



# TWELVE HOLY APOSTLES GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

632 East Second Street, Duluth, MN 55805 • Telephone: (218) 722-5957

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## Adult Baptism

*“Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.” (Romans 6:3-4)*

It is through baptism and chrismation that one becomes a Christian and a member of the Orthodox Church. Becoming an Orthodox Christian is a big step in someone’s life. It’s a journey of salvation with the end goal of being united to our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ.

Because baptism and chrismation is taken very seriously, Fr. Dustin requires that candidates spend a few months getting to know Orthodoxy and the local parish. This includes regularly attending services and getting to know how Orthodox Christians worship.

There are also a few other requirements that must be met in order for someone to be chrismated at Twelve Holy Apostles:

## Classes

In keeping with the ancient tradition of the Church, the first step to joining the Orthodox Church is to go through catechism classes. These are instructional classes led by the priest. In our classes at Twelve Holy Apostles, we cover church history, Orthodox theology, prayer, and other practical matters. These classes prepare you for a life-long journey in the Church. See Fr. Dustin for the current schedule of classes.

## Sponsors:

When you are baptized and chrismated, you will need a sponsor (also known as a godparent). Their role is to help you, answer questions, and to pray for you as the newest member of the community. The sponsor needs to be in good standing with an Orthodox Church. If they are not members of Twelve Holy Apostles, then they need to obtain a letter from their parish priest stating that they are in good standing in their home parish (financially *and* spiritually), and that they are able to participate in the sacraments of the Orthodox Church. If you have a sponsor in mind, please speak with Fr. Dustin *before* asking them to be your sponsor. If you need help, Fr. Dustin is more than happy to make some suggestions.



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## **On the day of the baptism, you will need:**

- Complete change of clothes (white)
- Bottle of pure olive oil
- An Orthodox cross with a chain (This may be provided by your sponsor)
- A candle (you may use ones from the church, if you wish)
- One bar of soap
- One white hand towel (the church has a few, if you don't)
- One bath towel
- One white twin sheet (unfitted), or white blanket
- Martyrika/witness pins for those attending (cross with white ribbon)(optional)
- A check for \$100 made out to "Twelve Holy Apostles" (This fee is passed on the Metropolis of Chicago to cover administrative fees. If this fee poses a difficulty for you, please see Fr. Dustin to have it waived.)

After your baptism and chrismation, a certificate will be issued. Please keep this in a safe place. You will need it if you transfer to a new Orthodox parish, decide to get married, decide to become ordained, or, for some reason, need to provide a record of your chrismation.

We will be praying for you as you discern whether or not you want to join the Orthodox Church and experience timeless Christianity. If there's any thing we can do to help you on this journey, please let us know.

If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Dustin.

God bless.