



## GUIDELINES FOR GOOD *Godparenting*



*So, your friend/sibling/roommate has asked you to be a godparent. Congratulations! With a great honor comes a great responsibility. Here's how you can get ready for Baptism and beyond.*

### **Prepare**

"Godparent" is much more than an honorary title, so take time to prepare! The parent's church may require you to attend a short godparent or Baptism preparation class. It's a good chance to learn more about what is expected.

### **Be there**

Don't miss the Baptism! Being part of the ceremony is the first part of your job as a godparent. It's your responsibility, along with the parents, to speak for the one being baptized and profess your faith. (Plus there's usually a great party.)

### **Remember**

Birthdays and holidays are important times for remembering your godchild, but as a godparent, it's good to remember the day they were baptized, too, along with other spiritual days like feast days and holy days.

### **Pray**

Whether you live near or far away from your godchild, you can always pray for them. Make daily prayer part of your normal routine. Even if you're not the type of person to pray daily -- start doing so by praying for them. (It's your job!)

### **Share**

Your most important role is sharing your faith with your godchild. Spend time with them, take them to church, answer their questions. As they get older, do activities or send gifts with a spiritual message. Don't be shy! You're an important part of helping the parents raise them in the faith.

### **Stay Aware**

Just as it's important for parents to stay healthy so that they can be there for their child, it's important for godparents to stay spiritually healthy. Be sure to nurture your own relationship with God. Strengthening your faith will empower you to be an example of a good Christian life for your godchild.