**Baptism: Celebrating Life**

 “Baptism is the Sacrament of the faith. But faith needs the community of believers. It is only within the faith of the Church that each of the faithful can believe. The faith required for Baptism is not a perfect and mature faith, but a beginning that is called to develop. The catechumen or the godparent is asked: “What do you ask of God's Church?” The response is: “Faith!” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraph 1253)

**Questions for Reflection:**

 1. As I/we bring my/our child for baptism, how am I/are we called to personal renewal of my/our own faith?

 2. What meaning does my/our faith really have for me/us? How have I/we lived up to my/our personal promise?

 3. What are my/our fears for my/our child? What are my/our dreams? Why am I/are we bringing my/our child to be baptized at this time?

 4. Which symbol or symbols in the baptism liturgy mean the most to me/us? Why?

**Questions for Discussion:**

1. Describe your son/daughter to the others in the group. How is this child a gift to your family? How is this child a challenge? What spiritual gifts do you pray your child will receive at Baptism?

2. How did you choose your child's God-parents? What kind of role model can they be for your child? Do you know anything about your child's patron saint?

 3. How do you hope to share your faith with your child as he or she grows up? What family religious traditions do you want to continue in your home? How do you plan to do this?