



## CHILD DEDICATION INFORMATION

CALVARY MEMORIAL CHURCH  
931 LAKE STREET, OAK PARK, IL 60301  
CALVARYMEMORIAL.COM/KIDS

Child Dedications will be conducted at both Sunday services: 9:00 & 10:45. If you desire to dedicate your child at one of our upcoming dedication services, please complete the Child Dedication Request form available at <http://www.calvarymemorial.com/ministries/children/>.

Once we receive your request we will send you the Child Dedication Packet, which must be completed no later than three weeks before your dedication date.

### WHAT IS CHILD DEDICATION?

Child Dedication is your acknowledgement and public declaration of the following:

- Our children are a gift from God, entrusted to us for a short time. “Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one’s youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.” Psalm 127:3-5.
- In addition to being stewards of our children’s physical lives we bear the great responsibility of raising them in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. “Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.” Ephesians 6:4.
- The responsibilities the Lord has entrusted to us as parents include continuously praying for their children, instructing them in the way of the Lord, setting a godly example, and disciplining them as the Lord would discipline. As parents, we are only able to do these things through Christ’s strength (“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” Philippians 4:13)

In dedicating your child before the congregation you are asking the community of Calvary to support you, pray for you as parents, and come alongside you as you carry out your responsibilities.

The community commits to receive your child in love, pray for them, help instruct them in the faith, and encourage and sustain them in the fellowship of believers.

Together, as parents and the church, it is our hope that our actions and prayers might be instrumental in drawing your child toward knowing and loving Christ.

## **WHAT WILL I BE ASKED TO COMMIT TO?**

During the Dedication, parents will be asked to respond to the following covenantal questions:

- Do you now present your child before God in solemn dedication?
- Do you consecrate yourselves as parents to bring up your child in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?
- Do you promise to instruct your child in the teachings of Jesus Christ and in the practice of prayer and to guide them in the development of Christ-like character?
- Do you promise to try, to the best of your ability, to shape the home life of your child, both by example and family devotions and by your word, that at the proper time they will come to an open confession Christ and membership in His church.

## **WHAT CHILD DEDICATION IS NOT**

This is not the day of salvation for your child. Salvation is the free gift of God, received when an individual grasps his or her need for Christ and makes the conscious decision to enter into a relationship with God.

Child Dedication is also not a replacement for Baptism. Baptism is the public profession of faith as described above. Once a child is old enough to make a decision to accept Christ as his or her personal Savior, then he or she can make a choice to be baptized