



Parish of St. Vincent Ferrer
and St. Catherine of Siena

Baptism Preparation for Godparents

Congratulations on being asked to be a godparent. What a blessing it is in your life and in the life of the child. Godparents are models for the Christian life and should be an example of faithfulness to prayer, especially weekly attendance at Mass, and living a virtuous life. The reward is one that is eternal, namely that your godchild will be led more surely to heaven. May the Lord grant you many graces to carry this out well.

PREPARATION FOR THE BAPTISM

In preparation for the baptism, please watch the following three video segments.

There is a series called Aquinas 101 that has videos on a wide variety of topics. The one that will be helpful for baptism is:

[Answering Common Questions about Baptism](#)

FORMED.org is a website that has a treasure trove of videos and other resources. The “Reborn” series is particularly about baptism. (To access FORMED, simply go to formed.org/signup and then search for “St Vincent Ferrer-Saint Catherine of Siena”. You should be able to setup an account and login in that way.) Please watch the following two videos:

[Reborn – The Gift of Godparents: More Than Cards & Presents](#)

[Reborn – Episode 3: Nurturing the Life of Grace](#) – from 17:22 to 20:38

PAPERWORK

All godparents will need to obtain a letter of suitability from their local pastor. There is a sample letter on the next page if that is helpful. Please be sure to send this letter to the priest officiating the baptism, no less than three weeks before the baptism (the parents of the child can give you the priest’s email address).



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Letter of Suitability to Serve as Godparent

Godparents model and teach the faith to their godchildren. Undertaking this responsibility requires a commitment to following Jesus Christ and membership in His Church. For that reason, the Parish of St. Vincent Ferrer and St. Catherine of Siena requires godparents to complete the following declaration and get it certified by their home parish.

Name: _____

Child's Name: _____

Date of Baptism: _____

Parish for Baptism (name and place): _____

DECLARATION

I declare the following (initial each):

_____ I believe and profess all that the Holy Catholic Church teaches, believes, and proclaims to be revealed by God.

_____ I have received all three Sacraments of Initiation, namely, baptism, confirmation, and first Holy Communion.

_____ I am in full communion with the Roman Pontiff and our archbishop.

_____ I am not under excommunication, interdict, or publicly forbidden from receiving Holy Communion.

_____ I attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.

_____ I am not married outside the Catholic Church.

_____ I am at least 16 years old.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

CERTIFICATION

The Catholic signing above is registered at our parish, and to the best of our knowledge is qualified to be a godparent.

Signature [priest or deacon]: _____

Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Parish Name and Location: _____

(church seal)