



2007 Infant Dedication Packet



*A child comes only as a gift from God.
(from the Igbo of Nigeria)*

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Dr. H. Beecher Hicks, Jr., Senior Servant

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INFANT DEDICATION REQUEST FORM

Please print legibly

Child's Name _____

Date of Birth _____ M ___ F ___ Place of Birth _____

Mother's Name _____ Member of MBC? _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mother's home telephone _____ Work _____

Father's Name _____ Member of MBC? _____

Father's home telephone _____ Work _____

Are you two married? _____ If not, co-habiting? _____

Name of person requesting dedication if not parent _____

Relationship to Child _____ Member of MBC? _____

How many godparents? _____ grandparents? _____

Would you like to use a photographer for this event? _____

INFANT DEDICATION PRE-INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

What service do you attend on a regular basis? _____

What areas of the church are you serving in? _____

Are both parents committed Christians? If not, please describe your spiritual affiliation.

Do you support the Church with your tithes and offerings? _____

Are all of the persons you have selected as godparents committed Christians? If not, please describe their spiritual affiliation. _____



We are glad you have taken an interest in the Infant Dedication Ceremonies here at Metropolitan; where we are *Becoming the Kingdom*. We give reverence to our seven Kingdom Principles, one of which is **FAMILY**. “We honor and strengthen the institution of marriage and family. We will always protect our children and honor our elders.” (derived from 1Corinthians 11:3)

In traditional African culture, religion is not a separate worship system, but a way of life. This deep-rooted spirituality is expressed in the family and communal rituals which mark every important event. We celebrate the joining of the past and the future represented by the lives of children. We invite you to embrace this tradition and look forward to sharing in this joyous occasion with you!

Procedures

Registration Process

- While there is no fee charged for Infant Dedications, **there is a \$100.00 deposit** required to secure your dedication date which should accompany your *Infant Dedication Request Form*. The deposit is fully refundable provided cancellation requests are received at least five(5) days prior to your scheduled date and you arrive no later than 15 minutes past your scheduled ceremony time. There are several time sensitive components of our services: the minister’s schedule, the facility schedule, staffing and the commemorative items which are presented. We ask that you plan your time accordingly to avoid any last minute cancellations or delays which will forfeit your refund. Fees may be paid by cash, money order or cashier’s check. Our accounts prohibit the issuance of refunds if personal checks or credit/debit cards are used.
- Make arrangements to attend the Infant Dedication Class. See *Class Requirements* on page 4.
- Review your letter of confirmation and let us know if any of your information has changed, i.e.; number of godparents/grandparents attending.
- As a general rule Pastor Hicks will perform all ceremonies or designate an alternate Minister when there is a conflict with his schedule.



- Seating Capacity: 70
- Location: Lower Level



Historical fact:

The Chapel bears the name of Dr. Robert H. Johnson. Under his pastorate First Baptist Church was officially renamed Metropolitan Baptist Church in 1888. The chapel is furnished with the original 17th Century pulpit furniture (shown above) and was the platform used for one of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s' speeches during the March on Washington.

Class Requirements

Parents are required to attend an Infant Dedication Class prior to the ceremony. Classes are held every 2nd Wednesday from 6:30—8:30 PM at Metropolitan. One or both parents may attend in any month prior to the ceremony. This class is designed to be a resource to the spiritual foundation you are building for your child. As your church family, we endeavor to support you and your child as you seek to guide them towards a life devoted to Christ.

Invited Guests

When entering the Chapel or Sanctuary, please enter with reverence. The church is a sacred and holy place and should be treated as such at all times. The property of the church is to be respected at all times. The spiritual sanctity of your Infant Dedication Ceremony should be enhanced through the participants you choose and the guests you invite. We ask that all involved be respectful in their conduct, language and attire when interacting within the church.

Checklist

- Submit your Infant Dedication Request Form along with your \$100.00 deposit. Be sure to identify how many Godparents and Grandparents will attend the ceremony. Commemorative items are presented to them and must be ordered in advance.
- You will receive a confirmation letter via US Mail (or electronic mail if you have provided an e-mail address) indicating your assigned date and the details of the ceremony.
- Once you have a confirmed date scheduled, set aside time to attend an Infant Dedication Class prior to your dedication.
- Arrive approximately 30 minutes prior to the ceremony to allow time to gather your guests and relax before the ceremony begins.