

## **For Your Information – Baptism**



### *Infants and Children to age 7:*

Baptisms are celebrated once a month during the Sunday Masses at St. Mary of the Pines. Baptisms rotate through each of the Sunday Masses so that the whole parish community may have the experience of welcoming new members.

The diocesan policy requires that parents must attend the pre-baptism seminar. Godparents are encouraged to attend. Check the Bulletin for the date, time and place.

Church Law requires that:

- There must be a godparent; two are preferred.
- Godparents must be “practicing Catholics.” Someone who is not a Catholic may be a witness, but never a godparent.
- Godparents must be at least 16 years of age.
- Godparents must be confirmed in the Catholic faith.

Those who live outside the parish boundaries of St. Mary of the Pines and who wish to have a child baptized at St. Mary’s must have written permission from their own pastor, and must attend the baptism seminar.

### *Children over 7 - up to Adults:*

Candidates enroll in an on-going instruction process called “The Rite of Christian Initiation”. There are two separate sections for the processes: one for school age children RCIC (grades one thru twelve), and one for adults RCIA.

For those who are interested in the Catholic Faith, call the Parish Office 318 687 5121 and ask to speak to the Director of Religious Education.