The Sacrament of Holy Baptism
Criteria and Costs

Dates
The dates for Baptism will be those prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer, p. 312, unless the number of requests require supplemental dates:
- Easter Vigil
- Pentecost
- All Saints Day (or the Sunday after)
- Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord
- Bishop’s Visitation

A parent should contact the Rector (or his designee/s) at least three months in advance of the desired date to establish dates for Baptismal counseling and Baptism. The date will be set according to the calendar after the Priest and the family have completed conferences regarding the spiritual significance of baptism in the Episcopal Church. On the date decided upon, the parents, godparents/sponsors, family members and friends of the candidate are requested to be in the Great Hall of the Church no later than one-half hour before the service is to begin. Baptisms are a part of the 10 am service, except for the Easter Eve service, which is at 6 pm. Only emergency Baptisms will be done outside of the Church. These Baptisms will be recognized later at a public celebration.

Requirements

Parents
At least one parent must be an active and participating member of the Saint Thomas congregation or some other Christian congregation. Parents reactivating or reaffirming their faith must be regular in attendance for at least three months prior to the Baptism.

Grandparents
may take on the spiritual parental role if they are directly active in the life of a child.

Godparents
must be baptized, actively practicing members of a Christian congregation. A letter of certification is required from Rectors or Pastors and must be submitted along with the completed application form.

Costs

Nonmembers
Nonmembers of St. Thomas will be required to make a minimal contribution of Seventy-five ($75.00) to the parish.