

**St. Vincent de Paul Parish
Mission Statement**

WE, the faith community of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, Archdiocese of San Antonio, strongly embrace the charism of our patron by serving those in need.

We call upon the Holy Spirit to empower us to follow the example of our Lord to spread the Good News.

We are a community that is welcoming supportive and enabling to all in every phase of our life.

Our mission is to be disciples in spreading the Good News through evangelization, education and worship.

Parish Priest

Fr. Hugo O. Maese, M.Sp.S
Fr. Armando Hernandez, M.Sp.S.



Parish Deacon

Deacon Ed Garcia



English Class Instructor

Linda Woodring



Spanish Class Instructor

**Martha Bocanegra/
Altagracia Calvillo**



St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

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San Antonio, TX 78227
Parish Office:
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**St. Vincent de Paul
Catholic Church**

**BAPTISM
GUIDELINES**

**THE SACRAMENT OF
BAPTISM**



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Baptism is one of the three sacraments of initiation. It 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 (children) of God; we become members of the Body of Christ, are incorporated into the church and made sharers in her mission.” -Catechism of Catholic Church #1213.

Baptism is the external sign celebrating the entrance of a person into the Christian Community as well as into a specific community such as St. Vincent de Paul parish. In order to highlight the importance of this sacrament the Catholic Church and the parish in which your child is being baptized have laid out certain requirements which we provide in this literature.



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Pre-Baptism Classes

Pre-baptism English classes are offered at St. Vincent de Paul parish on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm in the Parish Center. Any changes to the class schedule will be notified accordingly.

Both parents and sponsors will need a booklet for this class. Since there are activities and questions in the booklet that should be completed prior to the class we recommend to purchase the booklets during your initial visit to the office. The cost per couple is: \$10.00. (Book & Class)

Parents

- One of the parents must be a Catholic.
- Parent (s) must live within the parish boundaries or be registered members of the parish.
- The parent (s) of the child to be baptized must come by the parish office to complete the necessary paperwork. Please bring the original birth certificate issued by the State Department of Health.
- Parent (s) must attend one pre-baptism class offered at St. Vincent de Paul parish each month. Please register for the class in our Parish office.

Godparent (s)

Godparent (s) must be practicing Catholics who have received the three sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation.

They must be at least 16 years old and willing to accept the responsibility of supporting their godchild on his/her faith journey.

If married, they must be married in the Catholic Church.

Only one godparent is required; that person can be either male or female. If there are two godparents, then one must be female, the other male. A non-Catholic cannot be a godparent for a Catholic baptism but can serve as a Christian witness.

The godparents must attend one pre-baptism class offered at St. Vincent de Paul parish. If the godparents have attended a pre-baptism class at another parish within the past year, that will suffice provided they present proof of attendance at the Office prior to the class.

Setting Date for Baptism

Dates for the celebration of the ceremony will be given once you attend a pre-baptism class. Please call the Parish office to sign up for the best date available. The Baptismal fee is \$40.00, which should be paid before your child is baptized. Private Baptisms are \$100.

Celebration of the Sacrament

Baptisms take place on designated days after Mass. On the day of your child's Baptism it is important that you and the sponsors are available for the Mass. Please arrive on time.

Baptisms are scheduled for the second Saturday of each month in English after the 5pm Mass, and the fourth Sunday of each month in Spanish after the 2pm Mass. Any change in schedule will be notified accordingly.