possibly can.

Sincerely,  
Rev. Fr. Jeff Meeuwsen  
Pastor

## REQUIREMENTS FOR BAPTISM

The following requirements involve children under the age of 7. Children older than 7 require a different process called the Rite of Christian Initiation for Children.

- Visit the office and pick up a packet of forms.
- Obtain a copy of each child(s) Birth Certificate.
- Complete the ***Information for the Baptismal Registration*** and green ***Godparent*** forms and return them to the office as soon as possible.
- Once all the paperwork is completed and returned to the office, a “Baptism Class Ticket” will be given to the parents. This “ticket” will be your admission to the Baptism class.
- After you attend the Baptism Class you will receive documentation.
- Baptisms will **ONLY** take place on the last Sunday of the month—**NO EXCEPTIONS**; there are no Baptisms during Lent.
- Godparents must agree to the Godparent promises and sign the forms. If they are from another parish, the forms must also be signed by their parish representative attesting that they are actively participating Catholics.
- Parents and Godparents should be Roman Catholic. If the Godparents are not related and living together, they must have been married in the Catholic Church.\*

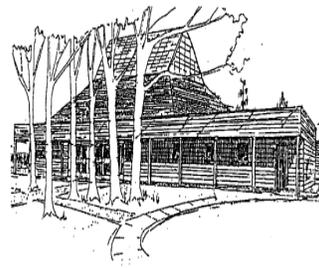
***\*“Those married by the Justice of the Peace, those living together without benefit of marriage and those who have been divorced and remarried without a Declaration of Nullity from the Diocesan Tribunal from a previous marriage(s) are NOT eligible to fulfill the role of sponsor for Baptism and Confirmation in the Catholic Church.” (Most Rev. John G. Vlazny, Archbishop of Portland in Oregon)***

- Parents and Godparents must attend the scheduled Pre-Baptismal Class. If they are from another parish, they must attend the classes in their own parish. When they have completed the classes, their pastor will need to sign a form stating such and giving permission. If you have previously attended a class, documentation of such is required.
- It is suggested that a Thank-you card with \$25.00 be given to the priest at the Baptism.
- Questions not specified in these requirements will be decided by the Parish priest.



# Information for the Baptismal Register

Please fill out the form completely, print and use full legal names



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Child's First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Place: \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Fathers Name: \_\_\_\_\_

	First			Middle		Last	
•Were you Baptized Catholic?	Yes	No		•Were you married in the Catholic Church?	Yes	No	

Mother's Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

	First			Middle		Last	
•Were you Baptized Catholic?	Yes	No		•Were you married in the Catholic Church?	Yes	No	

Address ( number and street): \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work/Cellular Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

What Parish do you attend? \_\_\_\_\_

How often do you attend Mass? \_\_\_\_\_

### GODPARENTS

Godfathers Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Baptized Catholic?	Yes	No	Single?	Yes	No
First Communion?	Yes	No	Married in the Catholic Church?	Yes	No
Confirmation?	Yes	No	Civil marriage?	Yes	No
Age: _____			Live together?	Yes	No

Godmother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Baptized Catholic?	Yes	No	Single?	Yes	No
First Communion?	Yes	No	Married in the Catholic Church?	Yes	No
Confirmation?	Yes	No	Civil marriage?	Yes	No
Age: _____			Live together?	Yes	No

**Special permission is needed in this case. Must speak with the Pastor before proceeding. Permission granted : Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_**

If Godparents cannot be present:

Proxy: \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_

Proxy: \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_

Baptism Date: _____		OFFICE USE		Celebrant: _____	
Certificate <input type="checkbox"/>	Register <input type="checkbox"/>	Census <input type="checkbox"/>	Entered By: _____		



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

## **GODPARENTS**



*St. Elizabeth Ann Seton  
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Aloha, Oregon 97006  
Ph: 503.649.9044 Fax: 503.848.2915

Dear Godparent:

You have been invited to have a unique relationship with a special child. You will celebrate the Baptism of this child, celebrate the naming of this child as a member of the Catholic Church and the Body of Christ. You will be the official representative of the Church. Therefore, your joyful presence at the Baptism, your blessing of the child, your promise to give support to the child and its parents will be given not only on your own behalf but also on behalf of the entire Catholic Church. This community joins in your commitment to help this child of God grow in the knowledge and love of God and the teachings of the Church, but you are essential.

Additionally, as a god parent, you will have a special relationship with your godchild. This is a relationship that prompts some questions.

- † Will you consent to accompany this child on the Christian journey of faith?
- † Are you willing to share your own gift of faith and your experience of God with this child?
- † Are you ready to help and support the parents as they raise this child in the Faith?
- † Will you be available to this child during the growth years?
- † Will you continue to pray for this child, even if you are separated by a great distance?
- † Will you love and cherish this child as a gift from God?

Yours is an extraordinary and unique relationship that we pray you will foster. We hope you will have an ongoing presence in the child's life by being there to listen, to offer guidance, to rejoice and celebrate special moments. Being a godparent offers you an exceptional opportunity to develop a lifelong spiritual friendship. Thus, in addition to the gifts you can give to this child, the child has a gift to give to you. As adults we can learn a great deal from a child's simplicity, earnestness, trust, love and their marvelous capacity for joy in their relationship with God.

Whether you are a member of the child's family or a family friend, you have been chosen as a godparent because you are special to the family. We pray that you may be a source of help and inspiration to the child and to the child's family. And may you be open to receiving the many blessings that the child's relationship to you and to God can bring into your life. May you both walk together as children of God and children of light.

### **An Understanding and Agreement for a Godparent:**

#### **Role of a Godparent:**

It is an ancient custom of the Church that at the Baptism of children, godparents be present. They represent the greater spiritual family of the child being Baptized, they symbolize the role of the entire Church; they are also official witnesses. As the child grows,

godparents help the parents, so that the child will actively profess the faith chosen for them. (Each child may have only one godfather or one godmother or both) Godparents must:

- \* Godparents are to be a role model of faith to the child for the rest of their lives.
- \* Be a support to the parents in passing on the Catholic faith to the child.

### **Requirements for a Godparent:**

- \* The godparent should be mature enough to understand, accept and carry out the duties of a godparent. That person should normally be at least 16 years of age.
- \* The godparent should have received the three initiation sacraments-Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.
- \* The godparent should be trying to live an exemplary life consistent with the Catholic Faith through attendance at Church and following the teaching of Christ's Church.

The godparent must be a member of the Catholic Church. (A Baptized and believing Christian not belonging to the Catholic Church may act as a Christian witness as long as there is also a Catholic godparent.)

### **Functions of a Godparent at the Baptismal Ceremony:**

- \* Stand next to and with the parents at the Baptism
- \* Respond "We are!" to this question:  
"Are you ready to help the parents of this child in their duty as Christian parents?"
- \* Trace the Sign of the Cross on the child's forehead during the reception rite.
- \* Listen to the admonition and affirm the Renunciation of Sin and the Profession of Faith by responding "I do" to the questions:  
"Do you reject sin...the glamour of evil,.....Satan..  
"Do you believe in:  
God, The Father Almighty  
Jesus Christ, His only Son,  
The Holy Spirit,  
The Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting?"
- Respond "Amen" to and/or repeat this summary of faith:  
"This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it, in Christ Jesus our Lord."
- Stand close and if possible touch the child during the actual pouring of or immersion in water.
- Light the Baptismal candle from the Easter candle and present it to the father of the child.
- Join in the "Our Father" and the other responses during the Baptismal rite.



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**Sponsor Promises**

**PERSON TO BE:**      **Baptized** \_\_\_\_\_

As a registered and participating member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church,

**OR** of: \_\_\_\_\_ Catholic Church,

I solemnly affirm that:

- I have received the three sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.
- I participate in the Mass on Sundays and Holy Days and regularly receive the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Reconciliation.
- I actively strive to live out my commitment to Christ and to the community life of the Church by my loving response to those with whom I come in contact daily.
- I am living my Christian vocation as a single person or I have been validly married in the Catholic Church.
- I realize that I assume a great responsibility before God and the Church in becoming a sponsor. I will give support to the person I am sponsoring by my prayers and by the Christian example of my daily life. I will help my candidate live their faith in the Catholic Church.

**Sponsor Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsor Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Attested by: \_\_\_\_\_

(Representative of the Parish)