

 **Mosaic Community Covenant Church** 
INFANT DEDICATION INFORMATION SHEET

What is infant dedication?

At Mosaic Community Covenant Church, we view infant dedication as an act in which parents honor God publicly through acknowledging (1) that their child is a gift from God and (2) that they are committed as parents to partner with God in fulfilling His purposes for their child.

"...Bring [children] up in the training and instruction of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4b NIV).

Who qualifies for dedicating an infant?

Any parent or parents who believe in the Scriptural foundation for dedication of children, who wish to publicly acknowledge God as the giver of life, and who desire to raise their children to understand and experience a relationship with Jesus Christ. Parents do not have to be members of Mosaic Community Covenant Church to dedicate their infants.

How old should a child be when he or she is dedicated?

Most children are dedicated as infants, but there is no age limit.

When are infant dedication services offered?

We conduct infant dedication services during the worship service generally every Father's Day but not limited to Father's Day, depending on the need and church schedule. The worship service is from 10:30 to 11:45 AM. The infant dedication service will take place immediately after the offering sometime between 10:55 to 11:05 AM. The dedication service will be approximately 15 minutes in length.

What will happen at the dedication service?

We will follow the order of service outlined in "The Covenant Book of Worship" (pp. 146-149). Pastor Ed invites the parents and infant(s) to stand in front facing the congregation. He 1) addresses the congregation, then the parents; 2) Offers a Word of Blessing; 3) Asks the parents if they would promise to nurture the child in the ways of God and the congregation if they would be faithful to their Christian calling; 4) With the parents lay hands on the child in offering a blessing; 5) prays for the spiritual protection of the child; and 6) offers a charge to the people.

What is my next step in scheduling an infant dedication?

First, fill out and return the Mosaic Community Covenant Church "Infant Dedication Request Form," available at the information table. Return the form to Pastor Ed or mail it to Mosaic Community Covenant Church at 4427 Highway 6, Sugar Land, TX 77479.

Next, send invitations to family and friends to join you for this special occasion. You may wish to plan a family gathering afterwards. We also encourage families to use this occasion to introduce your guests to Mosaic Community Covenant Church.

Finally, be sure to arrive on time for the dedication service and check in with Pastor Ed so that we can go over the order of the service and any last minute details. Because these services will be held during our worship service, it is important for families to be on time.

What does the Bible say about dedicating children?

1. Human life is a gift from God and begins at conception.
 - "Children are a gift from the LORD; they are a reward from Him" (Psalm 127:3 NLT).
 - "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you" (Jeremiah 1:5 NIV).
 - "You are the one who put me together inside my mother's body, and I praise you because of the wonderful way you created me. Everything you do is marvelous! Of this I have no doubt" (Psalm 139:13-14 CEV).
2. In response to God's gift of children, His people have honored Him by dedicating their children to His purposes.

The example of Hannah dedicating Samuel:

- "I prayed for this child, and the Lord has granted me what I asked of him. So now I give him to the Lord. For his whole life he will be given over to the Lord" (1 Samuel 1:27-28 NIV).

The example of Mary and Joseph dedicating Jesus:

- "When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord" (Luke 2:22).