

Celebrating Your Child's Baptism



Blessed by God

Congratulations! We rejoice with you and thank God for the beautiful gift of your child's life. On behalf of our whole parish family, welcome! We are happy to walk alongside you as your child begins this wonderful journey of faith.

Called by Name

Baptism is a beautiful sacrament of new beginnings. In this special moment, your child is welcomed into God's loving family. Two godparents act as witnesses. They are typically over 16 years of age; baptised, confirmed and have received the Eucharist. Godparents, along with the parents and family, help the child to live a Christian life.

What You Need to Do

- Contact your local parish office to book the baptism. A preparation meeting may also be arranged by the parish baptism team.
- Please bring your child's birth certificate.

What to Bring on the Baptism Day

- A baptismal candle (a white candle that will be blessed and lit during the ceremony; you can use it again for First Communion).
- A white garment or shawl (to wrap your baby in after baptism).

Immersed

Parents, godparents, and grandparents trace the cross on the child's forehead as a sign of belonging.

Water is gently poured over your child's head three times in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Just as water gives life to our bodies, baptism gives new life to the soul.

Strengthened for Service

The Oil of Baptism is rubbed on the chest as a sign of strength and courage. It helps your child face life's challenges.

The Oil of Chrism is then used to anoint the top of the head. This seals your child with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Embraced

After baptism, your child is clothed in a white garment. This symbolises purity, new life and being clothed with Christ.

Living in the Light

The baptismal candle is lit from the great Easter (Paschal) candle. It represents Christ, the Light of the World.

May the flame of faith burn brightly in their heart always, so they can be a light to others.

May your child's baptism be a joyful beginning to a lifetime of faith, surrounded by love, family and community.

Have a beautiful and blessed day, filled with Faith, Hope and Love.