

Your Child's Baptism

Congratulations

Congratulations on the birth of your baby. The Parish Community shares in your joy. Thank you for wanting to have your baby join the church family through Baptism.

Preparations

As Baptism is a sacrament and not just a naming ceremony, Parents are offered and indeed welcome any help in preparing for the celebration of Baptism of their baby. After your **signed** application form is received in the Parish Office, a member of our recently trained Parish Baptism Preparation Team will phone you to arrange a suitable time for two of them to visit you in your home. They will go through the different parts of the ceremony and its symbols with you. They will tell you where to sit in the church, what to bring and hopefully answer any anxieties or questions you may have.

Your Faith is important

Your most important preparation is to look at your own faith and answer why you are baptising your baby? The fact that you ask to have your baby baptised shows that you recognise the importance of God in your life. From the earliest days, children have been baptised, usually as they accompanied their parents into the church. Jesus, like you, wants the best for your child.

Your Own Commitment

On the day of your child's baptism, you will promise to rear your child in the faith by word and example. The priest will pray: "May you be the best of teachers by what you say and do in Christ Jesus". As you teach your child to pray your own prayer will deepen. Your baby's baptism is just the beginning of a new life in which you will grow closer to one another and closer to God.