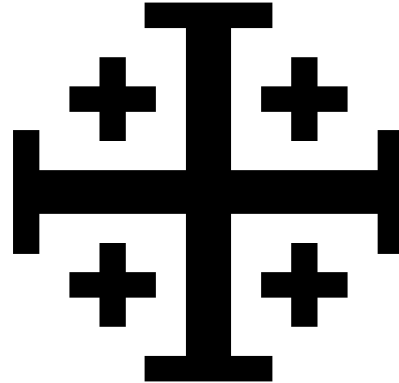
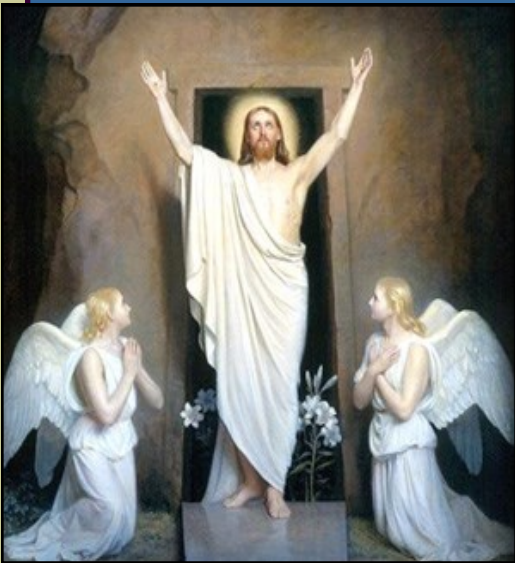


## SAINT JOHN VIANNEY

*Living Faith  
Changing Lives  
Making a Difference*

“Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.”

Romans 6:3-4; Col 2:12



For more information about Baptism Preparation for Infant - 6 Years Old, please contact the Parish Office, 281.497.1500

Unbaptized children above the age of 6 are prepared for Baptism through the Religious Education Program for Youth (CCE). For details contact the Youth Formation Office, 281.497.6665.

Adults wishing to be baptized are prepared through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Sessions are held throughout the year. Contact the RCIA Director at 281.584.2022. or [ygill@stjohnvianney.org](mailto:ygill@stjohnvianney.org)

## The Sacrament of Baptism

### SAINT JOHN VIANNEY

625 Nottingham Oaks Trail  
Houston, Texas 77079  
281.497.1500



# Celebrating Baptism In Saint John Vianney Parish

Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons and daughters of God; we become members of Christ's body, are incorporated into the Church, and made sharers in her mission. CCC #1213

The sheer gratuitousness of salvation is particularly manifest in the baptism of children.



In expressing a desire to have their child baptized, parents are accepting the responsibility of raising their child in the Catholic faith. Parents who are not married in the Catholic Church may have their child baptized. In these instances they are urged to contact the Adult Formation Director to discuss the convalidation of their marriage.

## Pre-baptismal Preparation

Parents should be registered members of Saint John Vianney parish **for at least six months before** enrolling in classes and actively practicing the Catholic faith.

To register for pre-baptismal classes contact the Parish Office in the third trimester of pregnancy. Pre-baptismal classes in English and Spanish, 2 hours in duration, are generally offered each month on Sunday afternoons. Since 2 hours is taxing on infants and toddlers, contact the nursery director, at 281/589-9532, to make a reservation for child care during the baptismal preparation class.

There are two preparation classes which must be attended by both parents. Upon successful completion of both sessions parents may schedule the celebration of baptism. The baptism of children from infancy to six years of age is generally celebrated three times each month on Sunday afternoon unless otherwise noted (2 in English; 1 in Spanish). **There are no "private" Baptismal celebrations.**

## Godparent(s)

You may choose one or two persons to be godparents. If two are chosen, one must be male and the other, female. Godparents are invited and encouraged to attend pre-baptismal preparation classes at Saint John's or in their own parish and present a certificate of completion or a letter of good standing. Godparents must be:

- At least 16 years of age.
- A fully initiated Catholic (have celebrated Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist).

- Actively practicing the Catholic faith and, if married, married in the Catholic Church.

Only a non-Catholic Christian may serve as a Christian Witness along with a Catholic who will be the godparent. An unbaptized person cannot serve as a godparent or Christian witness.

## The Ceremony

The Rite of Baptism is regularly celebrated in the Ars Chapel unless otherwise noted. Parents and godparents should arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the beginning of the liturgy and check in with a member of the Baptismal Liturgy Team.

The parish provides the baptismal candle. No shells, additional candles or other items need be purchased however, you may request that religious articles be blessed following the celebration.

Parents and godparents are expected to dress appropriately. Photos and/or video taping during the ceremony may be taken from the pew but at no time should family or friends leave their pew. Time for photos will be allotted after the baptismal celebration has concluded.