



Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Camberwell

Information & Application form

The Baptism of children **UNDER 5**

(Block/Capital letters please)

Child's full name:.....

Date of Birth: Male Female

Parents' Information

Father's full name:

Please tick any of the following:

Father's religion - Christian:

Catholic	Anglican	Pentecostal	Muslim	Other
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If other, please specify.....

Father's Phone: Father's email:

Mother's full name:

Please tick any of the following:

Mother's religion - Christian:

Catholic	Anglican	Pentecostal	Muslim	Other
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If other, please specify.....

Mother's Phone: Mother's email:

Address:

.....

..... Postcode:

Godparents Information

Please give the full names of godparents and their parish below. (e.g. Church of England, etc). **Please collect the Godparent forms from the back of the Church.**

Name of Godparents

Name and address of Parish

1).....

.....

2).....

.....

3).....

.....

Parental Consent

We/I affirm that all the information provided above is true. We/I am requesting the sacrament of Baptism for our child through the parish. It is our intent to raise our child as a Roman Catholic.

We/I can affirm that Godparents will contact their Parish Priest/ Priest in charge to sign the Godparent form.

We/I affirm that Godparents Forms and other documents required would be submitted at least 7 days before the Baptism.

.....

Father's Signature

.....

Mother's Signature

Date:.....

Date:.....

THE BAPTISM OF A CHILD

Baptism is one of the seven sacraments, and is a sacrament of initiation in other words, it is the first step in every Christian's life.

Jesus Christ himself affirmed that Baptism is necessary for salvation (see John 3:5), and commanded his followers to "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you" (Matthew 28:19-20).

To baptise an infant in the Catholic Church, the Church requires that there is a reasonable hope that the child will be raised in the Catholic faith, meaning that at least one parent must be a Catholic.

Since the earliest times of the Church, Baptism has been administered to children, for it is a grace and a free gift from God. For the grace of Baptism to unfold, the parents and godparents, who must be firm believers, promise at the ceremony to help the child on the road of Christian life. This means bringing the child to Mass, teaching him/her about God and how to pray, explaining the difference between right and wrong, and bringing him/her up within a loving family.

PREPARATION CLASSES

Parents and Godparents are asked to attend the preparation classes. Parents will be contacted before the classes begin.

These sessions will help you to explore the meaning of Baptism for your child, and deal with the practicalities of the ceremony. The exact date and time of the Baptism will be shared at the first class.

You will be asked to attend the Baptism Preparation classes unless you have attended the same classes for another child in the past two years.

Godparents are required to take a parish suitability reference form to their Parish priest to affirm their suitability to undertake this responsibility.

YOUR CHILD'S BAPTISM

If you live in Sacred Heart Parish, or you attend Mass regularly at Sacred Heart, Camberwell, you may have your child Baptized in Sacred Heart Church.

If you live in another Parish, you should approach the Parish Priest of that Parish.

Every parent, guardian or godparent will have to provide proof of Catholicity, example baptism certificate or letter from parish priest.

GODPARENTS

Each child should have at least one godparent, who should be:

- A practising Catholic (e.g., attending Mass regularly, and receive Holy Communion)
- Aged 16 or over who has received their First Holy Communion and been Confirmed.
- Someone other than the actual father, mother or grandparent.
- Be willing to support the child in their faith journey.

If in doubt, please check with the Priest or Deacon officiating about the suitability of godparents before you ask anyone to be a godparent.