

Sacred Heart Catholic Church Camberwell

Information & Application Form The Baptism of a child Under 5 years

(Please Print In Block Capitals.)

Child's First Name	
Child's Surname Name	
Date Of Birth	
Father's Full Name	
Mother's Full Name	
Maiden Name	

BAPTISM APPLICATION FORM

(Please state the denominations example: Anglican , Methodist etc..)

FATHER'S RELIGION	
MOTHER'S RELIGION	
ADDRESS	
POSTCODE	
TELEPHONE	

Please give the full names and Religion of Godparents below (e.g Church of England, Presbyterian etc..)

NAME OF GODPARENT 1	
CHURCH	
PLACE OF BAPTISM	
DATE OF BAPTISM	

This is optional

NAME OF GODPARENT 2	
CHURCH	
PLACE OF BAPTISM	
DATE OF BAPTISM	

NAME OF GODPARENT 3	
CHURCH	
PLACE OF BAPTISM	
DATE OF BAPTISM	

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).

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 if they wish - are asked to attend the preparation classes. **These are at 2:30pm prompt in Church on the first Sunday of each month, of less than an hour each.**

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 fixed at the first class.

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.

You should attend on the first Sunday of the month in which you want your child to be baptised.

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
- Aged 16 or over who have been confirmed.
- Someone other than the actual father or mother.

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

Please give the godparents' full names and their religion (again, example Anglican, Pentecostal, Baptist etc.).