

**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
PASTORAL CARE POLICY MANUAL
BABY DEDICATION**

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Purpose: To meet the needs of parents for a religious event marking celebration of the birth of their child, or, if the newborn has serious health problems, marking their commitment of their child to God's care.

Policy: Pastoral Care Services will conduct a service dedicating a newborn to God at the request of the parents.

Procedure: The Chaplain first determines that the family does not have their own clergy or does not prefer a clergy person from a specific faith group.

The service of dedication consists primarily of the prayer of dedication preceded by pastoral dialogue regarding the joys or concerns of the parents.

A "Certificate of Dedication" is available in the Pastoral Care Office.