

BAPTIZING YOUR CHILD
at ST.FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH, 59 Newton Rd Newton 5074
Phone: 8337 3849

INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARENTS

USUAL TIMES FOR BAPTISMS: Baptisms are usually celebrated on **Saturday at 4.00pm** and **Sunday at 1.00 pm** (depending on availability of the Priest and the Church)

Please contact the Parish Office between 10am – 5pm to make a booking

GROUP BAPTISMS: Sometimes there may be more than one Baptism at the same time. *(No more than three)* The willingness of Parents to be part of a group Baptism needs to be clarified. Also some parents might like to have Baptism during the Mass. *(Because of time restraints at the 9:00am Sunday Mass only one Baptism can be allowed and that rarely because of the time factor and the burden placed on the congregation if they are not informed before hand)*

BE ON TIME: Please remind people to be on time - otherwise it may inconvenience others.

SPONSORS FOR BAPTISM: All sponsors for Baptism, according to Canon Law 874, must be Confirmed Catholics, who have received Holy Communion and show that they live a life of faith. Sponsors should be not less than 16 years of age. A father or mother of the child cannot be a Sponsor. Only one Sponsor is necessary but two are allowed. A non-Catholic person cannot be a Sponsor, and they can only be an official Witness to the Baptism if there is a Catholic Sponsor present.

INTERVIEW: Requirement for registering your child's Baptism:

An appointment for parents to see a Priest will be made at the time of booking the Baptism. At this meeting you will be required to complete the form of request - necessary for the Baptismal Register - and have an informal discussion about Baptism. Also the Request Form for Godparents needs to be submitted at the instruction evening. A Baptism Instruction Booklet is available for purchase (\$6).

INSTRUCTION: Requirements for preparation for your child's Baptism:
FOR PARENTS AND ALL GODPARENTS:

A one hour '**Baptism Instruction**' session for both parents and Godparents (no children please). This is held on a Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Bishop Kennedy Room of the Church (enter at the front of the Church and proceed upstairs). The date for this Instruction Evening will be given to you at the time of booking the Baptism. The completed Request Form for Godparents should be signed by the Godparents and returned on the night of the Instruction Evening.

The white form of request to be completed and signed by the Godparents, should be submitted at this meeting.

BAPTISMAL ROBE, BIB & CANDLE

These are suggested and memorable gifts from the Godparents. The Candle may be purchased from the Parish Office. The Baptismal Robe & Bib should be white and is available from most babywear shops.

OFFERING: It is a customary Catholic practice to give an OFFERING OF MONEY to the Priest. This offering should be by cash only as cheques are not accepted. This can be made when you meet with the priest on the night of your interview or at the Parish Office before the Baptism.

Minimum recommended by the Archbishop's Office is \$100.