

**Norms for
Baptism
Confirmation
1st Holy Communion
1st Penance**



Infant Baptism
(Age birth to 6)

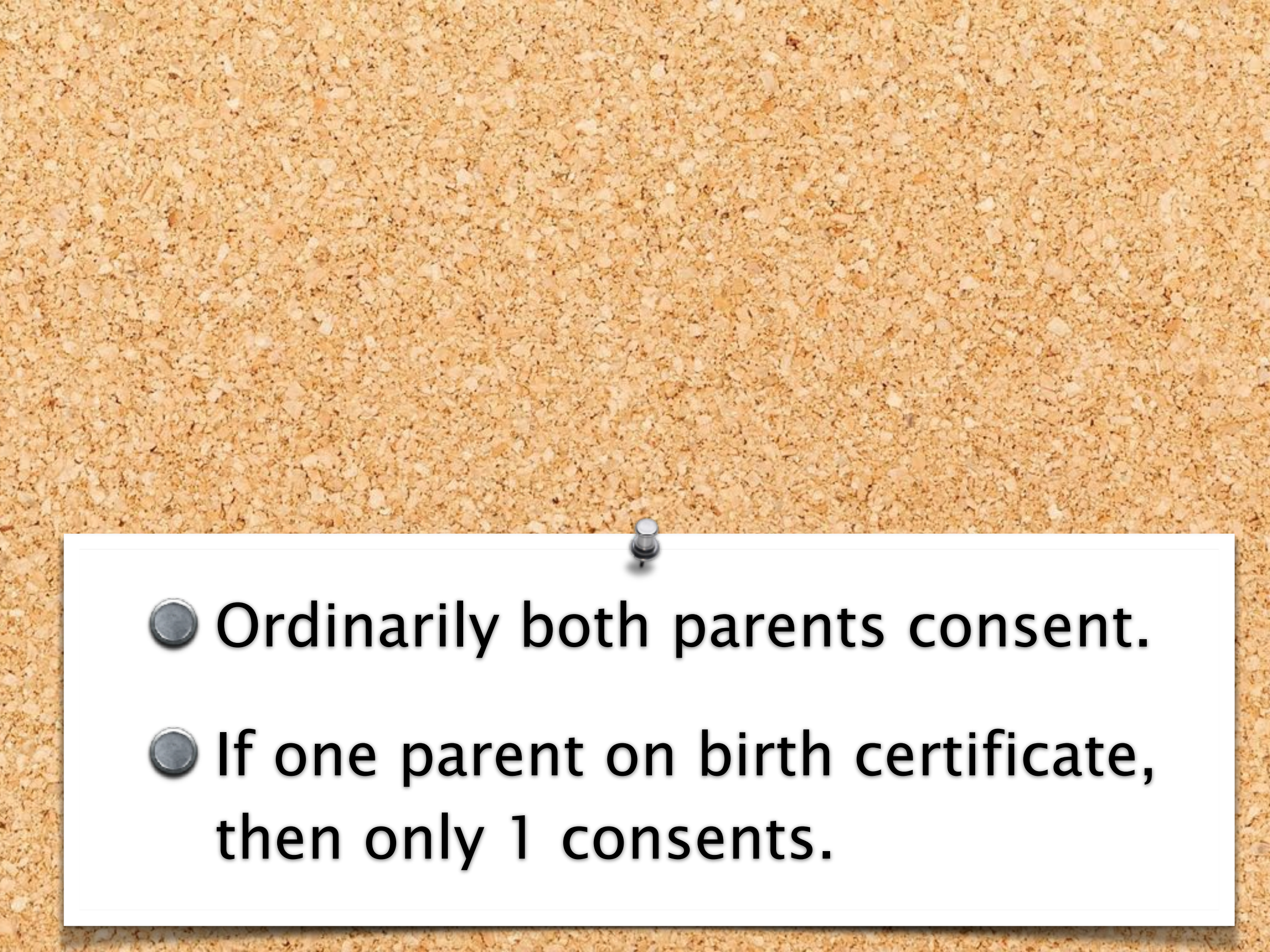


Aloha!

“Every effort should be made to ensure that the parents’ initial contact with the parish and the baptismal preparation process are occasions of welcome and hospitality which celebrate the gift of life” (#14).



“A copy of a child’s birth certificate may be requested if needed to establish parentage. Parents married in the Catholic Church who present their own child for Baptism are not required to provide a copy of the birth certificate” (#16).

- 
- **Ordinarily both parents consent.**
 - **If one parent on birth certificate, then only 1 consents.**

“Jesus approached and said to them, ...
‘Go, therefore, and make disciples of all
nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the
Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
teaching them to observe all that I have
commanded you’” (Mt 28:18- 20).

Teach!

“Parish pastoral staff are to encourage the Baptism of infants within the first weeks after birth.

Preparation is encouraged to take place even before the birth of the child” (no. 15; cf. canon 867, §1).


**Two
components**

**1. Individual
meeting with
pastor (or person
he designates)**

**2. Group catechetical
session with other
parents**



**Group Catechetical
Session with Several
Parents**



**Parents are
the primary
teachers of
their children
in the faith.
So teach the
parents!**

Group Catechetical Session with Several Parents

Remind parents:
By choosing Baptism for
their child, they are
choosing to have their
children receive
Confirmation, 1st Holy
Communion, & raising
children in the faith

Individual Meeting

Religious
practice

Get info for
baptism
register

Fully initiated?
Not Catholic?

Parish
registration

Individual Meeting

**Not married?
Need validation?**

**Marriage
encouraged,
not required**

Individual Meeting

Single parent?
Same sex
couple?

Teach!

Same sex couple not
listed in manner of
father & mother in
register & on certificate



Sacramental Register Instruction no. 18

In the event that two women are listed on the birth certificate, the one who gave birth is to be listed as the mother. In the event that two men are listed on the birth certificate, the one who can provide proof of paternity is to be listed as the father. In both situations, the same-sex partner or civil “spouse” is to be listed in the notations in the register and on the certificate as “partner.”

Delay of Baptism?

“While it is never permitted to refuse Baptism, the sacrament may be delayed if, in the judgment of the pastor, a founded hope is altogether lacking that the child will be raised in the Catholic faith (c. 868, §1, 2°).

Often this will surface in the individual meeting with the parents.

If the pastor did not conduct this meeting, then he is to consult with the person who did and then meet with the parents himself before deciding upon any delay” (#28).

Delay of Baptism?

“In the case of single parents, parents in invalid marriages, or parents in immoral living situations, Baptism should not be delayed for those reasons alone, provided that there is a founded hope that the child will be raised in the Catholic faith.”

Other factors may also be considered, such as the positive influence of godparents and extended family members, which give reassurance that the child will be raised in the faith” (#29).

Delay of Baptism?

“If a Baptism is delayed, the reasons are to be explained to the parents (canon 868, §1, 2°).

A plan should be set out for meeting the requirements so that the Baptism can eventually take place” (#30).



Child #2, 3, etc.


**Repeat individual
meeting & group
catechetical session,
unless parents
married in the
Church.**



1st Penance



- Encourage family involvement in 1st Penance
- Memorize an act of contrition



● 1st Penance for candidates for full communion & Catholic adults preparing for confirmation &/or 1st Holy Communion (during Lent)

● 1st Penance for neophytes within 1 year after Baptism

A corkboard with a red sign pinned to it. The sign has a white border and contains the text "Confirmation & 1st Holy Communion Together!".

Confirmation &
1st Holy Communion
Together!



**“Catechetical Age”: 7 & up
= “Age of Discretion”
= “Age of Reason”**



Confirmation celebrated with 1st Holy Communion:

- Will be scheduled during the Easter season until early fall
- Parishes may join together for regional celebrations



Encourage & challenge parents to go to Mass, raise their children in the faith, etc.

However:

“The fundamental decision about receiving the sacraments of initiation takes place at Baptism.

Having received Catholic Baptism, children have the right to be prepared for and to receive Confirmation and first Holy Communion (canons 843, 912).

Baptized Catholic children may not be denied the sacraments because their parents do not regularly practice the faith.

Such parents should be encouraged to participate in the sacramental preparation process with their child with the hope of encouraging the parents to greater practice” (#45).

Changes in Family Situations Since Baptism:

“Baptized Catholic children are not to be denied the sacraments because of difficult family situations, as long as they can be adequately prepared for the sacraments.

In situations where divorced, separated, or unmarried parents have joint custody of their child, both parents should ordinarily consent to their child receiving the sacraments.

The reception of the sacraments may be delayed until the parents are able to agree” (#45).

- Catechesis in the school
- Remind parents to integrate with parish
- Schools will prepare for 2nd grade sacraments
- Schools may prepare for baptism, full communion, sacraments in other grades

Catholic Schools

In Parish:

- Parent sessions
- Retreats
- Rehearsals
- Liturgical celebrations

Home schoolers

- Catechesis at home
- Use the same or equivalent materials as used in parish or Catholic school

In Parish:

- Parent sessions
- Retreats
- Rehearsals
- Liturgical celebrations

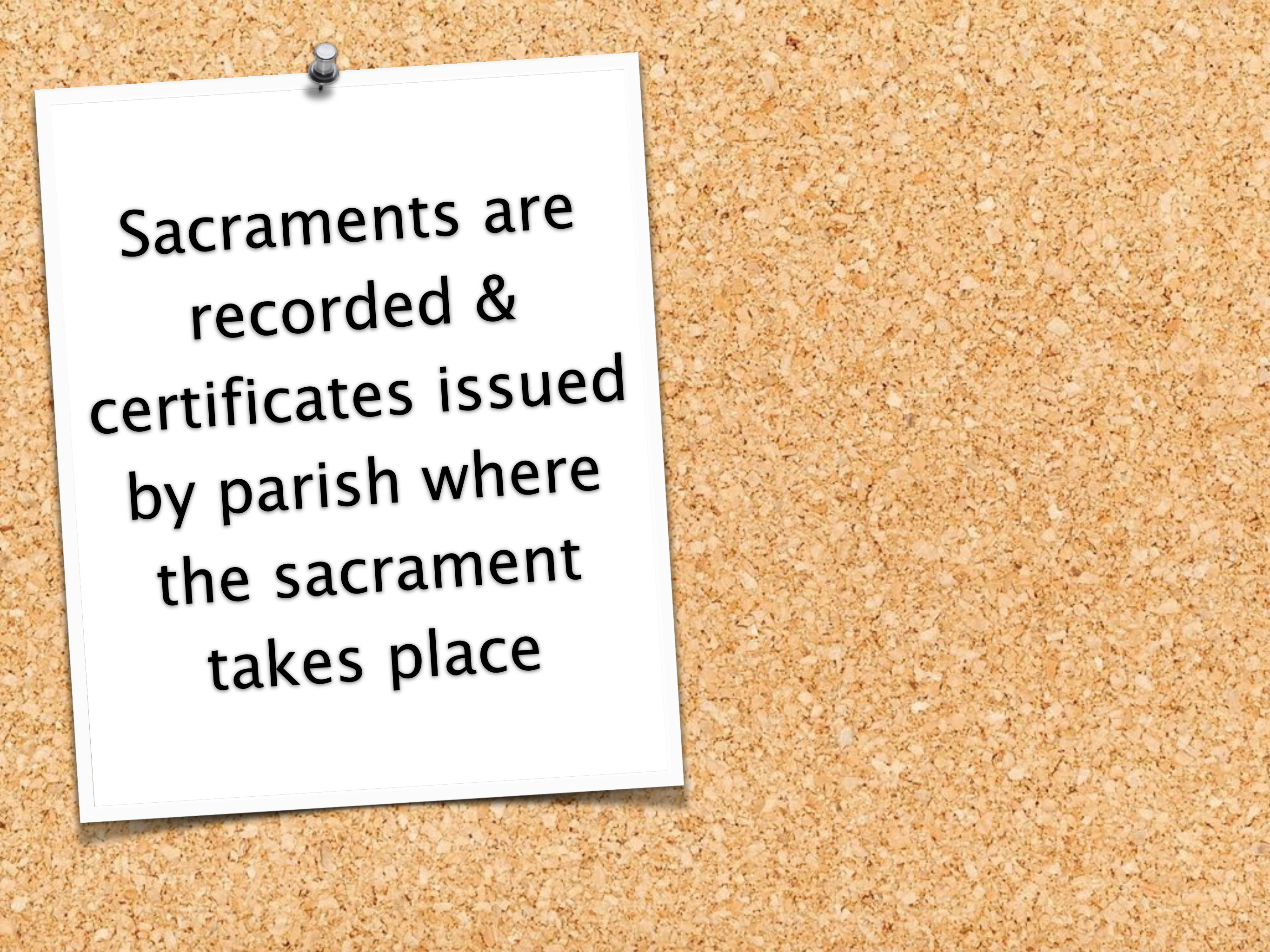
A corkboard with a white note pinned to it. The note has a thin black border and a silver pushpin at the top center. The text on the note is in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

Good Order

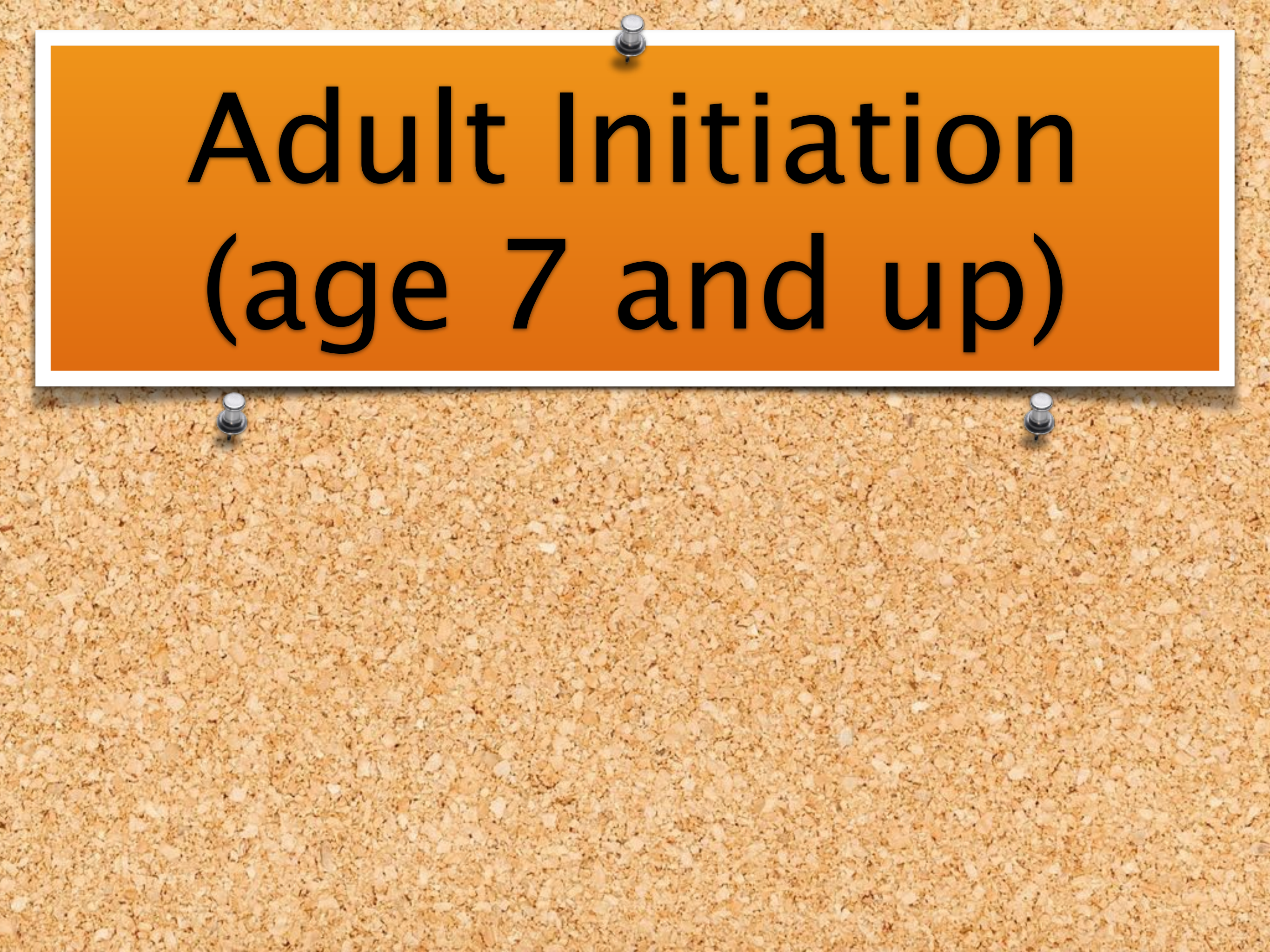
Provision:

**Letter of Permission
for Parishioners to
Receive Sacraments
Elsewhere**

- **Body of Christ → priest**
- **Blood of Christ → deacon**
- **Invite neighboring clergy**

A corkboard with a white note pinned to it. The note contains text about sacraments and certificates.

**Sacraments are
recorded &
certificates issued
by parish where
the sacrament
takes place**



Adult Initiation
(age 7 and up)

Invalid Marriage

- Petition for declaration of nullity before
- Validate before sacraments received (with Penance if baptized)

Has Prior Marriage

- Petition for declaration of nullity before
- Unless definitely will never marry (e.g., age)
- Not fair to become Catholic & not know status

Immoral Lifestyle

- Need to resolve before receiving the sacraments

What is RCIA?

*Ordo Initiationis
Christianae
Adultorum*

**“Rite of Christian
Initiation of Adults”
is a ritual book,
not a program**

**“Order of Christian
Initiation of
Adults”**

Catechuminate:

- Thorough catechesis
- Celebrations of the Word
- Rites

Length of Catechesis

- Those with no catechesis in the faith: **1 year** (from one Lent/Easter to the next)
- No need to be school-based year

- Catechumens
- Catholic adults needing confirmation & 1st Holy Communion
- Candidates for full communion with no Christian formation

Catechesis Can Be Done Together

- Catechumens
- Candidates for Full Communion
- Catholics Needing Confirmation &/or 1st Holy Communion

- Adults
- Children similar in age



Doing catechesis together:

“However, with regard to the baptized, the catechetical requirements are to be tailored to their need and take into account their prior Christian formation” (no. 10).

“For Catholic adults who are catechized and active in the practice of the faith but who for some reason never received Confirmation, immediate preparation only needs to be provided” (#69).

“For those adults seeking reception into full communion who come from a strong practice of the Christian faith, catechesis can be just a few months and is to focus on topics with which the person may be unfamiliar because they are unique to Catholicism (e.g., the seven sacraments, the role of the Magisterium, doctrines regarding the Blessed Virgin Mary)” (#96).



Liturgical Rites:

**Clear Distinction Between the Baptized
& Not Yet Baptized**



For Example:

Baptized Candidates for
Full Communion should
never be dismissed from
Mass with catechumens

Children to become Catholic age 7 and up:

- Permission of parents
- They must desire
- Include parents/
family in catechesis
as possible

A corkboard with a blue sign that says "Conditional Baptism". The sign is pinned to the corkboard with three silver pushpins. The corkboard has a light brown, textured surface. The sign is a solid blue rectangle with a white border. The text "Conditional Baptism" is written in a large, black, sans-serif font across the center of the sign.

Conditional Baptism

www.catholichawaii.org/valid_baptism



ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE STATE OF HAWAII
DIocese OF HONOLULU
WITNESS TO JESUS

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1184 Bishop St, Honolulu,
Phone: (808) 585-3300 Fax

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DIOCESAN OFFICES

Churches and Ecclesial Communities with Valid Baptism

Non-Catholic Churches with Valid Baptism Search this page: Ctrl+F (PC) or ⌘+F (Mac)

- Assyrian Church of the East
- Byzantine Orthodox Churches (all)
- Oriental Orthodox Churches (Armenian, Coptic, Eritrean, Ethiopian, Malankara, Syriac)

Ecclesial Communities with Likely Valid Baptism

- **Amish** <http://www.amishnews.com/amisharticles/religious traditions.htm>
- **Anglican Communion / Episcopalian** <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/library/glossary/baptis>
- **Apostolic Catholic Church** Originating in the Philippines <http://www.acc-ingkong.org/doctrines-and-beliefs.html>
- **Apostolic Christian Church** <http://www.apostolicchristian.org/page.cfm?p=555>
- **Apostolic Church** <http://www.theapostolicchurch.org/aboutus.html>
- **Apostolic Faith Mission International** Originating in South Africa <http://www.afm-ags.org/confession-faith>
- **Assembly of God / Asambleas de Dios / King's Cathedral / King's Chapel** Includes Abundant Life Ministries in Waikoloa, Aloha Church in Lihue, Amazing Grace Ministries in Waipahu, The Church at Koloa, Cowboy Church Makawao, Faamanatu Ministry in Honolulu, Family Life Church of Hawaii in Honolulu, Glad Tidings Church in Hilo, Grace Church in Pukalani, Hawaii Cedar Church in Honolulu,

www.catholichawaii.org/valid_baptism

- List of major denominations of world
- List of all nearly all denominations in Hawaii
- List individual locations only if denomination name not in name of church
- Valid, doubtful, definitely invalid
- Suggestions/corrections/questions welcome

Dedication
ceremonies,
invalid

Restoration Movement,
doubtful due to lack of
standardization of practice

“Ordinance baptism”
usually valid,
“baptism of the Holy
Spirit” usually invalid

Non-Trinitarian
e.g., Iglesia ni Kristo,
invalid

Pentecostal “Oneness”
denominations,
“in the name of Jesus,”
invalid

Complication:

Often think they are Catholic

What about Aglipayans?

- **Philippine Independent Church/Iglesia Filipina Independiente**
- **In communion with Anglicans**
- **Since 1947, valid**

- **Independent Church of Filipino Christians**
- **Not Trinitarian, so invalid**

Conditional Baptism:

“The sacrament of Baptism cannot be repeated and therefore it is not permitted to confer it again conditionally, unless there is a reasonable doubt about the fact or validity of Baptism already conferred” (RCIA no. 480, #45).

A lack of proof is not the same as a doubt of fact

Conditional Baptism:

“There may be a reasonable and prudent doubt concerning the Baptism of such Christians which cannot be resolved after serious investigation into the fact and/or validity of Baptism, namely, to ascertain whether the person was baptized with water and with the Trinitarian formula, and whether the minister and the recipient of the sacrament had the proper requisite intentions.

If conditional Baptism then seems necessary, this must be celebrated privately” (NSC no. 37, #105).

Confirmation Faculty

**Roman Rite:
Bishops
Confirm**



No faculty needed:

- Baptism
- Eucharist
- Anointing of the Sick
- Holy Orders



Faculty required:

- Confirmation
- Confession
- Marriage

**Faculties
Affect Validity**

**Faculty to confirm
necessary for
validity.**

**Without the faculty,
all you've done is
made the person
oily.**

The Law

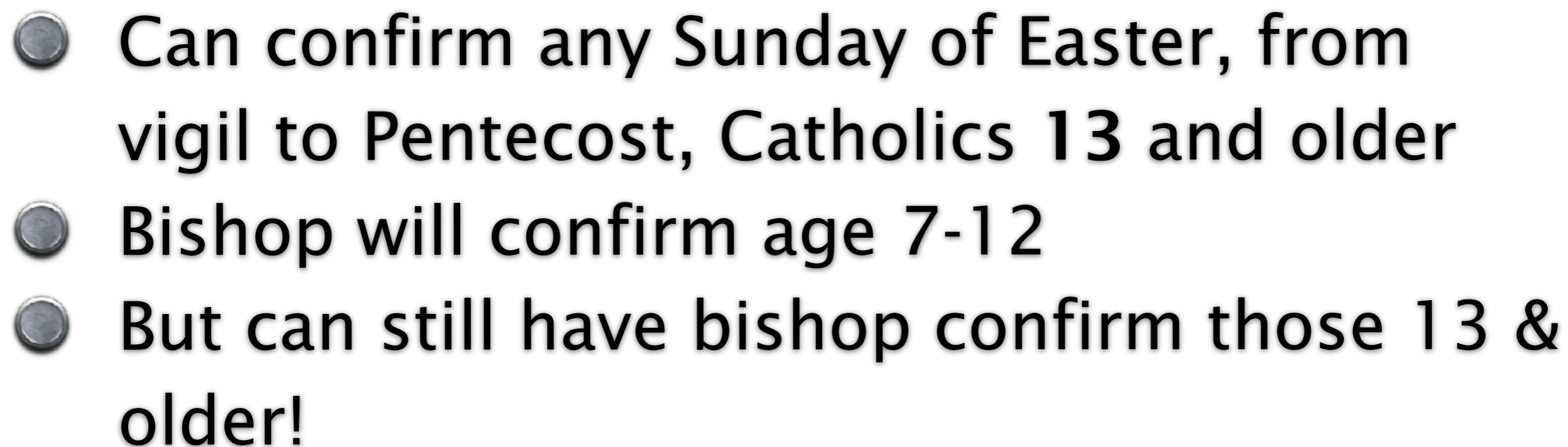
The Law gives the faculty:

- Baptize 7 & older
- Receive into full communion 7 & older
- Anyone in danger of death

Bishop Delegates

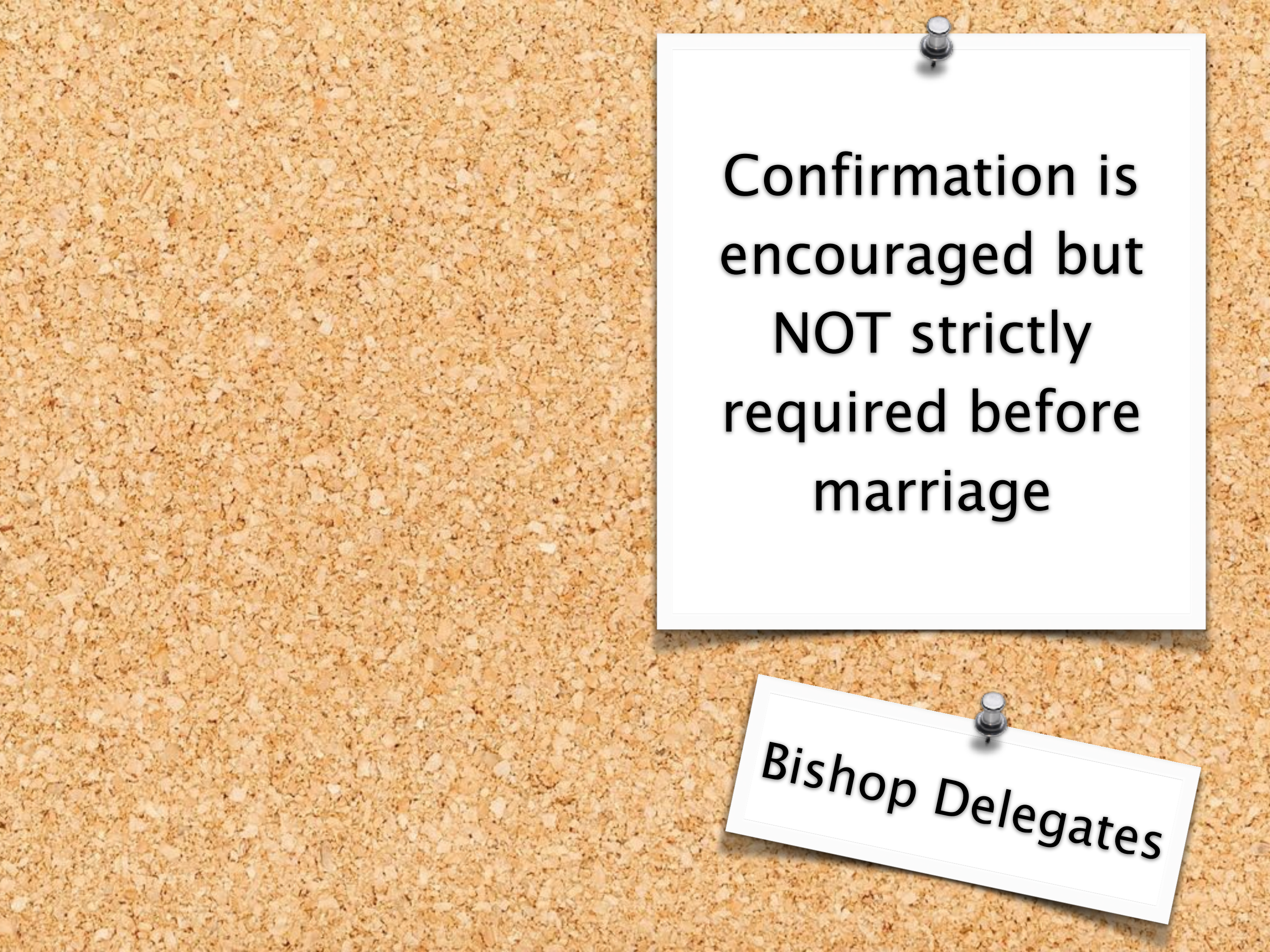
Need delegation
from the bishop:

- For those baptized as Catholics as infants (not in danger of death)

- 
- Can confirm any Sunday of Easter, from vigil to Pentecost, Catholics 13 and older
 - Bishop will confirm age 7-12
 - But can still have bishop confirm those 13 & older!



Bishop Delegates

A corkboard with a light brown, textured surface. Two white rectangular notes are pinned to it with silver pushpins. The top note is horizontal and contains text about confirmation and marriage. The bottom note is tilted and contains the text 'Bishop Delegates'.

**Confirmation is
encouraged but
NOT strictly
required before
marriage**


Bishop Delegates

Need the faculty to confirm?

(e.g., kids were sick & missed confirmation,
confirmation before marriage)

- Bishop
- Vicar general
- Judicial vicar/director of canonical affairs

Bishop Delegates



**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
CONFIRMATION**

**Available
from USCCB**



Godparents (Sponsors)

Godparents (Sponsors)

**Baptized,
Confirmed,
1st Holy
Communion**

**Living life
as Catholic
(e.g.,
married in
Church)**

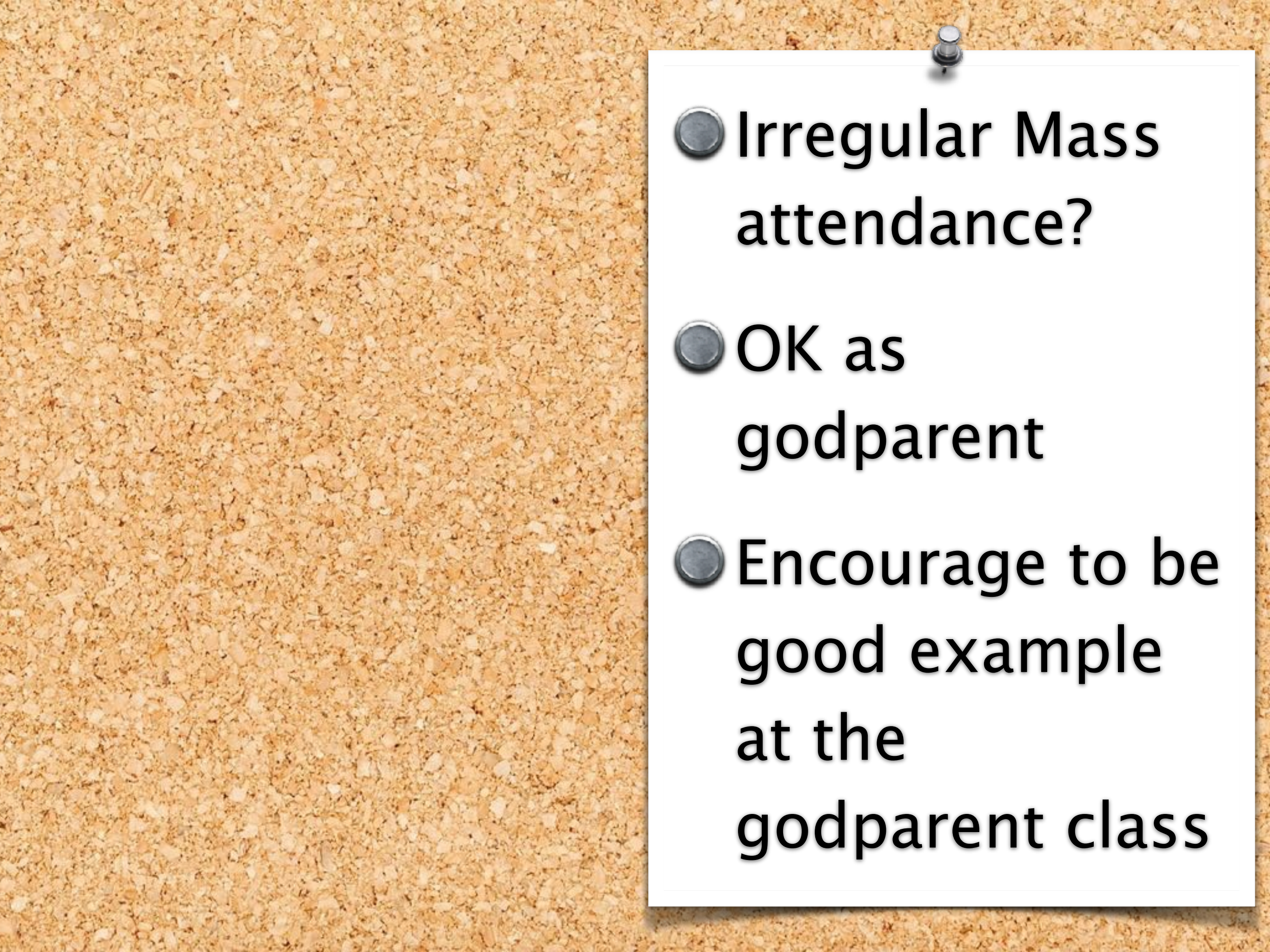
**16 or older
(can make
exceptions)**

**Not a
parent**



Not qualified?

**Help to get
qualified!**

- 
- Irregular Mass attendance?
 - OK as godparent
 - Encourage to be good example at the godparent class

1 or 2 Godparents Needed

- Cultural practice of multiple sponsors?
- Godfather & godmother in register & on certificate should be qualified

- Orthodox Christian can be full fledged godparent
- Along with a Catholic godparent

- Other Christian can be a witness
- Along with a Catholic godparent