

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

As parents or guardians you have been the instruments of new life. What a joy and tremendous responsibility! You are now preparing to bring your child for the sacrament of baptism in which God gives new life and a new family. Just as giving birth or adopting was a special role, so is the role of being a faith nurturer as one grows in life and faith. You are the primary teacher of your child. You gave your child physical life and now you will lead your child in a faith-filled life.

You have responsibilities today in preparing for the baptism of your child and tomorrow in the nurturing of your son or daughter's baptismal life.

TODAY.....

- ❖ Talk with your pastor about classes to prepare you for your new role as faith-nurturer.
- ❖ Pray for this new child in the faith.
- ❖ Select Christian sponsors for your child.
- ❖ If possible, share in the planning of the service.
- ❖ Prepare for the baptismal day to be a special celebration – invite family and friends, plan the baptismal garment, plan for a special meal or reception....
- ❖ Prepare yourself as you reflect on your own baptism.

TOMORROW.....

- ❖ Every day pray for your child.
- ❖ Tell your child the story of his/her baptism
- ❖ Help your child to understand and live out the gifts of his/her baptism every day
- ❖ Teach your child the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer and the Creeds of the church.
- ❖ Give, share and read the holy Bible together.
- ❖ As a family worship and study together.
- ❖ Cultivate a family spiritual life through daily prayer, scripture and conversation.
- ❖ Include sponsors in family events and faith transition times.
- ❖ Read stories, talk the faith, make faith sharing a natural part of your life.
- ❖ Help all members of the family to relate everyday experiences to their Christian faith.
- ❖ Celebrate baptismal anniversaries for all members of the family.
- ❖ Model the Christian life for your child – read the Scriptures, pray, attend worship, study, give, serve.....

IN WHAT WAYS MIGHT YOU SHARE IN THE BAPTISMAL LIFE OF YOUR CHILD?

TODAY.....

TOMORROW.....

WRITE SOME GOALS FOR HOW YOU EXPECT TO BE THE FAITH-NURTURER FOR YOUR CHILD....
