



Churches
and Ecclesial Communities
with valid Baptism

Office of Spiritual Affairs
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Baptism

Baptism, the door to life and to the kingdom of God, is the first sacrament of the New Law, which Christ offered to all, that all might have eternal life. He later entrusted this sacrament and the Gospel to his Church, when he told his apostles: “Go, make disciples of all nations, and baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit”.

[*Rite of Baptism*, n. 3]

Baptism, is validly conferred only by a washing of true water with the proper form of words.

[*1983 Code of Canon Law*, c. 849]

Baptism in the Catholic Church

The Catholic Church is composed of twenty-four ritual churches. These twenty-four autonomous (*sui iuris*) churches are in turn grouped into those belonging to the Western (Latin) tradition, and the Eastern (Oriental) tradition.

Below is a listing of Catholic churches *sui iuris*, with valid Baptism:

Western liturgical tradition:

1. Roman Catholic Church:
 - o includes the Anglican Ordinariate (composed of members of the Anglican Communion who have returned to the Catholic Church). This liturgical adaptation is referred to as the Anglican Use within the Roman Catholic Rite.

Eastern liturgical tradition:

-Alexandrian liturgical tradition:

2. Coptic Catholic Church
3. Ethiopian Catholic Church
4. Eritrean Catholic Church

-Antiochian liturgical tradition:

5. Maronite Catholic Church
6. Syriac Catholic Church
7. Syro-Malankara Catholic Church

-Armenian liturgical tradition:

8. Armenian Catholic Church

-East Syriac or Chaldean liturgical tradition:

9. Chaldean Catholic Church
10. Syro-Malabar Catholic Church

-Byzantine liturgical tradition:

11. Albanian Catholic Church
12. Belarusian Greek Catholic Church
13. Bulgarian Greek Catholic Church
14. Byzantine Church in Italy (formerly Italo-Albanian Catholic Church)
15. Greek Catholic Church of Croatia and Serbia
16. Greek Byzantine Catholic Church
17. Hungarian Greek Catholic Church
18. Macedonian Catholic Church
19. Melkite Greek Catholic Church
20. Romanian Greek Catholic Church
21. Russian Greek Catholic Church
22. Ruthenian Greek Catholic Church
23. Slovak Greek Catholic Church
24. Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church

Baptism is a sacramental bond of unity linking all who have been signed by it. Because of that unchangeable effect [...] the rite of baptism is held in highest honor by all Christians. Once it has been validly celebrated, even if by Christians with whom we are not in full communion, it may never lawfully be repeated.

[*Rite of Baptism*, n.4]

Non-Catholic churches and ecclesial communities with valid Baptism

Churches in the Orthodox tradition:

-Ancient Patriarchates:

1. Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople
 - Autonomous under Constantinople:
 - a. Orthodox Church of Crete
 - b. Finnish Orthodox Church
 - c. Estonian Apostolic Orthodox Church
 - d. Russian Orthodox Churches in Western Europe (but: not recognized by Russia)
 - Non-autonomous under Constantinople:
 - a. Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Italy
 - b. Exarchate of the Philippines
 - c. American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese
 - d. Korean Orthodox Church
 - e. Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada
 - f. Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA
 - Diasporan Churches under Constantinople
 - a. Albanian Orthodox Diocese of America
 - b. Patriarchal Exarchate for Orthodox Parishes of Russian Tradition in Western Europe
 - c. Episcopal Vicariate of Great Britain and Ireland
2. Greek Orthodox Church of Alexandria and All Africa
3. Greek Orthodox Church of Antioch and All the East
 - Autonomous under Antioch:
 - a. Syriac Orthodox Church
 - b. Antiochian Orthodox Christians
 - c. Greek Orthodox Church of North America
4. Greek Orthodox Church of Jerusalem
 - Autonomous under Jerusalem:
 - a. Orthodox Church of Mount Sinai

-Junior Patriarchates:

1. Russian Orthodox Church
 - Autonomous under Russia:
 - a. Belarusian Orthodox Church
 - b. Latvian Orthodox Church
 - c. Ukrainian Orthodox Church
 - d. Moldavian Orthodox Church
 - e. Japanese Orthodox Church
 - f. Chinese Orthodox Church
 - g. Russian Orthodox Church outside Russia
 - h. Metropolis of Western Europe
 - Semi-Autonomous under Russia:
 - a. Estonian Orthodox Church of Moscow Patriarchate
 - b. Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia
2. Serbian Orthodox Church
 - Autonomous under Serbia:
 - a. Orthodox Ohrid Archbishopric
3. Romanian Orthodox Church
 - Autonomous under Romania:
 - a. Romanian Orthodox Archdiocese in the Americas
 - b. Metropolitan Church of Bessarabia

4. Bulgarian Orthodox Church
 5. Georgian Orthodox and Apostolic Church
- Autocephalous Archbishoprics:
1. Church of Cyprus
 2. Church of Greece
 3. Albanian Orthodox Church
 4. Polish Orthodox Church
 5. Czech Lands and Slovak Orthodox Church
 6. Orthodox Church in America
 7. Orthodox Church of Ukraine
- Ecclesial communities from the Eastern Orthodox tradition, not in Communion with Patriarchate of Constantinople
- True Orthodoxy
1. Orthodox Church of Greece (Greek Old Calendarists)
 2. Old Calendar Bulgarian Orthodox Church
 3. Old Calendar Romanian Orthodox Church
 4. Serbian True Orthodox Church
 5. Russian Orthodox Autonomous Church
 6. Autonomous Orthodox Metropolia of North and South America and the British Isles
- Old Believers
1. Russian Orthodox Old-Rite Church (Belokrinitzkaya Hierarchy)
 2. Lipovan Orthodox Old-Rite Church (Belokrinitzkaya Hierarchy)
 3. Russian Old-Orthodox Church (Novozybkovskaya Hierarchy)
 4. Pomorian Old-Orthodox Church (Pomortsy)
- Other Independent ecclesial communities who identify as "Eastern Orthodox"
1. Russian True Orthodox Church
 2. Russian Orthodox Church in America
 3. Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church (dissolved in December 2018)
 4. Church of Ukraine (Kiev Patriarchate) (dissolved in December 2018)
 4. Autonomous Ukrainian Orthodox Church in America
 5. Belarusian Autocephalous Orthodox Church
 6. Abkhazian Orthodox Church
 7. Indonesia Orthodox Church
 8. Macedonian Orthodox Church - Ohrid Archbishop
 9. Montenegrin Orthodox Church
 10. Karamanli Turkish Orthodox Church
 11. Bulgarian Alternative Synod
 12. Croatian Orthodox Church
 13. Orthodox Church in Italy
 14. Orthodox Church of France
 15. Holy Orthodox Church in North America (HOCNA)
 16. Communion of the Western Orthodox Churches
- Oriental Orthodoxy
1. Armenian Apostolic Church
 - a. Armenian Patriarch of Constantinople
 - b. Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem
 - c. Catholicosate of the Great House of Cilicia
 2. Coptic Orthodox Church of Alexandria

- a. French Coptic Orthodox Church
- 3. Syriac Orthodox Church of Alexandria
 - a. Malankara Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church
- 4. Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church
 - a. Brahmavar (Goan) Orthodox Church
- 5. Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church
- 6. Eritrean Orthodox Tewahedo Church
- Oriental Orthodox Church not in Communion with Oriental Orthodox
 - 1. Malabar Independent Syrian Church of India
 - 2. Syriac Orthodox Church of Germany of Moosa Gurgan
 - 3. Malankara Mar Thomas Syrian Church
- Christian communities in the Eastern Tradition
 - 1. Assyrian Church of the East

Non-Catholic churches

- Polish National Church
- Society of St. Pius X

Christian ecclesial communities:

- African Methodist Episcopal
- Anglican
- Assemblies of God
- Associated Gospel Churches
- Awakening Church
- Baptist
- Bible Chapel
- Bukot nan Jesus
- Canadian Reformed Church
- Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association
- Christian Congregation in Brazil
- Christian Reformed Church
- Church of Christ
- Church of God
- Church of the Brethren
- Church of the Nazarene
- Congregational Church
- Disciples of Christ
- Dutch Reformed Church
- Elim Fellowship
- Evangelical Church
- Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren
- Evangelical Lutheran
- Fellowship of Christian Assemblies
- Foursquare Gospel Church
- German Baptist
- German Evangelical Church
- Hussite
- Jesus Is Lord Church
- Liberal Catholic Church
- Lutheran
- Maori Christian
- Mar Thoma Syrian Church
- Methodist
- National Catholic Apostolic Church
- Nauru Congregational Church
- New Apostolic Church
- New Testament Church of God
- Old Catholic Church
- Old Catholic Church of the Union of Utrecht
- Old Roman Catholic Church
- Philippine Independent Church (valid after 1961)
- Presbyterian

- Rehoboth Gospel Assembly
- Reformed Protestant Church (Calvinism)
- Seventh Day Adventists
- Seventh Day Adventists Reformed
- Three-Self Patriotic Movement
- United Church
- United Church of Christ
- Uniting Church
- Waldensian
- Zion

The words for conferring baptism are: I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

[*Rite of Baptism*, n. 23]

Baptism is to be conferred either by immersion or by pouring.

[1983 *Code of Canon Law*, c. 854]

Ecclesial communities whose Baptismal validity is uncertain *

- Apostolic Christian Church
- Christian and Missionary Alliance
- Christian Church in Canada
- Ekalesia Niue
- Evangelical Missionary Church
- Faith Fellowship Church
- Iglesia Ni Cristo
- Italian Pentecostal Church of Canada
- Mennonite
- Missionary Church
- Moravian Church
- Pentecostal

* Baptismal certificates from these ecclesial communities should be verified on a case by case basis, by either calling the specific community that issued them or contacting the Office of Spiritual Affairs for assistance. Some of these communities also practice re-baptism (they baptize their members even if they were previously baptized in another denomination).

Ecclesial communities with invalid Baptism

- Amana Church Society
- Apostolic Church
- Apostolic Faith Mission
- Bohemian Freethinkers
- Celestial Church of Christ
- Children of God
- Christadelphians
- Christian Community (Rudolf Steiner)
- Christian Fellowship Church
- Christian Revival
- Church of Daniel's Band
- Church of Divine Science
- Church of Emmanuel
- Church of God of Prophecy
- Church of Illumination
- Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints
- Church of Revelation
- Church of the Lord Jesus Christ (Winona, ON)
- Doukhobors (Christian Community of Universal Brotherhood)
- Erieside Church
- First Church of Christ, Scientist
- Hephzibah Faith Missionary Association
- House of David
- Israel United in Christ
- Jehovah's Witness
- Kimbanguist
- Metropolitan Community Church
- Moonies
- National David Spiritual Temple of Christ Church Union
- Peoples Church of Chicago
- Prathyaksha Raksha Daiva Sabha
- Salvation Army
- Shakers
- The New Church
- Unity Church
- Universal Emancipation Church
- Wesleyan Holiness Church

Faith traditions with no Baptism

- American Ethical Union
- Animism
- Asatru Association
- Ascended Masters Teachings
- Badimo
- Bahá'í
- Buddhism
- Candomblé
- Cao Dai
- Cheondoism
- Christian Rationalism
- Church of Scientology
- Confucian
- Druze
- Falun Gong
- Folk Religion
- General Assembly of Spiritualists
- Hare Krishna
- Hindu
- Hoa Hao
- Jainism
- Judaism
- Mandaeism
- Masons
- Muslim
- National Spiritualists Association
- Pagan
- Quakers
- Rastafari
- Santeria
- Shamanism
- Shinto
- Sikhism
- Spiritist
- Spiritualist Church
- Taoism
- Tengriism
- Tenrikyo
- Unitarian Universalist
- Unitarianism
- Voodoo
- Winti
- Yazidi
- Zoroastrianism
- Zuism

Appendix 1

When a member of a non-Catholic faith tradition with valid Baptism enters into the full communion of the Catholic church, their ascription will be as follows:

Orthodox Tradition	Catholic Rite <i>sui iuris</i>
-Ancient Patriarchates:	
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople	Any Byzantine Catholic rite *
Autonomous under Constantinople:	
a. Orthodox Church of Crete	Greek Catholic Church **
b. Finnish Orthodox Church	Russian Catholic Church ***
c. Estonian Apostolic Orthodox Church	Russian Catholic Church
d. Russian Orthodox Churches in Western Europe (but: not recognized by Russia)	Russian Catholic Church
Non-autonomous under Constantinople:	
a. Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Italy	Greek Catholic Church
b. Exarchate of the Philippines	Greek Catholic Church
c. American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese	Russian Catholic Church
d. Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada	Ukrainian Catholic Church
e. Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA	Ukrainian Catholic Church
Greek Orthodox Church of Alexandria	Any Alexandrian Catholic rite
Greek Orthodox Church of Antioch	Any Antiochian Catholic rite
Autonomous under Antioch:	
a. Syriac Orthodox Church	Syriac Catholic Church
b. Antiochian Orthodox Christians	Maronite Catholic Church
c. Greek Orthodox Church of North America	Any Antiochian Catholic Church
Greek Orthodox Church of Jerusalem	Greek Catholic Church
Autonomous under Jerusalem:	
a. Orthodox Church of Mount Sinai	Greek Catholic Church
-Junior Patriarchates:	
1. Russian Orthodox Church	Russian Catholic Church
Autonomous under Russia:	
a. Belarusian Orthodox Church	Belarusian Catholic Church
b. Latvian Orthodox Church	Russian Catholic Church
c. Ukrainian Orthodox Church	Ukrainian Catholic Church
d. Moldavian Orthodox Church	Russian Catholic Church
e. Japanese Orthodox Church	Russian Catholic Church
f. Chinese Orthodox Church	Russian Catholic Church
g. Russian Orthodox Church outside Russia	Russian Catholic Church
2. Serbian Orthodox Church	Greek Catholic Church of Croatia and Serbia
Autonomous under Serbia:	
a. Orthodox Ohrid Archbishopric	Greek Catholic Church of Croatia and Serbia
3. Romanian Orthodox Church	Romanian Greek Catholic Church
Autonomous under Romania:	
a. Romanian Orthodox Archdiocese in the Americas	Romanian Greek Catholic Church
b. Metropolitan Church of Bessarabia	Romanian Greek Catholic Church
6. Bulgarian Orthodox Church	Bulgarian Greek Catholic Church

7. Georgian Orthodox and Apostolic Church -Autocephalous Archbishoprics: 1. Church of Cyprus 2. Church of Greece 3. Albanian Orthodox Church 4. Polish Orthodox Church 5. Czech and Slovak Orthodox Church	Any Byzantine rite Greek Catholic Church Greek Catholic Church Albanian Catholic Church Russian Catholic Church Slovak Catholic Church
Non-Orthodox eastern tradition	Catholic Rite <i>sui iuris</i>
-Assyrian Church of the East -Old Believer	East Syriac or Chaldean rite Russian Catholic Church
Christian ecclesial communities	Catholic Rite <i>sui iuris</i>
-all listed	Roman Catholic rite

- * Members of Orthodox churches who enter into the full communion of the Catholic Church, and for whom there does not exist an equivalent Catholic rite *sui iuris*, are allowed to join any Eastern Catholic rite within their generic tradition.
- ** In the Archdiocese of Toronto, members of the Greek Orthodox church who choose to enter into the full communion of the Catholic Church, are ascribed to the Greek Melkite Catholic Church.
- *** Members of Catholic churches *sui iuris* that do not have a local ecclesiastical jurisdiction in the territory in which they live, are assembled under the spiritual protection of the local Latin bishop.

Appendix 2

Contact information for Eastern Catholic Churches with ecclesiastical jurisdiction within the territory of the Archdiocese of Toronto:

-Armenian Catholic Church
Eparchy of Our Lady of Nareg, USA and Canada
Most Rev. Mikael Mouradian, I.C.P.B.
1510 E. Mountain Street
Glendale, CA 91207
Phone: 818-243-8400
Email: mikaelmouradian@gmail.com

-Chaldean Catholic Church
Eparchy of Mar Addai of Toronto
Most Rev. Bawai Soro
2 High Meadow Place
Toronto, ON M9L 2Z5
Phone: 416-746-5816

-Greek-Melkite Catholic Church
Eparchy of Saint-Sauveur de Montreal
Most Rev. Ibrahim M. Ibrahim
10025, boul. de l'Arcadie
Montreal QC, H4N 2S1
Phone: 514-272-6430
Email: eparchie.st-sauveur@bellnet.ca

-Hungarian Catholic Church
Falls under the Ukrainian Eparchy of Toronto
Eparchy of Toronto
Most Rev. Stephen Chmilar
940 The East Mall, Suite 201
Toronto, ON M9B 6J7
Phone: 416-746-0154
Email: eparchto@bellnet.ca

-Maronite Catholic Church
Eparchy of Saint-Maroun de Montreal
Most Rev. Paul Marwan Tabet
12475 rue Grenet
Montréal, QC H4J 2K4
Phone: 514-331-2807
Email: chancery@maronites.ca

-Romanian Catholic Church
Eparchy of St. George the Martyr, Canada and USA
Most Rev. John Michael Botean
1121 44th St. NE
Canton, OH, 44714-1297
Phone: 330-493-9355
Email: ovim@rcdcanton.org

-Slovakian Catholic Church
Eparchy of Saints Cyril and Methodius of Toronto
Most Rev. Marián Pacák
223 Carlton Rd.
Unionville, ON L3R 3M2
Phone: 905-477-4867
Email: eparchjohn@gmail.com

-Syrian Catholic Church
Apostolic Exarchate for Syro-Catholics in Canada
Reverend Antoine Nassif, Apostolic Exarch
3155, boulevard Cartier Ouest
Laval, QC H7V 1J6
Phone: 450-688-9579
Email: antoinenassif@hotmail.com

-Syro-Malabar Catholic Church
Syro-Malabar Exarchate of Canada
Most Rev. Jose Kalluvilil
6630 Turner Valley Road
Mississauga, ON, L5N 2P1
Phone: 905-858-8200
Email: bishop@syromalabarcanda.org

-Syro-Malankara Catholic Church
Eparchy of St. Mary, Queen of Peace, USA and Canada
Most Rev. Philippos Stephanos Thottathil
1500 De Paul Street
Elmont, NY 11003
Phone: 516-233-1656
Email: bishop.stephanos@malankarachurch.org

-Ukrainian Catholic Church
Eparchy of Toronto
Most Rev. Stephen Chmilar
940 The East Mall, Suite 201
Toronto, ON M9B 6J7
Phone: 416-746-0154
Email: eparchto@bellnet.ca

Appendix 3

Catholic churches *sui iuris* with no episcopal representation of their own in the territory of the Archdiocese of Toronto, whose faithful fall under the oversight of the Archbishop of Toronto:

- Belarusian Catholic Church
- Bulgarian Catholic Church
- Byzantine Catholic Church in Italy
- Byzantine of Croatia and Serbia Catholic Church
- Coptic Catholic Church
- Eritrean Catholic Church
- Ethiopian Catholic Church
- Greek Catholic Church
- Macedonian Catholic Church
- Russian Catholic Church