

## **Baptism of Persons of Catechetical Age**

**Policy No. 610**

***Policy Statement:*** Persons receiving the Sacrament of Baptism at a catechetical age are to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist immediately following the Baptism.

***Definition:*** Catechetical age is 7 years and older.

***Procedure:***

- a) Determine that the person of catechetical age has not been validly baptized. (Validity of Baptism in the Catholic Church –Appendix 612C)
- b) Complete the appropriate Rite of Christian Initiation Forms – adapted for Children – Appendix 612B  
– Adults –Appendix 612A
- c) Age appropriate instruction or sacramental preparation is to be provided according to parish programs for persons of catechetical age before the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation.
- d) At 14 years of age, a person may request Baptism without the consent of the parents.

***Exceptions:*** At the discretion of the pastor, persons of catechetical age may receive Confirmation and First Eucharist at the same time as others of similar age who were baptized in the Catholic Church as infants or under the age of reason (Rite 246).

***Also refer to Policy:***  
No. 600 Responsibility of Parents  
No. 601 Baptism Preparation

***Also refer to Appendix:***  
Appendix 612A Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Form  
Appendix 612B RCIA adapted for Children Form  
Appendix 612C Validity of Baptism in the Catholic Church