



Holy Apostles
ORTHODOX CHURCH

19421 Ashworth Avenue North • Shoreline, WA 98133
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The Sacrament of Holy Chrismation

A Guide and Information Packet for Those Being Received into the Orthodox Church

It is a true joy and a blessing for us at Holy Apostles to welcome you as you are received into the Orthodox Church through the Sacrament of Holy Chrismation. We will do all that we can to support you as you grow in Christ in our community.

Chrismation seals you with the gift of the Holy Spirit and makes you a full member and participant in the Body of Christ. As you prepare to be received into the Church, we encourage you to live a life rooted in Christ. Worship with us as often as you are able, keep a life of prayer, and become an involved steward of our parish. There is no better preparation for a life lived in Christ than to share in the daily life of the Church.

Preparing for the Chrismation

Reception into the Church is the fruit of a journey, not a single appointment. In the weeks and months beforehand, we ask that you worship with us regularly, meet with the parish priest, and take part in our adult education and catechism so that you may be firmly grounded in the Orthodox Christian faith and life.

The length of your catechesis and preparation is discerned together with the priest, according to your own background. It is a dedicated season to deepen your life in Christ before you are sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Days Chrismation Is Not Celebrated

Chrismation is not celebrated during certain seasons or on great feasts of the Church year, including:

- December 25 – January 6 (the Nativity of our Lord through Theophany)
- Holy Week and Great and Holy Pascha
- The Great Feasts of the Lord

Concerning Your Baptism

Reception into the Orthodox Church by Chrismation is for those who have already been baptized with water, in a recognized Christian tradition that baptizes in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. So that the priest may prepare for your reception, please bring or send a copy of your baptismal certificate to the parish office at office@holyapostlesgo.org. If you are unsure whether your baptism meets this understanding, our priest will be glad to help you.

Discerning a Patron Saint

In the Orthodox tradition, each Christian bears the name of a saint who becomes their patron. The patron is a lifelong companion, example, and intercessor before God. You may be drawn to a saint whose name you already carry, or to one whose life speaks to your own. Your priest can help you discern; you needn't decide alone.

Choosing a Sponsor (Godparent)

Please prayerfully consider choosing a sponsor (godparent) who will support you in your life in Christ. This is a lifelong relationship: your sponsor will pray for and encourage you, and will stand with you at your Chrismation. Receive the priest's blessing before asking someone to stand as your sponsor.

A sponsor must meet the following requirements of the Church:

- Be an Orthodox Christian in good standing.
- Be a registered steward of an Orthodox parish.
- If married, must have been married in the Orthodox Church.
- If married in the Orthodox Church but now divorced, must have obtained an ecclesiastical divorce decree.

If the sponsor is not a member of Holy Apostles, they must provide a **Letter of Good Standing** from their own parish priest, sent to the parish office at office@holyapostlesgo.org. Other members of the family and party need not be Orthodox.

Items to Bring for the Chrismation

The following items are provided by the candidate for chrismation or their sponsor. The Holy Chrism and everything needed for the service itself are provided by the Church.

- A cross with a chain (to be blessed and worn; traditionally a gift from the sponsor)
- An icon of your patron saint (often a gift from the sponsor)
- A white garment to wear during and after the service
- A candle

Scheduling & Questions

To schedule your chrismation or to ask any questions about the sacrament, please contact our parish priest. The date is set together with the priest once your preparation is well underway. No date is final until it has been confirmed with the priest. For all paperwork questions, please email or phone the parish office.

Parish Priest

Fr. Tom Tsagalakis, Protopresbyter
fr.tom@holyapostlesgo.org
206-801-7036

Parish Office

Alice Hopkins, Administrative Assistant
office@holyapostlesgo.org
206-486-5212

Chrismation Information Form

To prepare the Certificate of Baptism and Chrismation

The information below is used to prepare your official Certificate of Baptism and Chrismation. Please complete this form after speaking with our parish priest, and return it to the parish office by email at office@holypostlesgo.org, or in person. If filling out by hand, kindly **print clearly**. Please double-check that all names appear exactly as they should.

The Person Being Received (Candidate)

Full Legal Name

First, middle, and last name — exactly as recorded on the birth certificate.

The Candidate Is: Male Female

Baptismal (Saint's) Name

The name of the saint the candidate will receive.

Place of Birth

City, state, country

Date of Birth

Month / Day / Year

Candidate's Current Address

Street, city, state, zip code

Candidate's Phone

Candidate's Email

Parents' Names and Religious Backgrounds

Father's Full Legal Name

First, middle, and last name. (Please list any prior names in parentheses.)

Father's Religion

Mother's Full Legal Name

First, middle, and last name. (Please list maiden or prior names in parentheses.)

Mother's Religion

The Candidate's Baptism

- The candidate was baptized with water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- The candidate will provide a copy of their baptismal certificate. Please note this must be provided to the parish office via email at office@holypostlesgo.org, mail, or in person.

Church or Tradition of Baptism

The church or Christian tradition in which the candidate was baptized (for example, Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Episcopalian).

Place of Baptism

Church name, city, state, country

Date of Baptism

Month / Day / Year

Priest Official

Name of the priest, pastor, or minister who baptized the candidate

Sponsor 1 (Godparent 1)

Godparent's Full Legal Name

Current first, middle, and last name. (Please list maiden or any prior names in parentheses.)

Godparent's Baptismal Name

Godparent's Parish

Parish name, city, state, country

Godparent's Phone

Godparent's Email

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- The godparent is a steward in good standing at Holy Apostles.
 - The godparent belongs to another Orthodox parish. A Letter of Good Standing from their parish priest is required and will be sent to the Parish Office at: office@holypostlesgo.org.

Please Note: Only one sponsor is needed. If that sponsor is married to another Orthodox Christian, the spouse of the primary sponsor may be recorded as a second sponsor.

Sponsor 2 (Godparent 2)

Godparent's Full Legal Name

Current first, middle, and last name. (Please list maiden or any prior names in parentheses.)

Godparent's Baptismal Name

Godparent's Parish

Parish name, city, state, country

Godparent's Phone

Godparent's Email

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- The godparent is a steward in good standing at Holy Apostles.
- The godparent belongs to another Orthodox parish. A Letter of Good Standing from their parish priest is required and will be sent to the Parish Office at: office@holyapostlesgo.org.

For Church Use Only

This section is for the use of the Holy Apostles' Office. Please leave blank.

Date of Chrismation

Month / Day / Year

Officiating Priest

Title and name

Location of Chrismation

Parish name, city, state, country

Certificate Number

Date Recorded

Month / Day / Year