

GODPARENTS:

EXPECTATIONS, REQUIREMENTS AND IDEAS TO BUILD SPIRITUAL BONDS

The St. Rose of Lima Catholic community expects godparents to

- Help your godchild grow in faith
- Teach your godchild about our Catholic traditions
- Model for your godchild how to live a Catholic life.

The Roman Catholic Church requires each child to have at least one godparent; in the United States, typically a godmother and godfather are chosen.

To be a Catholic godparent requires

- He or she is a Catholic who has been fully initiated: i.e., he or she has received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist
- He or she is an active member of the Catholic community: they should be participating in Mass regularly
- Be at least 16 years of age

It is our hope at St. Rose that Baptism is the beginning of lifelong relationships steeped in a commitment to the spiritual growth of the newly baptized by mutually sharing in all the rich spiritual gifts the Church has to offer as members of the Body of Christ.

Here are some ideas to build spiritual bonds with your godchild:

1. Send an anniversary card around the day of the Baptism
2. When sending gifts for birthdays, include spiritually focused gifts
3. Occasionally, go to Mass with your godchild and his/her family
4. When speaking of the child, refer to him or her as your godchild
5. Speak to your godchild about God, Jesus, the Church, Christian Life and what it means to be a Catholic
6. Ask your godchild about what they are learning in religious education; be pro-active in insuring the instruction is happening