

# **BAPTISM GUIDELINES FOR CHILDREN AND OTHERS UNABLE TO ANSWER FOR THEMSELVES**

## *Oakdale Church*

Children and others who have not reached the developmental stage of making their own decisions are presented for baptism by at least one parent/guardian or sponsor . . .

- Who is a member of the Church and an active worshipper and participant with an Oakdale campus
  
- Who openly professes the Christian faith by publically acknowledging that you:
  - repent of your sins and receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior
  - receive and profess the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments (i.e. the Bible)
  - give your life to loving, following and serving Jesus alongside your brothers and sisters of the Church
  
- Who promises with God's help to:
  - strive to be a Christ-like example for their child
  - nurture their child in the Christian faith and life
  - teach their child the Holy Scriptures
  - keep their child in the fellowship and guidance of the Church
  
- So that their child will come:
  - to trust in and follow Jesus within the community of the Church
  - to share his/her faith openly
  - to lead a life committed to serving God and neighbor.

If there are to be sponsors (godparents), they should be selected carefully because they will help nurture the child to be baptized in the Christian faith. This role is not only an honor, it is a serious responsibility. The pastors and church staff can also be helpful in selecting sponsors.

It is the duty of the pastor to give instruction in the significance of Holy Baptism, the role and responsibility of parents, sponsors, and congregation, and how as the Church we can best help one another, and especially the newly baptized, to grow and develop as followers of Christ.