

St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church

Sacrament of Baptism



Dear Parents,

Your child's baptism is a time for celebration and joy for both your Family and the Catholic Community here at St Peter's.

We are here to assist you in this celebration.

The Church Community affirms and supports your decision to have your child Baptised. This time of preparation is a wonderful time to explore and evaluate your own faith and practice.

Just as your child will bear your physical features and pick up your body language, he or she will also grow in the faith you model as a parent. That is why, when you approach the Church about having your child baptized, we will want to be assured that your faith is precious to you.

The very fact that you have asked to have your baby Baptised is a sign that you recognise the importance of God in your life.

Please review the procedures enclosed in this document. Important information regarding preparation for and celebration of the sacrament as well as information regarding the selection of Godparents is included.

The Church welcomes your child with great joy and looks forward to growing in faith and love with your family.

We welcome you to our baptismal preparation programme.

Documents that you will need:

- your child's Birth Certificate,
- the Baptismal Certificate or any other proof of your Baptism in the Catholic Church or any other proof that you are a practicing Catholic.

Bring these documents to the Presbytery during the office hours.

The Priest will help you to complete the Registration Form for Baptism and discuss your child's baptism. If you are unable to come during the office hours, please book the appointment in another time.

Register for the Baptismal Preparation Sessions unless you already attended one in the past.

Preparation for baptism at St Peter's involves attendance of both parents at two sessions. It may be a good idea to start arranging baby-sitters for the dates when you decide to do the course. The baptism of your baby cannot take place until you have completed the course.

Requirements for Godparents:

It is a common practice of the Church to have two godparents (Godfather and Godmother).

- Must be at least 16 years of age;
- Must be Baptised Catholic who completed the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation;
- Cannot be the parent of the child being Baptized;
- If married, must be in a marriage recognized as valid by the Catholic Church. Person may not be living together without marriage;
- Regularly attends Mass on Sunday and practises his/her Catholic faith.

These requirements need to be presented to the Catholic candidate for Godparent who needs to sign the Statement of Godparent

A Baptised – non - Catholic may not be godparent but may serve as a witness along with a Catholic godparent.

Date of Baptism:

It can be arranged after completion of the preparation.